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Flinn Foundation Awards Critical Path Institute \$1 Million Grant

New multi-year grant furthers non-profit organization's data aggregation capabilities

TUCSON, Ariz., November 3, 2014— The [Critical Path Institute](#) (C-Path) today announced that the [Flinn Foundation](#) has awarded \$400,000 in first year funding, part of a grant with the potential to total \$1 million, to build C-Path's capacity in technical data governance, standards-based aggregation, and secure sharing of clinical data that aids medical product development and decision-making.

"The Flinn Foundation has been a key contributor to C-Path from the beginning and we are honored by its continued support," said Martha Brumfield, Ph.D., president and chief executive officer of C-Path. "This important funding allows us to expand our capacity to take on additional data-sharing and aggregation projects which, I hope, will spur additional collaborations that inform new insights in the medical product development process."

High-quality clinical trial data are the foundation for evidence that regulatory agencies review to endorse new drug development tools and methods used in creating medical products. As part of its work to increase the efficiency of medical product and drug development, C-Path has developed expertise and core competencies that support its consortia and securely administer clinical data shared by collaborators. These core competencies include the technical components of data platform development, de-identification methods, standards-based structured data mapping, and analytics. C-Path has also developed best practices in the oversight of data use agreements, access management, security, and platform maintenance.

The funding, which is a three-year, \$1 million commitment based on reaching key milestones, will enable C-Path to form a dedicated team focused on providing large-scale data collaboration platforms with capabilities ranging from data storage, management, and aggregation to bioinformatics analysis and interpretation. The work will result in the creation of a Data Collaboration Center to meet the increasing need for responsible mechanisms to share clinical data.

"The Data Collaboration Center will provide a platform for researchers in Arizona and beyond to consult regarding their data needs, and will enable a more efficient discovery of new insights that can inform and improve the testing of new drugs," said Jack B. Jewett, President and CEO of the Phoenix-based Flinn Foundation, a nonprofit grant-making organization that supports the advancement of Arizona's bioscience sector. "We are proud to support this important work and partner with C-Path, which has established itself as an important asset in the biosciences."

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C-Path has already developed significant technical expertise necessary to provide its stakeholders with the capabilities and protections needed to responsibly share clinical trial data, including the development of databases with standardized, aggregated, and integrated data for a number of disease areas such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, multiple sclerosis, polycystic kidney disease, and tuberculosis.

The Alzheimer's disease database was instrumental in the development of a quantitative clinical trial simulation tool for this disease, which became the first such platform to ever receive regulatory endorsement by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the European Medicines Agency (EMA). This tool is now being used by companies to optimize the design of clinical trials to evaluate candidate drugs in mild and moderate Alzheimer's dementia.

"Stakeholders are seeking comprehensive quantitative solutions to complex issues, but this is only possible through the aggregation of clinical trial data from multiple sources," said Brian Corrigan, Executive Director, Clinical Pharmacology, Global Innovation Pharma Business Unit at Pfizer. "Developing these requires both a high degree of sophisticated technical expertise as well as an ability to credibly serve as an independent and trusted provider. C-Path offers both."

About Critical Path Institute

The Critical Path Institute (C-Path) is an independent, non-profit organization established in 2005 with public and private philanthropic support from the Arizona community, Science Foundation Arizona, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). C-Path's mission is to catalyze the development of new approaches that advance medical innovation and regulatory science, accelerating the path to a healthier world. An international leader in forming collaborations, C-Path has established seven global, public-private partnerships that currently include over 1,000 scientists from government and regulatory agencies, academia, patient advocacy organizations, and dozens of major pharmaceutical companies. C-Path is headquartered in Tucson, Arizona. For more information, visit www.c-path.org.

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