

BOSTON  
MEDICAL  
CENTER

EXCEPTIONAL CARE. WITHOUT EXCEPTION.



School of Medicine



Clinical Addiction Research and Education

# Timing Your Research Career

Jeffrey H. Samet, MD, MA, MPH

Chief, Section General Internal Medicine

Boston Medical Center

Professor of Medicine and Public Health

Boston University Schools of Medicine and Public Health

# Learning Objectives

## To Consider:

- Why is having funding for research necessary from a section chief's perspective?
- When during fellowship should a fellow shift focus from conducting research and writing papers to writing a career development award?
- What is a K award and what is needed to be ready to write one?
- Are there alternatives to a career development award?
- Answering YOUR questions.

Why is having funding for research  
necessary from a section chief's  
perspective?

When during fellowship should a fellow shift focus from conducting research and writing papers to writing a career development award?

# Elements of a Career Development Plan

- Clear statement of what you hope to achieve
- Explicit activities designed to achieve goals
- Specific aspects of advanced research training and professional skills (e.g., training in grant writing)
- Create a timeline for matching goals to training
- Produce specified publications
- Clarify how your institutional environment will help

What is a K award and what is needed to be ready to write one?

# The Goal of Mentored K Awards

- To provide support and protected time for an intensive, supervised career development experience leading to research independence
- At least 75% effort over 4-5 years
- Submissions due Feb 12/June 12/Oct 12

# **K Awards: Review by 5 Criteria**

- Candidate
- Career Development Plan
- Research Strategy
- Mentor
- Environment & Institutional Commitment



# TIPS

- Be a real person!
  - Why topic excites you, how you found it
- Tell excellence of your previous training and accomplishments (publications, presentations, research clinical work)
- Brag a little, become a “good investment”
- You need to publish papers (>3) to receive a K

Are there alternatives to a career  
development award?



**Within Your Reach!**