

## 2026 Annual Steering Committee Meeting Agenda

April 13-14, 2026

Congressional Ballroom, Bethesda Marriott

### Meeting Purpose

**Day 1:** Address challenges and share lessons from new, in-progress, and completed NIH Collaboratory Trials to promote meaningful evidence generation; learn about new methodologies and areas of focus for embedded pragmatic clinical trials (ePCTs); and have rich discussions on topics including qualitative research and in-depth feasibility assessment.

**Day 2:** Address challenges and share lessons from new, in-progress, and completed NIH Collaboratory Trials; discuss strategies for boosting the efficiency, relevancy, and impact of ePCTs, including approaches for interpretation and dissemination of findings and innovative, responsible use of artificial intelligence tools.

Day 1: April 13, 2026			
Setting the Stage for Meaningful Evidence Generation			
WHEN	TOPIC	WHO	GOALS
8:15-8:30 AM	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b>	David Shurtleff Richard Hodes Wendy Weber Beda Jean-Francois Lesley Curtis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome participants</li> <li>Review meeting goals and expectations</li> </ul>
8:30-10:00 AM	<b>Charting the Course for Pragmatic Research: Pain Care and Beyond</b>  <i>IMPACT Collaboratory</i> <i>Pain Mgmt. Collaboratory</i> <i>BeatPain/Care for Health</i> <i>PCORI</i>	<b>Moderator</b> Rob Califf  <b>Presenters</b> Kevin Weinfurt David Shurtleff  <b>Panel</b> Ab Brody Alicia Heapy Julie Fritz Tracy Wang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore what's on the horizon for the ePCT ecosystem (NIH Collaboratory and beyond)</li> <li>Discuss priority evidence needs that may be addressed through ePCTs</li> <li>Identify the methods and knowledge required for the next generation of ePCTs, including existing gaps</li> </ul>
10:00-10:20 AM	<b>Break</b>		
10:20-10:45 AM	<b>Campfire Session: Equip PC</b>	Kari Stephens	<i>See study snapshot in folder, meeting materials</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe challenges and ongoing issues</li> <li>Hear advice from other investigators</li> </ul>
10:45 AM-12:15 PM	<b>Discovery in Disguise: Lessons From "Neutral" ePCTs</b>	<b>Moderator</b> Josie Briggs  <b>Panel</b> Andrea Cheville Steve George Patrick Heagerty Michael Ho Tracy Wang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss techniques for designing ePCTs that provide reliable, actionable evidence</li> <li>Share statistical approaches and considerations based on ePCTs with nonsignificant effects on their primary outcomes</li> <li>Examine what is gained from ePCTs that do not meet their primary outcome</li> </ul>
12:15-1:15 PM	<b>Lunch</b>		

**Day 1: April 13, 2026**  
**Setting the Stage for Meaningful Evidence Generation**

WHEN	TOPIC	WHO	GOALS
1:15-2:45 PM	<b>Harnessing Qualitative Research in ePCTs</b>	<p><b>Moderator</b> Emily O'Brien</p> <p><b>Presenter</b> David Chambers</p> <p><b>Panel</b> Michele Balas Melissa Basile Jennifer Kawi Richard Skolasky</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe opportunities for qualitative methods to enhance ePCTs (eg, refining workflows, preparing for implementation)</li> <li>• Share successful qualitative research methods employed by NIH Collaboratory Trials</li> <li>• Discuss ways to navigate challenges of qualitative research in ePCTs, such as timing, resources, and how to share qualitative data</li> </ul>
2:45-3:15 PM	<b>Lightning Talks: Sharing Lessons and Top-Level Results</b>	<p>Andrea Cheville Ardith Doorenbos Natalia Morone Kathleen Sluka</p>	<p><i>See study snapshots in folder, meeting materials</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe top-level results, lessons learned, and future plans</li> <li>• 3 minutes per trial followed by 15 minutes of open discussion with attendees</li> </ul> <p>Results displayed during the break and reception, where discussions may continue</p>
3:15-3:30 PM	<b>Break</b>		
3:30-5:00 PM	<b>More Than Kicking the Tires: Assessing Feasibility in the Planning Phase</b>	<p><b>Moderator</b> Angelo Volandes</p> <p><b>Panel</b> Karen Kehl Amanda Petrik Sebastian Tong Chenchen Wang</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss how assessing feasibility is not only about meeting milestones</li> <li>• Share examples of how ePCT researchers can discover and tackle difficult challenges in the planning phase</li> <li>• Explore benefits and challenges of an in-depth feasibility assessment in ePCTs</li> </ul>
5:00-5:15 PM	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	<p>David Shurtleff Richard Hodes Wendy Weber Beda Jean-Francois Lesley Curtis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summarize Day 1 and give a preview of Day 2</li> </ul>
5:30-7:00 PM	<b>Networking Reception</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Join your colleagues for socializing and fun activities</li> <li>• Hors d'oeuvres served</li> </ul>

**Day 2: April 14, 2026**  
**Strategies for Boosting Efficiency, Relevancy, and Impact of ePCTs**

WHEN	TOPIC	WHO	GOALS
7:45-8:15 AM	<b>Breakfast Roundtables</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chat with colleagues about topics of interest</li> </ul>
8:15-8:30 AM	<b>Opening Remarks</b>	David Shurtleff Richard Hodes Wendy Weber Beda Jean-Francois Lesley Curtis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share highlights of evening activities</li> <li>• Review goals for Day 2</li> </ul>
8:30-9:00 AM	<b>Campfire Session: CARNATION</b>	Lynn DeBar Rachel Gold Nicole Cook	<p><i>See study snapshot in folder, meeting materials</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe challenges and ongoing issues</li> <li>• Hear advice from other investigators</li> </ul>
9:00-10:00 AM	<b>Networking</b>	<p><b>Facilitators</b></p> <p>Steve George Christine Goertz</p> <p>Andrea Cheville Keith Marsolo</p> <p>Joe Ali</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage in small group discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Russell Room: <b>Slow Recruitment Strategies for prevention and mitigation</b></li> <li>○ Chesapeake Room: <b>Data Sharing and Repositories for HEAL/PRISM Trials</b> <i>Best practices, HEAL CDE framework, etc</i></li> <li>○ Annapolis Room: <b>Use of Digital Tools</b> <i>Practical, regulatory, and ethical issues</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Consult with Core chairs and colleagues on issues your trial is facing</li> </ul>
10:00-10:15 AM	<b>Break</b>		
10:15-11:30 AM	<b>Dissemination Done Better: Practical Tips for ePCT Researchers</b>	<p><b>Moderator</b> Hayden Bosworth</p> <p><b>Panel</b> Diana Burgess Lynn DeBar Christine Goertz Cherise Harrington Elizabeth Wick</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe how to collaborate with partners in interpreting findings prior to dissemination</li> <li>• Share successful dissemination strategies from NIH Collaboratory Trials that have helped promote changes in care</li> <li>• Explore approaches for dissemination of findings beyond the publication of results in an academic journal</li> </ul>
11:30 AM-12:00 PM	<b>Box Lunch</b>		
12:00-1:45 PM	<b>ePCTs in the AI Revolution: Balancing Innovation With Responsibility</b>	<p><b>Moderator</b> Adrian Hernandez</p> <p><b>Presenter</b> Emily O'Brien</p> <p><b>Panel</b> Guilherme Del Fiol Michael Ho Keith Marsolo Jeremy Sugarman Angelo Volandes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share new and emerging AI capabilities with the potential to transform ePCTs</li> <li>• Discuss ethical considerations associated with AI use in research, such as when a human should be in the loop</li> <li>• Describe challenges and areas of uncertainty for ePCTs in the era of AI</li> </ul>
1:45-2:00 PM	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	David Shurtleff Richard Hodes Wendy Weber Beda Jean-Francois Lesley Curtis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe key lessons from the meeting</li> </ul>