

Influence and Translation in Action: COVID-19 Research Supported by the CTSA Consortium from 2020-22

Llewellyn NM¹, Casey S², Dave G³, DiazGranados D⁴, Flynn D⁵, Fournier D⁵, Hoyo V⁶, Pelfrey C⁷, & Nehl EJ¹



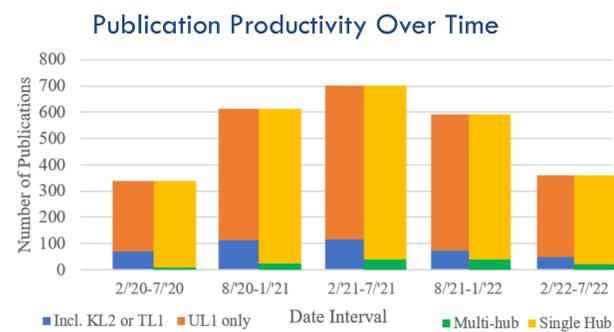
BACKGROUND

- The CTSA consortium is charged with **accelerating the translation** of discoveries from bench to bedside
- COVID-19 presented **unmatched challenges & applications** for CTSA hubs across the nation
- To elucidate the consortium's response to the pandemic, we used bibliometrics to assess features of **COVID-19 publications**, supported by the national program
- GOAL:** Understand 1) areas of scientific influence, 2) collaboration across CTSA hubs, and 3) trends in research types over time

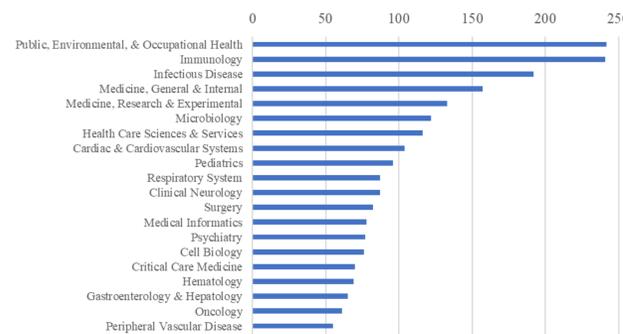
PROCESS

- Used NIH's **iSearch COVID-19 Publication Portfolio** to retrieve publication data from February 2020 through July 2022 (2.5 years)
- Identified **2,606 peer-reviewed articles** relevant to the SARS-CoV-2 virus, COVID-19 disease, or pandemic conditions, that cited any CTSA award
- Portfolio included all 66 CTSA hubs, with large and longstanding hubs contributing more publications
- Most publications cited UL1 grants, 421 cited training grants, and 139 cited multiple hub grants

FINDINGS



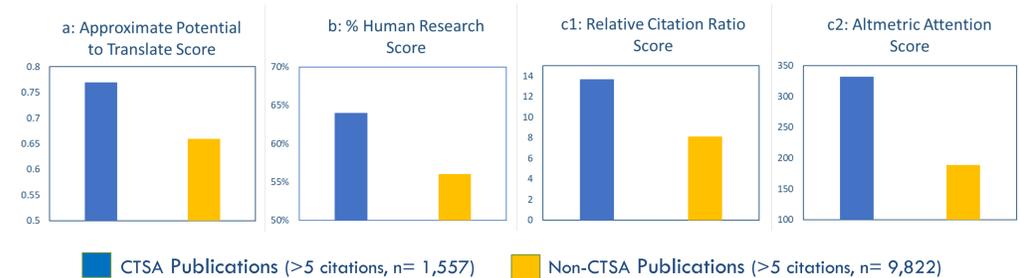
Top Research Areas by # of Publications



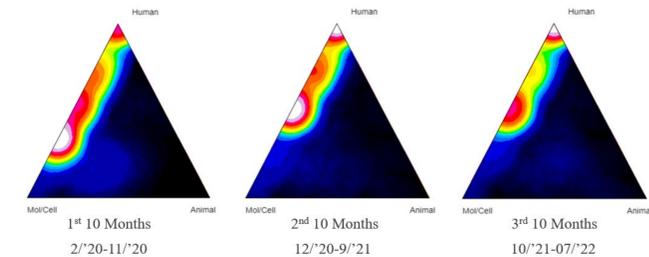
Compared to non-CTSA publications, the **CTSA portfolio** exhibited more:

- clinical relevance,
- human research, &
- citation influence (below)

Multi-hub publications, e.g., the National COVID-19 Cohort Collaborative (N3C), & multi-site clinical trials, exhibited the **same pattern** compared to single-hub publications (*not shown)



Trend analysis revealed **shifts from molecular/cellular-oriented** research toward **human-oriented & public health** research over time



IMPLICATIONS

- The CTSA consortium confronted the pandemic by supporting **high-quality projects** geared toward **human research**, working across hubs on **high-value collaborations**, and advancing along the **translational spectrum** as the pandemic progressed
- Results support the CTSA mission of translating science, effectively and efficiently, with greater influence on public health interventions and outcomes compared to non-CTSA institutions

CONTACT

Nicole.Llewellyn@emory.edu

FUNDING

