2017-2018 Request for Proposals: 
Clinical Effectiveness and Patient Safety (CEPS) Small Grants Program
For Faculty, Residents and Fellows

The SOM and UCH are committed to providing the highest quality care to our patients. The SOM-funded CEPS Small Grants Program, now in its 11th funding cycle, awards up to $25,000 to faculty and staff that show leadership in creating initiatives that put evidence into practice and implement innovative process improvements with the goals of improving patient safety, and/or enhancing the quality and cost-effectiveness of health care delivery. An extension of the CEPS Program, the CEPS-RF Small Grants Program, awards up to $5,000 to residents and fellows based primarily at University of Colorado Hospital (UCH). This new program is intended to encourage trainees to become leaders in innovative quality and safety initiatives, as well as to promote faculty development of skills in mentoring trainees in these projects.

Projects must include UCH clinical programs (inpatient or outpatient) and applicants must obtain approval from UCH managers/practice directors in clinical areas where the project will be conducted. Projects requiring changes to Epic must obtain an Epic letter of support. You may contact Dr. Jonathan Pell for letters at jonathan.pell@ucdenver.edu. Please note this grant program will not support the development of new technologies and the application of them into medical practice (translational research). No grant funds may be used to offset faculty salaries, though funds may be used for consultants and research assistants. These projects should utilize multidisciplinary approaches and make use of QI methodologies (e.g., PDSA cycles) when possible.

Faculty applicants should consider the following additional guidelines:

- **Applicants must be SOM faculty.** Non-SOM staff/faculty can serve as PI if partnered with SOM faculty.
- Grants provide one-year of funding up to $25,000. A 6-month, no-cost extension is permissible if sufficient progress is made in the first grant year.
- A final report presentation will be required at the end of the grant period.

Resident & Fellow applicants should consider the following additional guidelines:

- **Must be a resident or fellow in good standing in a CUSOM GME accredited residency or fellowship.**
- Must provide a letter of support from a SOM faculty member with privileges at UCH who is willing to serve as a mentor for the project. Mentors should have demonstrated experience in quality improvement. The letter must include:
  - Relationship to resident/fellow applicant (project mentor, program director, etc).
  - Description of how faculty will provide support to applicant (e.g. plans for regular meetings, etc).
  - Commitment to attend quarterly work-in-progress meetings.
  - Provide a copy of the faculty mentor’s CV.
- Grants provide one-year of funding up to $5,000. Depending on residency timeline, a 6-month, no-cost extension is permissible if sufficient progress is made in the first grant year.
- A final report presentation will be required at the end of the first year, regardless of extension.

Please submit a **2-page letter of intent due by 11:59p on 3/19/17** which includes: project goals and specific objectives; background and significance; project design (setting, population, measures and how obtained and intervention); timeline; and anticipated cost. Letters of Intent will be rated on the following criteria: *importance* (magnitude/scope, alignment with institutional goals), *impact* (expected outcomes, processes and cost), *feasibility* (PI and project team, resources, timeframe) and *approach* (QI methodology, multidisciplinary, innovative). An LOI proposal template can be found on the program websites at [www.medschool.ucdenver.edu/ceps](http://www.medschool.ucdenver.edu/ceps) or [www.medschool.ucdenver.edu/ceps-rf](http://www.medschool.ucdenver.edu/ceps-rf). Grant criteria and conditions of awardee selection can also be found on these websites.

Within two weeks of review, the grant committee will contact selected applicants to submit a detailed 10-page proposal due June 4, 2017. The committee anticipates announcing the awards early July 2017, with funding to begin early August 2017. **Please direct questions and/or letters of intent to the CEPS & CEPS-RF Small Grants Program Manager at som.qismallgrants@ucdenver.edu or heather.hallman@ucdenver.edu.** We strongly encourage seeking feedback from the CEPS/CEPS-RF manager on the feasibility of your project before submitting.