

**UAMS News Bureau**

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**News Release**  
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**Four UAMS Researchers Receive Grants Totaling \$200,000**

LITTLE ROCK — The UAMS Translational Research Institute has approved research pilot study awards for four researchers totaling \$200,000.

The annual awards of up to \$50,000 each are made to projects with the strongest likelihood of leading to improved health and health care. This is the first year the institute has offered awards for pilot projects focused on implementation science.

Implementation science is the study of methods to promote integrating research findings and other evidence-based practices into routine practice to improve the quality and effectiveness of health services.

Awardees were selected using a committee with internal, external and community reviewers. The awardees are:

- [Pearl McElfish](#), Ph.D., MBA, assistant professor, internal medicine, College of Medicine; associate vice chancellor, Northwest Regional Campus; director, Office of Community Health and Research, co-director of the Center for Pacific Islander Health  
Pilot project: *Implementation of Family Model DSME in an Underserved Marshallese Population in a Clinical Setting*
- [Benjamin Teeter](#), Ph.D., assistant professor, pharmacy practice, College of Pharmacy, Center for Implementation Research  
Pilot project: *Testing Implementation Strategies to Support Community Pharmacist-Initiated Prescription and Distribution of Naloxone to Reduce Overdose by Opioids*

- [Jeremy Thomas](#), Pharm.D., associate professor, pharmacy practice, College of Pharmacy  
Pilot project: *Implementation of Clinical Pharmacy Services Delivered via Telehealth to Federally Qualified Healthcare Centers*
- [Kristin Zorn](#), M.D., associate professor, gynecology and genetics, College of Medicine  
Pilot project: *An Implementation Strategy to Increase Appropriate Referrals for Genetic Counseling and Testing Among Patients at High Risk for Hereditary Cancer Syndromes*

UAMS is the state's only health sciences university, with colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Health Professions and Public Health; a graduate school; hospital; northwest Arkansas regional campus; statewide network of regional centers; and seven institutes: the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences Institute, Myeloma Institute, Harvey & Bernice Jones Eye Institute, Psychiatric Research Institute, Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging and Translational Research Institute. It is the only adult Level 1 trauma center in the state. UAMS has 2,834 students, 822 medical residents and six dental residents. It is the state's largest public employer with more than 10,000 employees, including 1,200 physicians who provide care to patients at UAMS, its regional campuses throughout the state, Arkansas Children's Hospital, the VA Medical Center and Baptist Health. Visit [www.uams.edu](http://www.uams.edu) or [www.uamshealth.com](http://www.uamshealth.com). Find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) or [Instagram](#).

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