

**University of Wisconsin  
Department of Family Medicine  
Research with DFM Clinics**

The vision of the UW Department of Family Medicine (DFM) is to improve the health of the people of Wisconsin and the nation through leadership in family medicine education, clinical practice, community service, and research. This vision is augmented by the mission to promote the discovery and dissemination of knowledge important to teaching, clinical practice and the organization of health care. As such, the following course of action is designed to facilitate the advancement of this mission.

All requests to conduct research with DFM clinics must proceed in accordance with the following protocol. In considering such inquiries, the department assesses the balance between demands on DFM resources and anticipated benefits for faculty, staff, residents and patients. We prefer that if you propose to recruit patients or do research with DFM clinics that you contact the department as you are developing the study proposal so the study design and methodology is acceptable to you and appropriate to implement with DFM primary care clinics. We also prefer the involvement of DFM faculty members as a means to promote the vision of the department.

All investigators wishing to conduct research with DFM clinics must complete the [Request for Research with DFM Clinics](#) application. Completed applications (including IRB application and approved instruments) are to be submitted to the DFM Research Division program staff to be reviewed for completeness. Completed applications will then undergo the following review process:

1. Proposals presented to DFM Research Committee for approval. Research Committee review criteria includes: alignment with DFM mission, educational opportunities, appropriate study design, adherence to applicable human subjects research requisites, question of research, impact on DFM clinical operations and potential collaboration with DFM faculty. Actions may include any of the following:
  - deny
  - request for clarification/modifications
  - approve as presented/forward to DFM Medical Directors
  
2. Proposals presented to DFM Medical Directors for approval. Medical Directors review for appropriate implementation and impact on DFM clinical operations. Research Director/PI available to respond to questions. Actions may include any of the following:
  - deny
  - request for clarification/modifications
  - refer to dyad/DFM Leadership meeting for discussion
  - approve as presented – **review process complete**
  
3. Proposals presented at dyad meeting (medical directors/clinic managers). Dyad group reviews for appropriate implementation and impact on DFM clinics. Research Director/PI attends meeting to discuss proposal. Actions:
  - deny
  - request modifications
  - approve as presented

UWMF will rely on DFM approval process for scientific review.

Participation in studies approved for research with DFM clinics is optional and at the discretion of each individual clinic. Please contact the department if you need assistance with the application process. Questions can be directed to Larry Hanrahan, Research Director, [larry.hanrahan@fammed.wisc.edu](mailto:larry.hanrahan@fammed.wisc.edu), 608-263-5846.