**Division of Surgical Disciplines Biostatistics Access**

Principles for Statistical Collaboration
1. Fair & transparent – clear criteria/requirements, constructive feedback
2. Educational – builds Surgery Section capacity for high quality research
3. Measureable – track/monitor process & outcomes
4. Productive – grants & manuscripts
5. Collaborative – effective clinical & statistical partnership; complete work in specified timelines
6. Predictable – defined timeline for application/analysis/manuscript
7. Quality control – Ensures sound statistical analyses required by high-impact journals and NIH funding

How does an investigator access the Surgery BERD Core for pilot/unfunded work?

**Option A: Office Hours**
Goals for office hours:
1) Rapid access for initial conversation/consultation regarding statistical or research design question.
2) No more than 3 office hour sessions for discussion and feedback on topic/project.
3) A summary (no more than 1 page) of the research question or topic for discussion, while not required, is highly recommended in order to facilitate the office hour discussion.
4) Sustained collaboration for the project should subsequently occur through Option B or Option C, below.

**Option B: Merit-based Model**
1) Competitive access to collaboration with BERD statisticians to support unfunded pilot research
2) Open to all faculty, or trainee/learner with faculty supervision
3) Submission must be endorsed by research vice chief of the faculty member’s division
4) Oversight of process by SCORES, peer review by faculty
5) Short (4-6 pp) application summarizing proposed work and expected manuscript content/table shells
6) Focused scope of work (1-2 aims).
7) Initially, 4 submission cycles per year, anticipate supporting ~4 projects per cycle.
8) Manuscript submission within 90 days of final statistical report is required.

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**Option C: Co-investment projects**
1) Access to collaboration with BERD statisticians to support unfunded research
2) Open to all faculty, or trainee/learner with faculty supervision
3) Oversight of process and prioritization by divisional research leadership
4) Short (4-6 pp) application summarizing proposed work and expected manuscript content/table shells
5) Focused scope of work (1-2 aims), should be approximately 3 months duration for collaboration.
6) Shared cost of $3000 per project

**Option D: Grant Preparation (externally funded)**
1) Engage BERD core statistical team early in grant development
2) Grant development work is prioritized and will include:
   a. Sample size justification, statistical analysis design, etc
   b. Budget estimate for planned biostatistical scope of work on grant
   c. Request must be submitted at least 2 months prior to grant submission deadline
   d. NOT for preliminary analyses (use Option B or C instead)
3) Grant budget must include sufficient support for planned analyses. Cost sharing requires Duke institutional approval.
4) Link to BERD core: [https://redcap.duke.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=X43KKNFLJ7](https://redcap.duke.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=X43KKNFLJ7)
5) Link to e-Grafts: [https://surgery.duke.edu/e-grafts](https://surgery.duke.edu/e-grafts)