

EQUITABLE BREAKTHROUGHS IN MEDICINE DEVELOPMENT™

WHO WE ARE

Equitable Breakthroughs in Medicine Development (EQBMED) is a collaborative partnership to diversify participation in clinical trials with communities of color and rural communities by increasing awareness, addressing misinformation and historical mistrust, and ensuring trials are easily accessible and sustainable. **Our goal is a sustainable and replicable framework that can influence the future of clinical trial research in sites that have historically been less engaged in the clinical trial ecosystem.**

EQBMED is led by the **network partners** at Yale School of Medicine, Morehouse School of Medicine, the Research Centers in Minority Institutions Coordinating Center (RCMI-CC) at Morehouse School of Medicine, and Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Yale SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER

THE EQBMED ECOSYSTEM

EQBMED collaborates with a wide range of partners who bring expertise in different areas, along with shared knowledge, trust, and strong community ties. All partners have been brought together under one concentrated effort to further clinical trial diversity.

There are three crucial components to the EQBMED ecosystem, driving us towards our goal:

Sites + Communities: Clinical trial sites, in partnership with communities, enable research aligned with the community-identified priorities and needs for better patient outcomes.

Partners: Operational, community-based, faith-based and professional partners support sites in building capabilities and capacity for diverse community engagement and robust clinical research.

Sponsors: In collaboration with sites, sponsors shape clinical protocols for more inclusive clinical research, and host trials aligned with community priorities.


OUR MISSION


EQBMED's mission is to engage communities that have historically been less involved in the research and development of potentially life-saving medical treatments. EQBMED builds on and leverages past and present work to support clinical trial research at local sites in communities of color and those that have been historically underrepresented in clinical research. The program employs **a holistic approach that considers the baseline capabilities of each site, allowing EQBMED to focus on enhancing opportunities for communities of color and rural communities to participate and stay true to the program's mission to promote clinical trial awareness access.**


As EQBMED works to increase access to clinical trials for diverse patient populations in pursuit of improved health for all, we are committed to sharing our findings broadly to build a foundation of trust; innovate a new approach to partnerships, clinical trial diversity, and operations; and create beneficial change for community-centered research, for medical science, and for society at large.


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 <https://www.EQBMED.org>

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THE CHALLENGE

EQBMED and its partners are taking an intentional approach in our efforts, so that we can cultivate meaningful collaboration with communities to meet participants and local clinical care sites where they are, so that we can respond to the needs of communities and accelerate drug discovery for the benefit of all patients. **EQBMED is supporting ways to overcome the challenges local clinical care sites face in terms of clinical trial infrastructure**, such as financial and time burdens, lack of sustainable funding, limited community partnerships, lack of mentoring, connection or training, in order for local sites to successfully and sustainably offer clinical trials to their patient-base.

EQBMED's collaborative approach to working with local sites and trusted voices within the community aims to address critical barriers participants may face like limited access to trials in their communities, the financial and time burden participating in a clinical trial can create, hesitancy due to lack of information, disinformation or misinformation, or more often simply not being asked to participate.

OUR COMMITMENT

EQBMED partners with local sites, building on their strengths and capabilities to become sustainable within the clinical trial ecosystem. This means developing a tailored approach to each site, which could include:

- Fostering sustainable partnerships with community-based and faith-based organizations and leaders
- Enhancing technology capabilities
- Augmenting infrastructure
- Providing funding for dedicated personnel.

By tailoring our approach to each site's specific capabilities and aspirations, the program hopes to bring research closer to the community while staying true to the program's mission to promote clinical trial awareness and access.

CHANGING THE PARADIGM



The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) awarded a \$10 million grant to Yale University to support the creation and development of this initiative. PhRMA convened thousands of stakeholders in the process to design this learning phase to work with 10 sites in underserved communities to help enhance diverse participation in clinical trials and uncover learnings to promote sustainability and success.