

QuEST Network Research Affiliate Membership Packet

Table of Contents

About the QuEST Network	2
Structure of the QuEST Network	2
Purpose of this document	3
Becoming a QuEST Network Research Affiliate	3
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)	4
Letter of Interest (LOI)	5
Contact information	5
Research project information	5
Modes of collaboration	6
Statement of work (SOW).....	7
Team composition and contact information.....	8
Institutional letter of support.....	8

About the QuEST Network

The Quality Evidence for Health System Transformation (QuEST) Network seeks to build the evidence base to support transformation to high quality health systems by improving measurement, testing solutions, and creating generalizable knowledge.

The QuEST Network aims to:

- Produce and share rigorous and policy-driven research that can assist in the transformation to high quality health systems
- Generate global public goods to enable replication and scale-up of new quality measures and health system models
- Expand global interest in and funding for innovative, large-scale health system quality research
- Translate research and promote evidence-based policies through partnerships with local, national, and global policymakers
- Mentor the next generation of health system scientists by providing opportunities for supportive collaboration and skill building

Structure of the QuEST Network

The QuEST Network consists of three groups of actors with keen interest in creating, accessing, disseminating, and/or supporting new health system quality evidence for policy transformation (Figure 1).

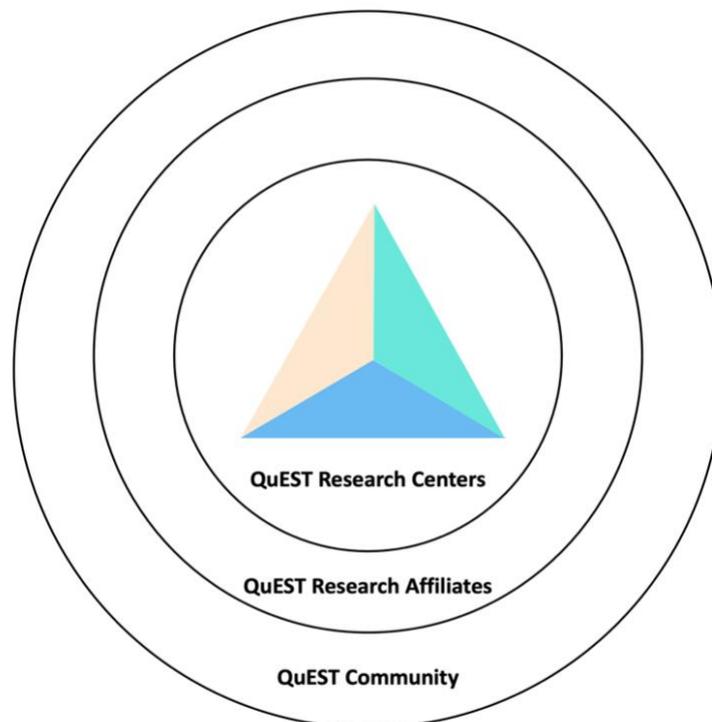


Figure 1. QuEST Network structure

QuEST Research Centers

QuEST Centers comprise the research engine of the QuEST Network by creating, implementing, and disseminating core QuEST research activities. Research Centers participate in all core QuEST research and networking building projects.

QuEST Research Affiliates

Research Affiliates are research groups or institutions that actively participate and contribute to QuEST research and activities. Research Affiliates may include independent research organizations and health system quality interest groups. Research Affiliates conduct at least one core joint research project in collaboration with the QuEST Network.

QuEST Community

The QuEST Community includes anyone interested in QuEST Network activities. QuEST Community members can range from individuals and policy makers, to advocates, program implementers, members of the media, and civil society organizations.

Purpose of this document

The purpose of this document is to provide detailed guidance to institutions/research groups regarding the benefits, expectations, and processes involved in serving as a QuEST Network Research Affiliate. To become a QuEST Research Center or a QuEST Community member, please contact the QuEST Network for more details (info@questnetwork.org).

Becoming a QuEST Network Research Affiliate

In order for your institution to become a QuEST Research Affiliate, please follow the steps outlined below:

1. Review the QuEST Network Research Affiliate Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on page 4.
2. Submit a Letter of Interest (LOI) to Prof. Margaret Kruk (mkruk@hsph.harvard.edu) and Ms. Rashmi Dayalu (rdayalu@hsph.harvard.edu) for review, using the template provided on pages 5-8. The LOI requests key information pertaining to the QuEST research project of interest, confirmed funding sources, modes of collaboration, study goals/design, and team composition.
3. Submit the signed MOU to Prof. Margaret Kruk (mkruk@hsph.harvard.edu) and Ms. Rashmi Dayalu (rdayalu@hsph.harvard.edu) upon acceptance of your LOI.
4. Renew your institute's membership every three years. Research Affiliate renewal is subject to review based on prior participation and activity in the QuEST Network.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Research Affiliates are groups or institutions that actively lead and contribute to core QuEST Network activities. Affiliates may include independent research organizations (e.g. universities and research institutes) and health system quality interest groups. **Research Affiliates are expected to conduct at least one core QuEST research project, share and develop health system R&D, and promote policy uptake within countries.** The [QuEST Network website](#) contains detailed descriptions of the core QuEST research projects that Affiliates might lead. Affiliates are also asked to engage in QuEST activities such as webinars and skill building, contribute to discussions and forums, and to serve as policy liaisons to governments, national leaders, and development partners.

Engagement Expectations

1. Lead at least one of the following core QuEST Network research projects within a defined local context:
 - Service Delivery Redesign
 - People’s Voice Survey
 - E-cohorts for Tracking Longitudinal Care Quality
 - Health System Resilience during COVID-19 Study
2. Lead or coauthor research publications as per [ICMJE author guidelines](#)
3. Share anonymized, de-identified research data collected as part of QuEST collaborations for open access through the QuEST Network, in line with the Network’s mission to build a global health system quality evidence base
4. Provide meaningful capacity building:
 - Lead at least one QuEST Research Seminar
 - Participate as a guest lecture in the QuEST Flagship Quality course and/or as a panelist in webinars or symposia (upon invitation)
5. Contribute to evidence institutionalization:
 - Drive policy uptake in local contexts through partnerships with national and local policy makers
 - Share findings during at least one QuEST Policy Round Table event

Research Affiliate Benefits

1. Receive research training, guidance, and support through QuEST Network researchers and resources:
 - QuEST Flagship Health System Quality course
 - QuEST research seminars
 - Online training workshops and in-person research training courses
2. Maintain public visibility through a Research Affiliate profile on the QuEST Network website
3. Access cutting-edge QuEST Network research briefings prior to publication
4. Engage in and inform QuEST research efforts and policy translation through annual symposia and QuEST signature activities
5. Access limited support for travel funding to QuEST symposia
6. Access new resources and discussion forums on the QuEST website
7. Access all public events such as QuEST Policy Round Tables, QuEST social media platforms, and online public resources

This MOU is valid for three years, renewable, unless either party wishes to end the collaboration earlier, after three months notice. **I hereby agree to the Principles of Collaboration stated in this MOU.**

Full name of Principal Investigator/Institutional Head	
Name of institution	
Date	
Signature	

Letter of Interest (LOI)

Please review the QuEST Research Affiliate MOU prior to completing the LOI below. Submit this completed LOI to Prof. Margaret Kruk (mkruk@hsph.harvard.edu) and Ms. Rashmi Dayalu (rdayalu@hsph.harvard.edu).

Contact information	
Institution Name	
Institution Address	
Principal Investigator (PI) Name	

Research project information	
Select the joint QuEST research project(s) you plan to implement.	<input type="checkbox"/> The People’s Voice Survey <input type="checkbox"/> Service Delivery Redesign <input type="checkbox"/> E-Cohorts for Longitudinal Care Quality <input type="checkbox"/> Health System Resilience during COVID-19 <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____
Project start date	
Project end date	
Project location	
Funding source	

Modes of collaboration

Please select the *types of support you wish to receive* from the QuEST Network or from the QuEST Center at Harvard. Select all that apply.

- Data mobilization and analysis
- Dissemination for publication and/or policy engagement
- Ethical approval assistance
- Feasibility assessment for Service Delivery Redesign
- Health system quality expertise (e.g. access to QuEST webinars, courses, and trainings)
- Research mentorship
- Study design and sampling
- Survey design, validation, and implementation
- Other (specify): _____

Please select the *types of support you are able to provide* to other QuEST Network members. Select all that apply.

- Data mobilization and analysis
- Dissemination for publication and/or policy engagement
- Ethical approval assistance
- Feasibility assessment for Service Delivery Redesign
- Health system quality expertise (e.g. contribute to QuEST webinars, courses, and trainings)
- Research mentorship
- Study design and sampling
- Survey design, validation, and implementation
- Other (specify): _____

Statement of work (SOW)

Please provide a brief description of the research project(s) you plan to implement as a QuEST Research Affiliate, including specific research goals, aims, activities, methodology, geographic area(s) of focus, sample size, timeline, and investigator responsibilities.

In the event of substantive changes to your research project as a QuEST Research Affiliate, please submit an updated SOW to Prof. Margaret Kruk (mkruk@hsph.harvard.edu) and Ms. Rashmi Dayalu (rdayalu@hsph.harvard.edu). This information will help facilitate effective and efficient collaboration within the QuEST Network.

Team composition and contact information

Please provide the current composition and contact information for your full QuEST research team as applicable. This list will be used to facilitate key communications between your team and the QuEST Network and can be updated at any time. Please attach a separate sheet for additional roles as needed.

Role (for selected QuEST research project)	Name	Phone Number	E-mail Address
Principal Investigator (PI)			
Research Lead			
Research Analyst			
Project Administrator			
Other (specify):			
Other (specify):			

Institutional letter of support

Please attach a short letter of support for this research project from the candidate Research Affiliate institution. If the PI of this project is also the head of the applying institution, this letter of support can be signed by the PI.