

NIH grants \$20 M to Maine Medical Centre

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The five-year grant will be used to establish the Northern New England Clinical and Translational Research Network, a consortium dedicated to enhancing collaborative biomedical research activities for the improvement of human health.



The National Institutes of Health has awarded \$20 million in research funding to Portland's Maine Medical Center and its partners, the University of Southern Maine and the University of Vermont.

The five-year grant will be used to establish the Northern New England Clinical and Translational Research Network, a consortium dedicated to enhancing collaborative biomedical research activities for the improvement of human health. The consortium will join nine other NIH-supported regional networks across the country.

The funding will help researchers develop and implement innovative medical treatments for chronic diseases prevalent in the region, including cancer, heart disease, obesity, diabetes, Alzheimer's disease and substance abuse. Research activities will also focus on defining optimal methods of prevention and health care delivery in rural environments, where roughly 60 percent of Maine's population resides.

Collaborations with researchers at Tufts University School of Medicine and the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth will serve to extend the capabilities of the network and its reach across the region.