

**Penn Injury Science Center
Resources for Statistical Consultation**

Purpose: The PISC is committed to developing future generations of injury scientists from across disciplines and providing statistical support for projects that are focused on the core mission of the PISC and for which extramural resources are not currently available.

Who qualifies for support: This program supports two groups of PISC-affiliates: 1) PISC-affiliated post-doctoral and clinical fellows conducting a research project aimed for publication in a peer-reviewed journal and/or to provide preliminary data for an extramural grant application; and 2) PISC senior scholars who are early-stage faculty who do not currently have research or discretionary account funding to secure statistical consultation.

Source of Statistical Consultation: Individuals obtaining support through this program are to use the BECCA (Biostatistics * Evaluation * Collaboration * Consultation * Analysis) Lab at Penn Nursing <https://www.nursing.upenn.edu/research/onr/statistical-support/>. The BECCA provides a team of highly skilled doctoral and master's level statisticians along with biostatistics graduate interns, who work with investigators to design, implement, analyze, and disseminate their research. Collaboration with a fully-supported, skilled statistician typically yields more clearly articulated results that are better able to satisfy grant reviewers' expectations and stand up to peer-review. Statistical collaboration provides support in the areas of survey design and administration using REDCap, sample size computation, data management, statistical analysis, and results presentation. Expert at identifying and addressing potential issues, BECCA statisticians may suggest exploring alternatives such as more appropriate statistical designs, or perhaps modern modeling techniques. BECCA statisticians not only ensure statistical rigor and reproducibility, but also make sure that a study design is practical, feasible, and scientifically justifiable.

Applying for Funding: Applicants should submit a request for a 30 minute meeting with Dr. Aryal, BECCA Director, prior to applying to obtain an accurate estimate of hours required for the project (<https://requests.nursing.upenn.edu/>). After receiving the estimate, applicants should submit a request detailing the following 1) Project Title; 2) PI and Co-Is; 3) PISC affiliation; 4) position (e.g., trainee, faculty); 5) School/Department; 6) One page (single-space, ½ margins) describing the project; 7) expected products; 8) timeline; 9) attestation that PI and team members do not have extramural funding or other source of funds (e.g., discretionary funds, departmental funds) to support the project; and 10) the number of hours of support requested. Submit the completed application as one pdf document to terryr@nursing.upenn.edu.

What is NOT covered: This program does not cover proposal development of grant proposals being submitted for funding on which the statistician will be a Co-I or statistician of record and whose effort will be budgeted in the grant application. BECCA statisticians are available to join a team and help refine the methodology and develop the statistical plan for grant applications in partnership with the PI. BECCA statisticians work with research teams throughout the university, thus all PISC affiliates may contact BECCA for the development of extramural grant proposals and request a meeting to plan this out. (<https://requests.nursing.upenn.edu/>).

Typical Funding Levels: Typical funding levels will range 5 to 15 hours at a rate of \$90/hour. It is expected that this funding is primarily to guide the recipient in carrying out their analysis, to check code, to address problems that arise in analysis, and to accurately interpret the findings. It may also be used to develop surveys and provide input into design of the analysis. More support may be possible on a case-by-case basis for more sophisticated analyses or complex data.

Decisions: This program is jointly overseen by the PISC Research Core Director and Training Core Directors who will review applications. They will make a funding decision and inform the applicant. Funds are not awarded directly to the investigator; the approved funds will be directly routed to BECCA upon completion of the work.

Expected Reporting: Investigators are expected to submit final products to Dr. Richmond (Research Core Director) and to acknowledge funding in all presentations and publications. Future funding for the same applicant will take into consideration the quality and distribution of products from earlier funding cycles.