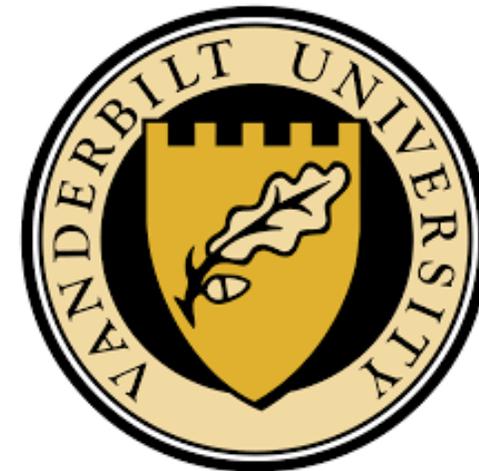


# FIBROMYALGIA TENS IN PHYSICAL THERAPY STUDY (FM TIPS)

KICK OFF MEETING – NOVEMBER 19, 2019

PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE  
COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE  
CARVER COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AT THE  
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA AND VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY



# FM TIPS LEADERSHIP TEAM



Kathleen A.  
Sluka, PT,  
PhD, FAPTA

Professor



Leslie J.  
Crofford,  
MD

Professor



Dana  
Dailey, PT,  
PhD

Assistant  
Professor



Christopher  
Coffey, PhD

Director  
CTSDMC



Dixie  
Ecklund, RN,  
MSN, MBA

Director of  
Operations  
CTSDMC



Emine  
Bayman, PhD

Associate  
Director  
CTSDMC



M. Bridget  
Zimmerman,  
PhD

Clinical  
Professor

# OTHER TEAM MEMBERS

- Regulatory and Protocol Development (Ecklund)

- Michele Costigan
- Carla Franck
- Trevis Huff
- Maxine Koepp
- Tina Neill-Hudson
- Leslie Crofford
- Carol Vance
- Dana Dailey
- Bridget Zimmerman
- Emine Bayman

- Site Team (Sluka)

- Carol Vance
- Kristin Archer
- Bridget Zimmerman
- Maxine Koepp
- Michele Costigan
- Carla Franck
- Dixie Ecklund
- Dana Dailey

- Clinical Teams

TENS (Vance), Logistics (Dailey), PRO and Data Collection(Crofford)

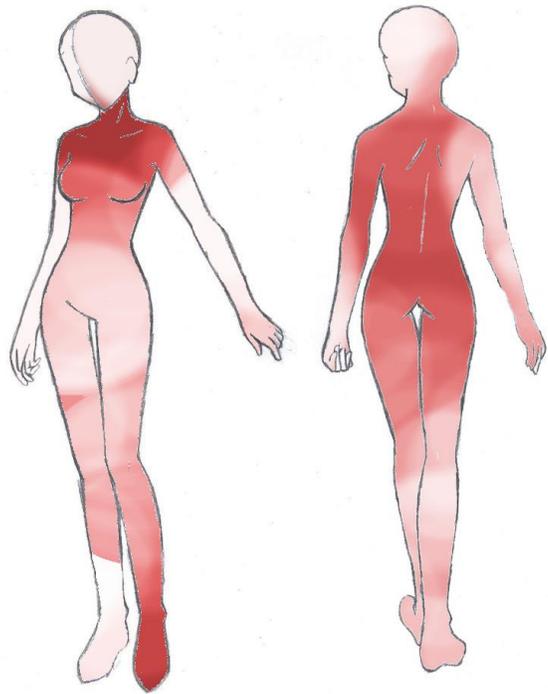
- Kathleen Sluka
- Ruth Chimenti
- Dana Dailey
- Michele Costigan
- Maxine Koepp
- Kristin Archer
- Carla Franck
- Sandra Mostaert
- Emine Bayman
- Richard Peters
- Trevis Huff
- Andrew Post
- Carol Vance
- Bridget Zimmerman

- Design and Analysis Team (Bayman and Zimmerman)

- Janel Fedler
- Jon Yankey

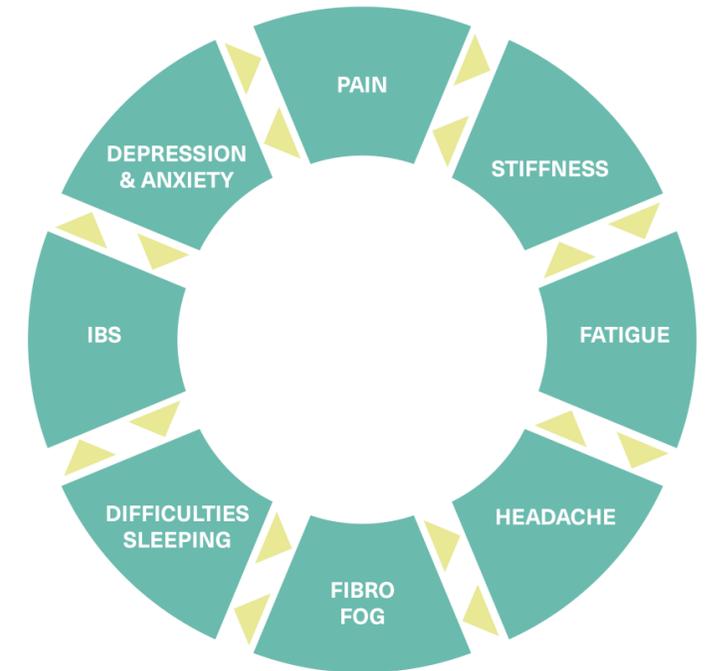


# FIBROMYALGIA IS ASSOCIATED WITH WIDESPREAD PAIN, CO-MORBID SYMPTOMS, AND CENTRAL SENSITIVITY



## Fibromyalgia Diagnostic Criteria 2016<sup>2</sup>

1. Generalized pain
2. >3 months
3. Fibromyalgia Severity
  - a. Widespread pain index
  - b. symptom severity scale score



FIBROMYALGIA PAIN CYCLE

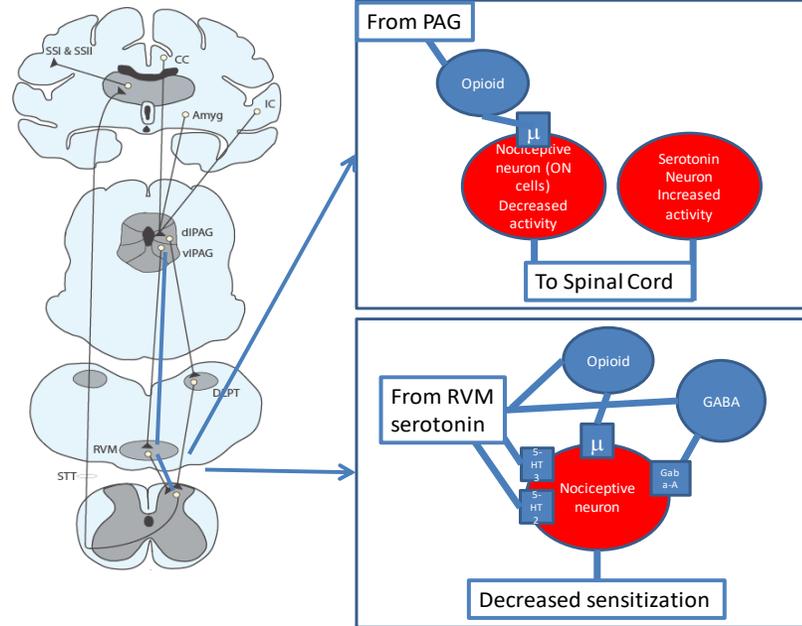
# TRANSCUTANEOUS ELECTRICAL NERVE STIMULATION (TENS)

- Application of electrical stimulation to the skin for pain control (APTA 1990)

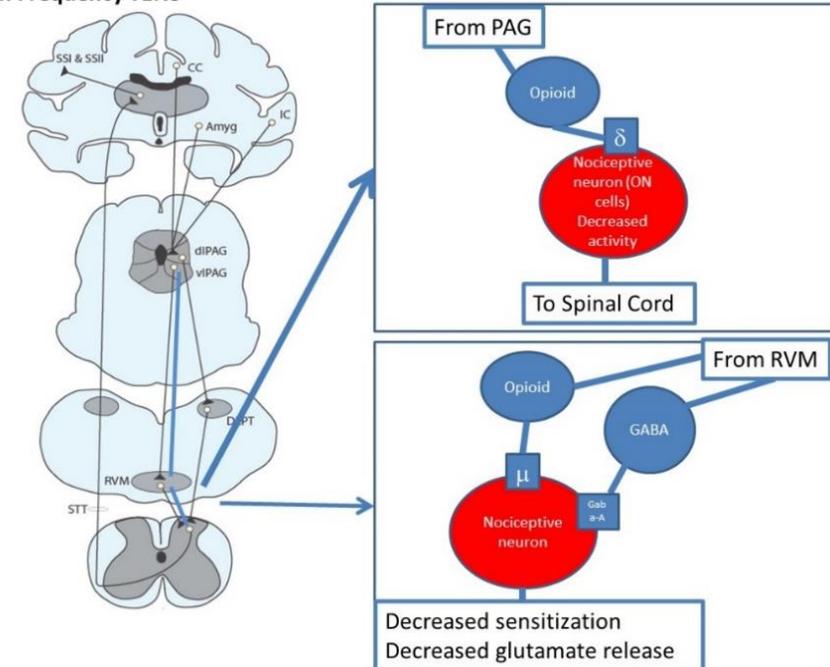


# TENS USES ENDOGENOUS INHIBITORY MECHANISMS TO PRODUCE ANALGESIA

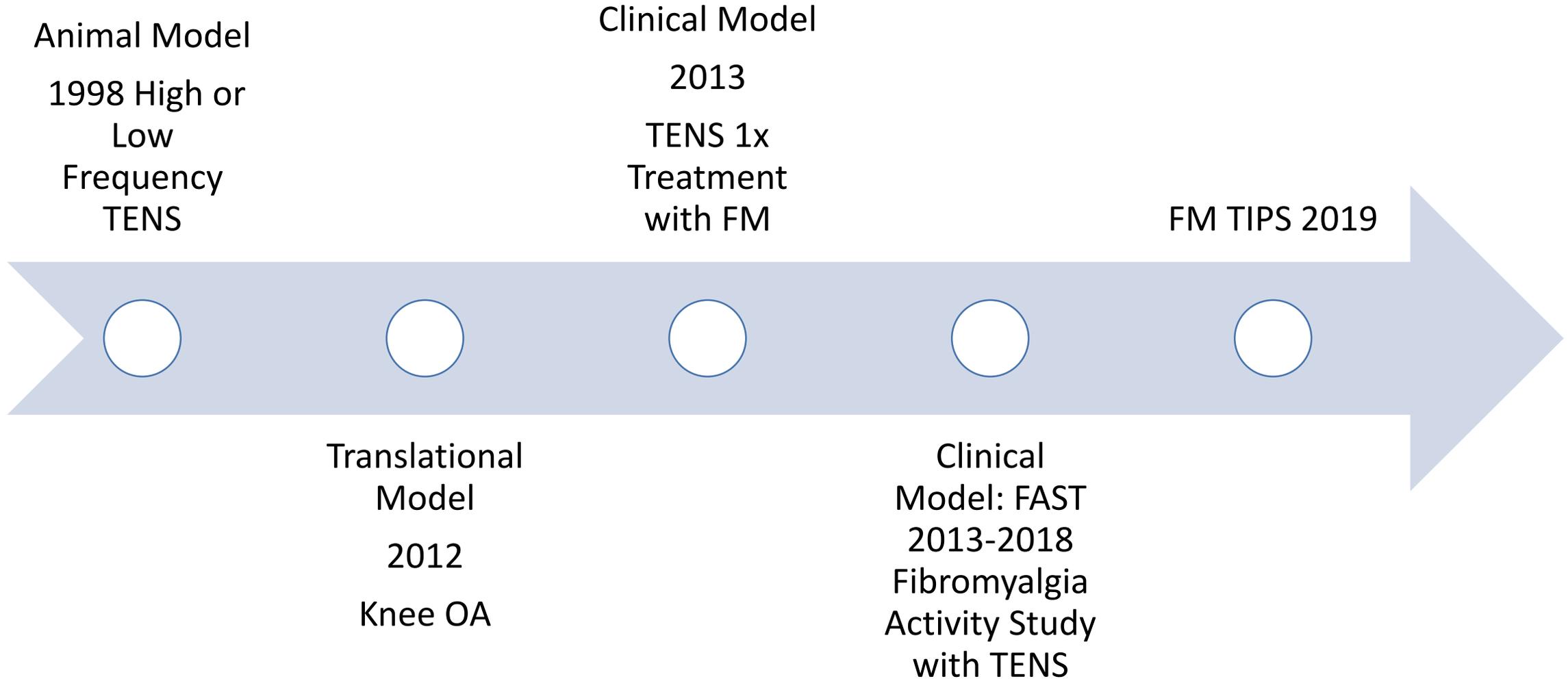
Low Frequency TENS



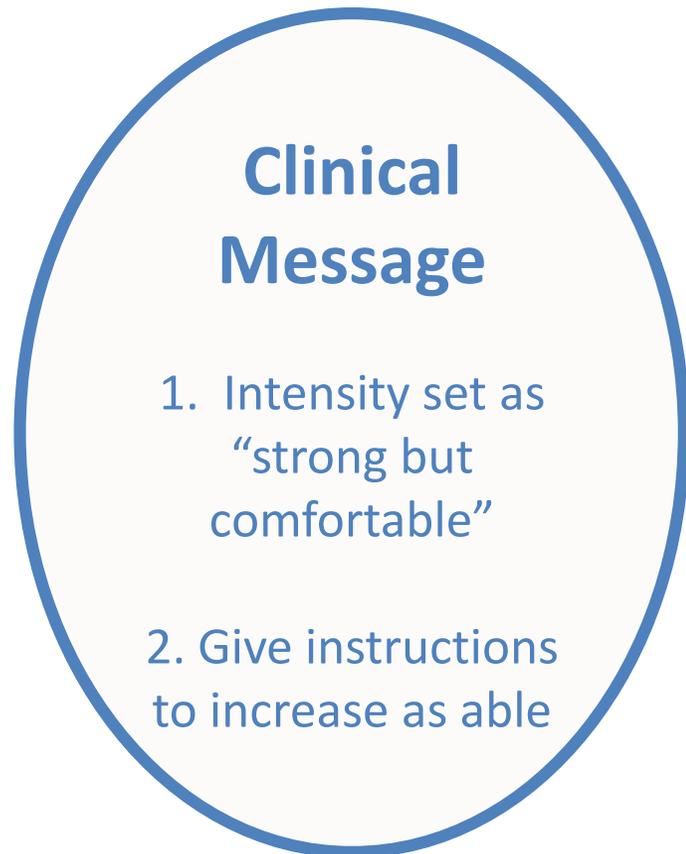
High Frequency TENS



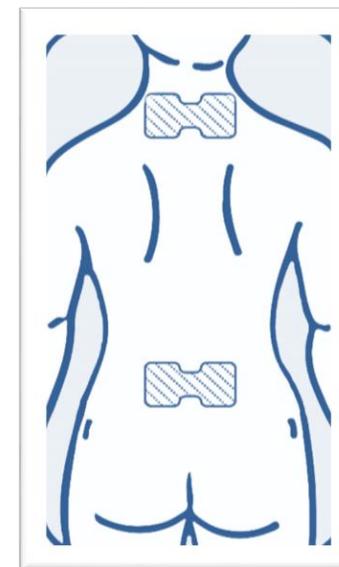
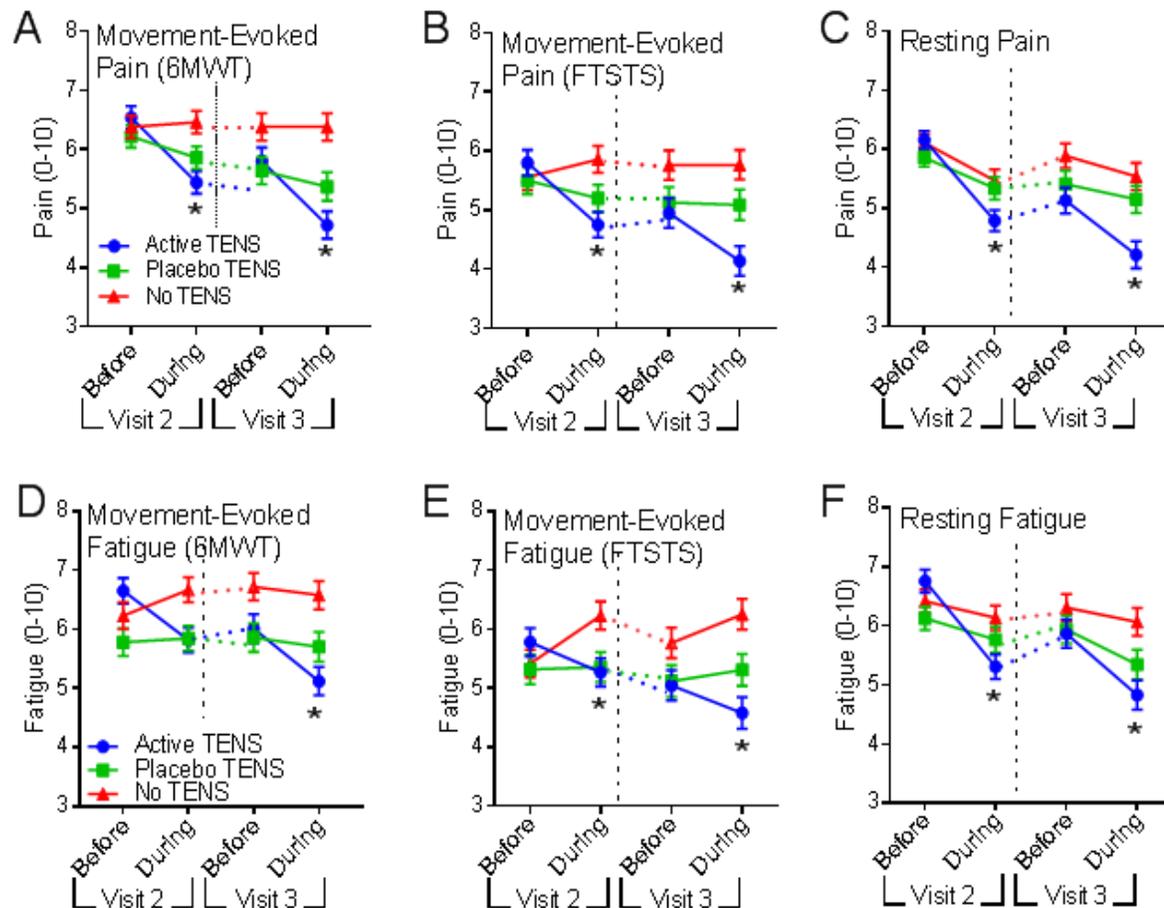
# PATH TO FM TIPS:



# TENS DOSING IS CRITICAL TO EFFECTIVENESS



# TENS REDUCES MOVEMENT AND RESTING PAIN



## Mixed Frequency

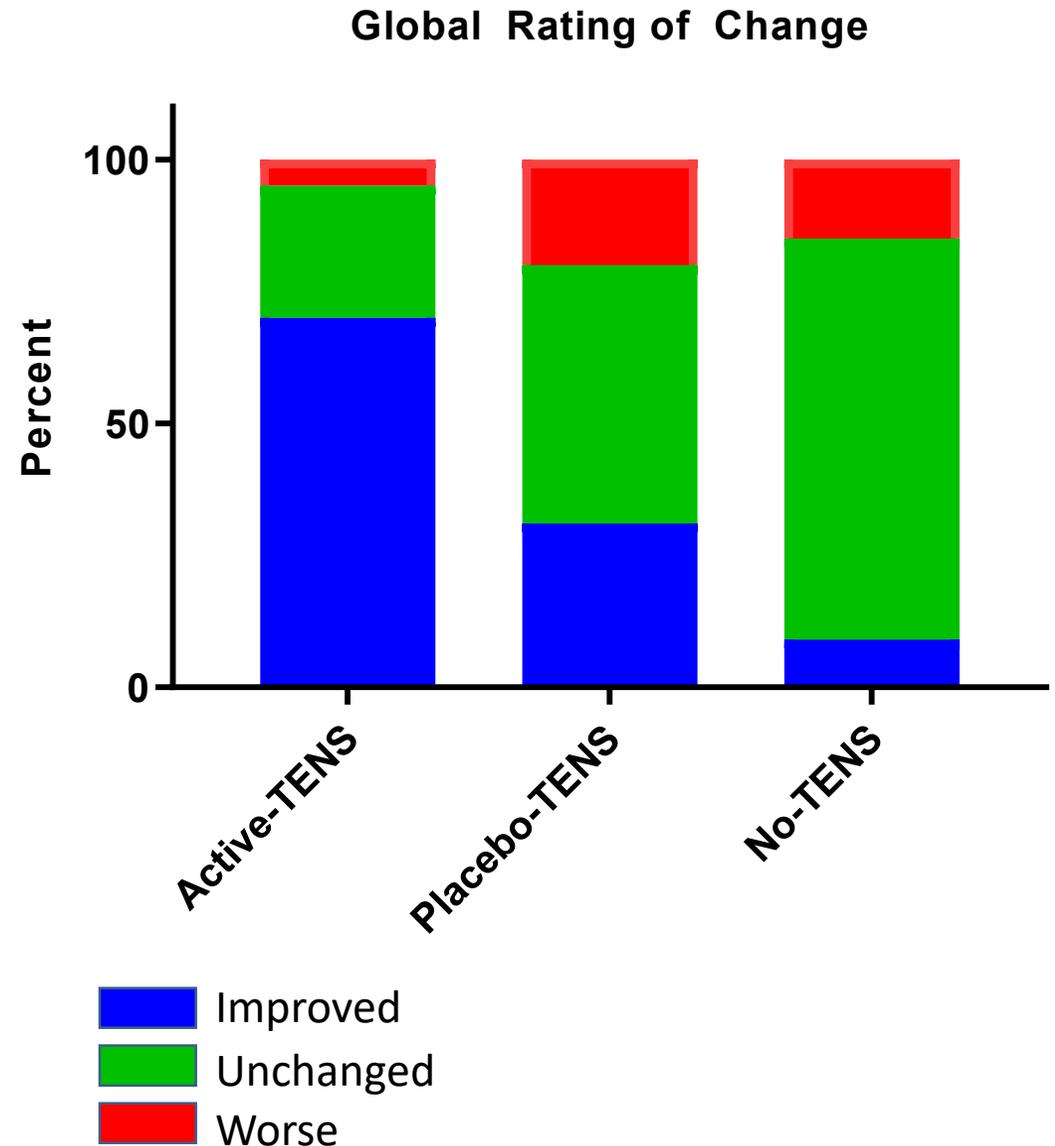
Active-TENS, n=103  
Placebo-TENS, n=99  
No-TENS, n=99

Dailey et al., 2019

TENS  
IMPROVES  
GLOBAL  
RATING OF  
CHANGE

**NNT=3**

To decrease movement pain



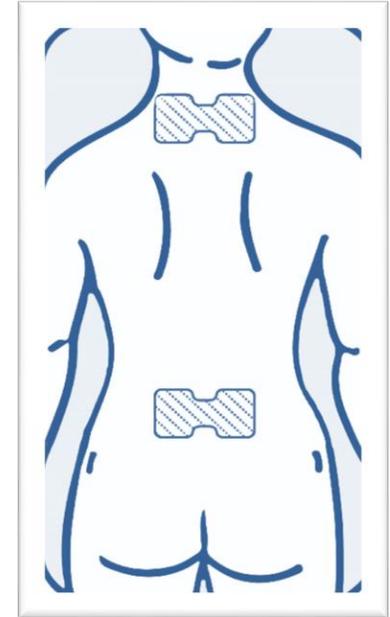
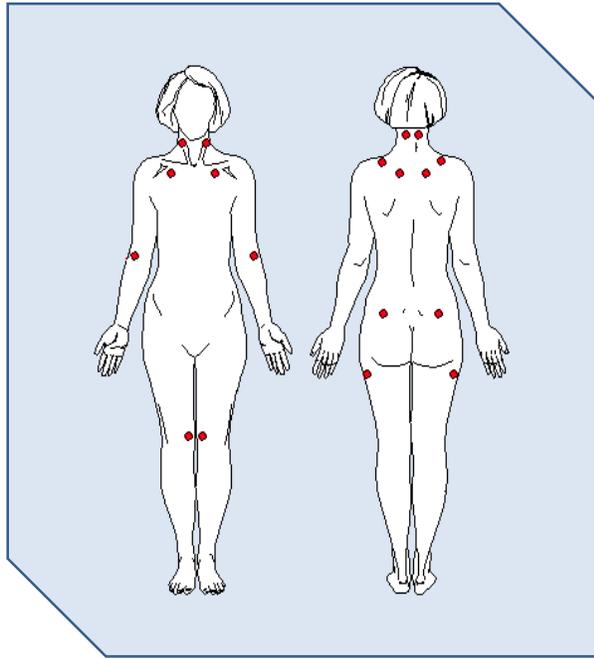
Dailey et al., 2019

# RESPONDER ANALYSIS

Responder Definitions	% Responder (95% CI)			Risk difference (adjusted 95% CI) Adjusted P-value	
	Active-TENS n=102	Placebo-TENS n=99	No-TENS n=99	Active-TENS vs Placebo-TENS	Active-TENS vs No-TENS
≥30% reduction in pain	44% (34, 53)	22% (15, 31)	14% (9, 22)	22 (6, 37) 0.004	30 (15, 44) <0.001
≥20% reduction in fatigue	45% (35, 54)	26% (19, 36)	23% (16, 33)	19 (3, 34) 0.019	22 (6, 37) 0.004
≥20% improved function	38% (29-48)	36% (28, 46)	28% (20, 38)	2 (-15, 18) 0.974	10 (-6, 25) 0.319
≥30% reduction in pain and ≥20% reduction in fatigue	29% (21-39)	13% (8, 21)	13% (8, 21)	16 (3, 29) 0.018	16 (3, 29) 0.018

Dailey et al., 2019

# FIBROMYALGIA TENS IN PHYSICAL THERAPY STUDY (FM TIPS)



# STUDY OVERVIEW

- **Goal:**

- Demonstrate the feasibility of adding TENS to treatment of patients with FM in a real-world *Physical Therapy* practice setting **and**
- Determine if addition of TENS to standard *Physical Therapy* for FM reduces pain, increases adherence to PT and allows patients with FM to reach their specific functional goals with less drug use.

- **Hypothesis**

- Using TENS in a *Physical Therapy* setting is feasible and that FM patients using TENS are more likely to reach their therapeutic goals.

# UG3 AIM 1: PLANNING YEAR



*RECRUIT PHYSICAL THERAPY PRACTICES AS RESEARCH SITES FOR AN EMBEDDED PRAGMATIC CLINICAL TRIAL, UNDERSTAND USUAL PT PRACTICE FOR PATIENTS WITH FM TO INFORM TRIAL PROCESSES, AND DEVELOP IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES*

Recruit community PT clinics willing to offer TENS as an adjunct to usual care for FM

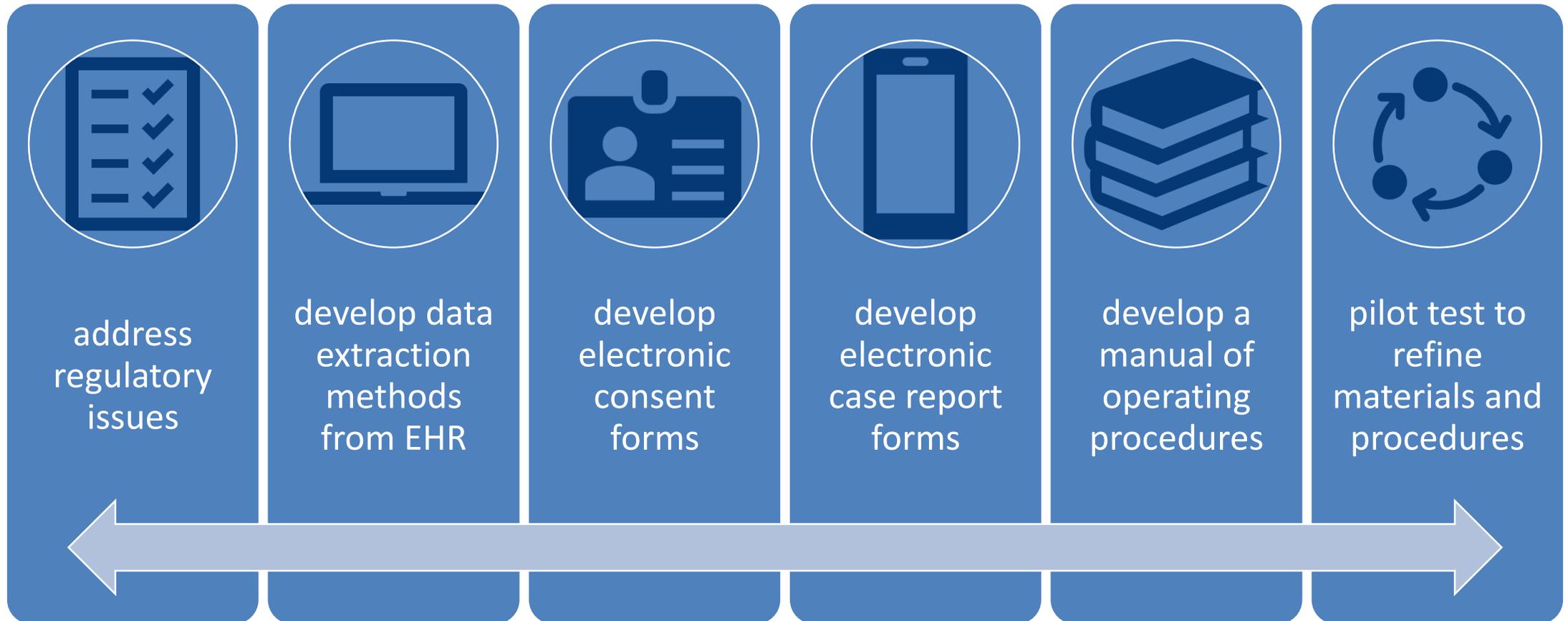
Perform interviews with front-line providers to evaluate PT-interventions for FM

Evaluate potential barriers to TENS use during routine PT practice

# UG3 AIM 2: PLANNING YEAR



*ENSURE ADEQUACY OF INFRASTRUCTURE AT POTENTIAL STUDY SITES TO COMPLETE A PT EMBEDDED PRAGMATIC TRIAL*

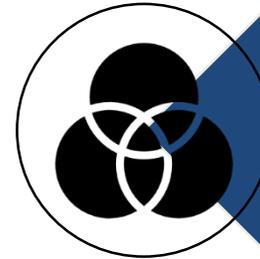


# UH3: PRAGMATIC TRIAL AIMS

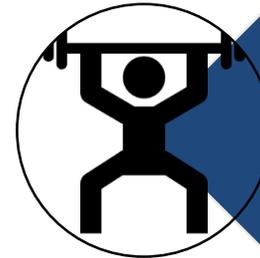
**UH3 AIM 1:** *DETERMINE IF ADDITION OF TENS TO ROUTINE PT IMPROVES MOVEMENT-EVOKED PAIN*

**UH3 AIM 2:** *DETERMINE IF ADDITION OF TENS TO ROUTINE PT IMPROVES 1) DISEASE ACTIVITY, 2) LIKELIHOOD OF MEETING PATIENT-SPECIFIC FUNCTIONAL GOALS, 3) ADHERENCE TO PT, AND 4) MEDICATION USE*

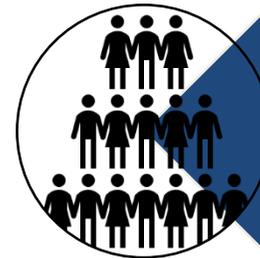
**UH3 AIM 3:** *EXAMINE FEASIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTING TENS INTO ROUTINE PT CARE FOR FM USING SEMI-STRUCTURED EXIT INTERVIEWS OF PATIENTS AND PTS*



cluster-randomized  
pragmatic trial



routine PT with or  
without TENS for FM



enroll ~600 people with  
FM

# MILESTONE: SELECTION OF CLINICS (=20 CLINICS)

JAN 2020  
• Selection of Clinics

Kepros Physical Therapy and Performance – Iowa, local

Carla Franck, a PT with Kepros Physical Therapy will be part of the study team to help develop outcomes and training procedures for implementation of the trial

MAR 2020  
• Central IRB  
• Protocol to NIAMS

Genesis Healthcare Systems - Quad Cities, Iowa and Illinois

15 outpatient PT practices which see 200-300 FM patients per year

May 2020  
• Reliance Agreement 2 sites

Vanderbilt University Physical Therapy Services - Nashville, TN

2 clinics that see approximately 100 people with FM per year

JUNE 2020  
• Training Materials

BenchMark Physical Therapy- Tennessee and Kentucky

regional network identified (approximately 10-15 sites)

SEPT 2020  
• Reliance Agreements All Sites

Rock Valley Physical Therapy – Iowa and Illinois

>50 sites in rural and city environments

Results Physical Therapy – Tennessee

>50 sites rural and city environments

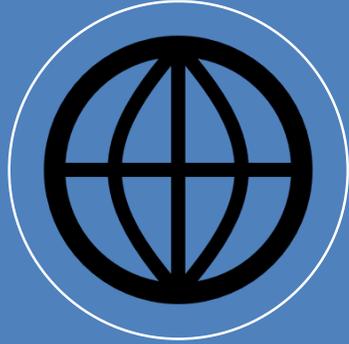
# MILESTONE: DRAFT PROTOCOL



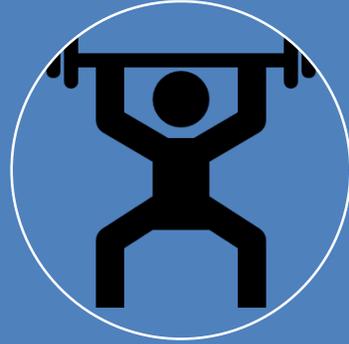
## Participants

- Inclusion:
  - Individuals referred for land-based PT who have been diagnosed by a physician with FM
  - Primary diagnosis prompting referral or referred for axial pain
- Exclusion
  - Unwilling to use TENS
  - TENS contraindications
- NOTE: FM Diagnosis will be confirmed using instruments filled out by participants

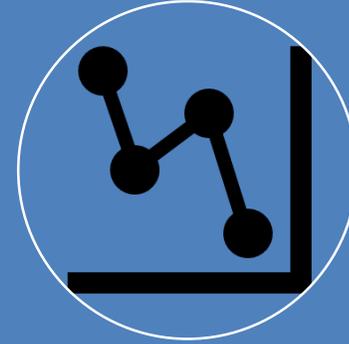
# STUDY OVERVIEW



Randomize by  
PT clinic site –  
TENS vs. no-  
TENS



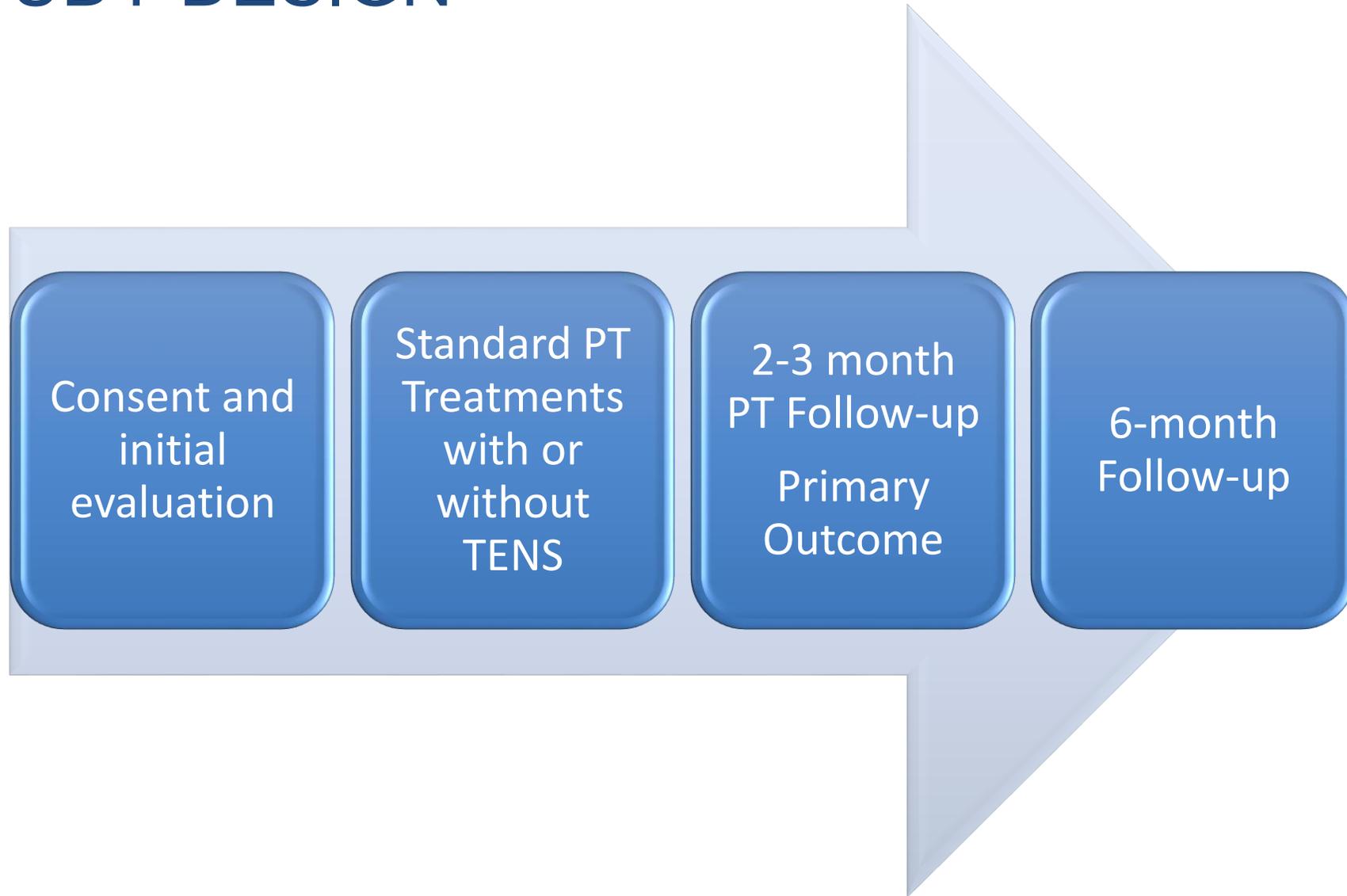
TENS applied  
during activity –  
in clinic and at  
home



Data collected  
at PT clinic visits  
electronically  
and over phone



# STUDY DESIGN



# MILESTONE: OUTCOMES

JAN 2020  
• Selection of Clinics

MAR 2020  
• Central IRB  
• Protocol to NIAAMS

May 2020  
• Reliance Agreement 2 sites

JUNE 2020  
• Training Materials

SEPT 2020  
• Reliance Agreements All Sites

**Pain.** Pain during activity (movement-pain, primary outcome), and at rest (secondary outcome) using a 0-10 NRS

**Patient-Specific Functional Scale (PSFS)** - patient identifies 2-5 functional goals for the treatment plan, and rates their ability to do these on an 11-point scale: 0 unable to perform activity and 10 able to perform at the same level as before problem

### **Patient-Reported, Validated**

Fibromyalgia Impact Questionnaire (FIQR), 21-item disease specific questionnaire that is divided into 3 domains: function, overall impact, and symptoms.

The FM 2016 diagnostic criteria is a simple assessment that the patient can self-report and allows for determination of a Widespread Pain Index, Symptom Severity Scale, and Fibromyalgia Severity Score.  
PROMIS modules

**HEAL common dataset** - BPI, MOS-Sleep, PCS, Depression PHQ-2, Anxiety GAD-2, PGIC, TAPS.

**Patient Adherence Indicators.** EHR queries of data recorded at follow-up visits: Record if the patient used TENS, attended PT, or performed their home exercise program.

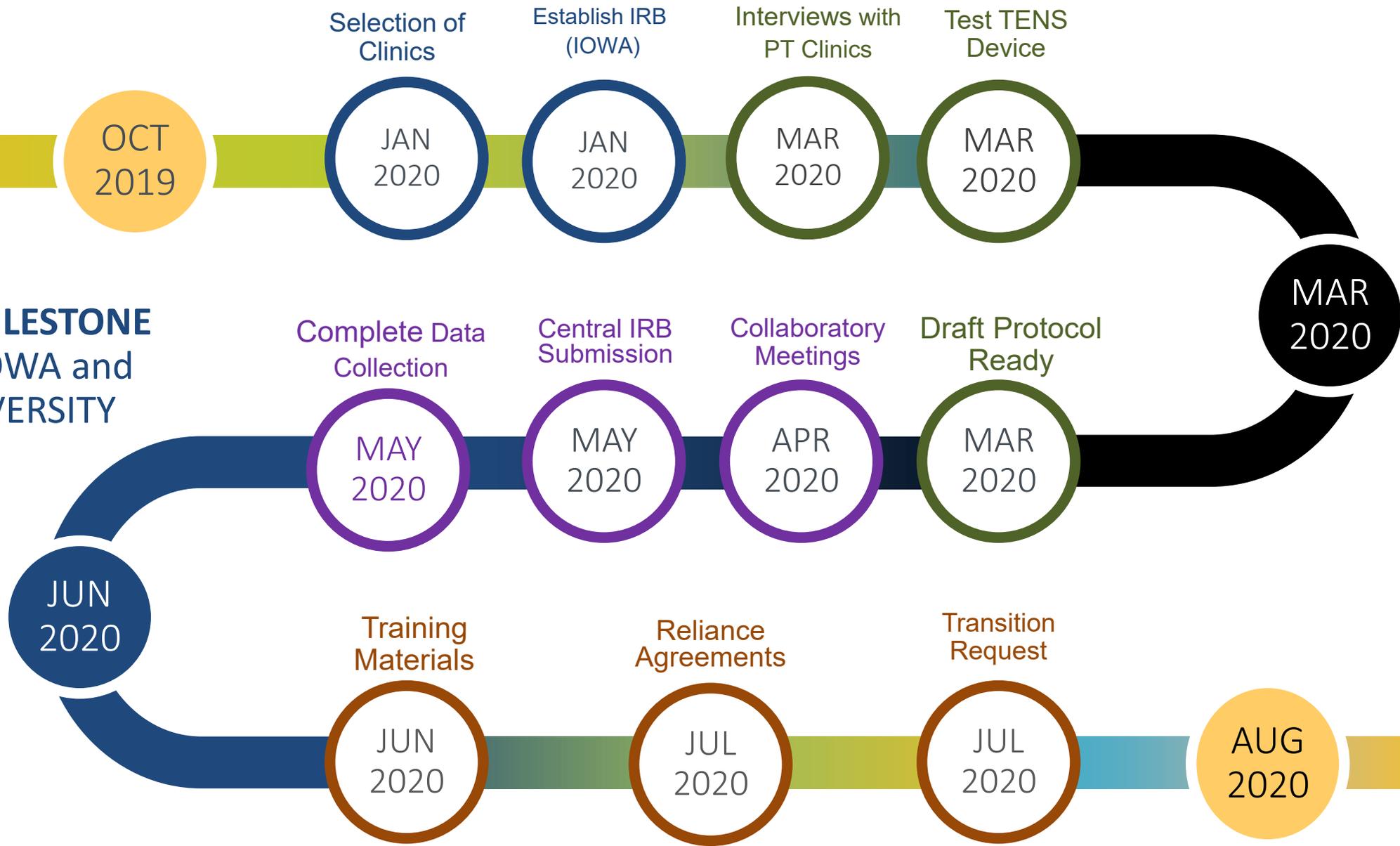
**Medications** collected through the EHR and patient report. We will ask both FM medication and doses, and prn medications and usage (opioids, NSAIDs, Tylenol).

**Additional questions for patients** at the follow-up visit will include ease of TENS use, barriers to TENS use, and general perceptions about TENS for pain control

**Exit interview questions of all PT providers** about use of TENS in PT practice for FM and chronic pain to assess likelihood of continued use, provider perceptions on usefulness of TENS for patients, barriers to TENS use in the clinic, perceived barriers to TENS use by patients

# FM TIPS OVERVIEW OF MILESTONE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA and VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

2019-2020



Executive	Regulatory & Protocol Development	Clinical			Site
		TENS	Logistics	PRO/Data Collection	
Sluka*	Ecklund*	Vance*	Dailey*	Crofford*	Sluka *
Crofford*	Neill Hudson	Chimenti	Archer	Bayman	Vance
Ecklund	Costigan	Sluka	Franck	Koepp	Archer
Archer	Crofford	Koepp	Post	Franck	Zimmerman
Bayman	Vance		Costigan	Huff	Koepp
Dailey	Dailey		Koepp	Peters	Costigan
	Zimmerman			Zimmerman	Ecklund
	Bayman				# Ad Hoc: Dailey, Franck
<i>Monthly/Bi-Monthly</i>	<i>Weekly</i>	<i>Weekly</i>	<i>Weekly</i>	<i>Weekly</i>	<i>Weekly</i>
<b><i>Tasks to achieve Milestones</i></b>					
Oversee operations	MOP	Evaluate TENS unit	Instrument Administration	Instrument selection	Clinic Interviews
	NIAMS Protocol	Test units in people	Contacting sites	Data management	Site Selection
	Operational Training Materials	Evaluate cost of units	MOP development	Statistical analysis Plan	Recruitment Strategy
	CIRB	Develop education and training materials for TENS	Training materials	Power analysis	Site Training- CITI and protocol
	Site selection and contracts	Protocol for ordering and tracking TENS units	Pilot Test Protocol in Clinics		Interviews with selected PT's
					Recruitment

# BARRIERS SCORECARD

Barrier	Level of Difficulty*				
	1	2	3	4	5
Enrollment and engagement of patients/subjects			x		
Engagement of clinicians and health systems		x			
Data collection and merging datasets			x		
Regulatory issues (IRBs and consent)	x				
Stability of control intervention	x				
Implementing/delivering intervention across healthcare organizations				x	

1=easy, 5=difficult

# DATA SHARING UG3

- ***What is your current data sharing plan and do you foresee any obstacles?***
  - *Publish data in peer-reviewed journal*
  - *Post final data set on central server at University of Iowa*
- ***What information did the IRB require about how the data would be shared beyond the study in order to waive informed consent, if applicable?***
  - *We are not waiving informed consent*
- ***What data you are planning to share from your project (individual-level data, group-level data, specific variables/outcomes, etc.)?***
  - *Individual Level Data*