Dear Colleagues,

CTSI has been asked by Executive Vice Chancellor Gene Washington to organize and inform researchers at UCSF who are interested in comparative effectiveness research (CER). As you know from our prior meetings, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act appropriated $1.1B for CER over the next 2 years. Of this amount, $300M will be distributed by the Association for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). Attached to this email is an announcement from AHRQ entitled “AHRQ Announces Intent to Publish Grant and Contract Solicitations for Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER) Projects with Funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)”. This announcement describes how AHRQ intends to commit the $300M that this agency controls.

CTSI plans to email important announcements such as the attached to you at the time that we become aware of them. We will also send an email approximately monthly with an update on national CER news that is not of the same urgency and update you on local CER activities at UCSF. CTSI has organized a mailing list of faculty interested in CER and is in the process of creating a Steering Committee that will be charged with coordinating and supporting CER at UCSF. The Steering Committee will meet approximately bi-monthly over the next several months and we will consider organizing a meeting of all faculty interested in CER late this fall. Additional information and names of steering committee members can be found at http://ctsi.ucsf.edu/cer.

We have included your name on this mailing list because we believe that you are interested in pursuing opportunities to conduct CER. If you DO NOT want to receive these emails, please contact us at ctsi@ucsf.edu.

If there are other faculty who you believe should be added to this mailing list, please let them know and ask them to contact us at ctsi@ucsf.edu to be added to the mailing.