



Cancer Protocol Review and Monitoring Committee (PRMC) Mentorship Program

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BACKGROUND

- Robust scientific review of cancer clinical trial protocols is critical to providing high quality trials to patients that are both safe and effective; however, the requirements and process for conducting scientific review of these trials can be complex and challenging to navigate.
- Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center (MCCCC) employs a two-stage scientific review process via the Protocol Review and Monitoring System (PRMS).
- Stage 1 review is conducted by the Disease Group and Stage 2 review by the Protocol Review and Monitoring Committee (PRMC) to assess the overall design, population relevance, and scientific validity of clinical trial protocols prior to activation.

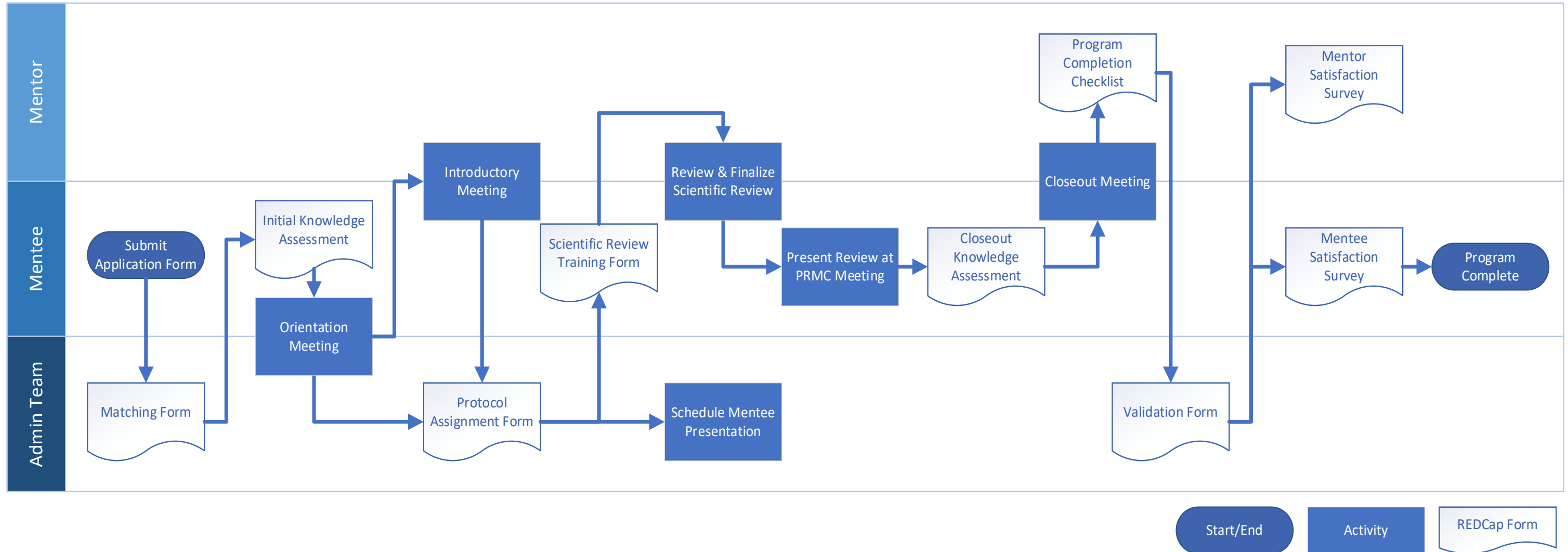
GOALS

1. Implement a PRMC Mentorship Program to engage junior faculty and trainees in the scientific review process by providing opportunities for shadowing, mentorship, and scientific review training at PRMC.
2. Raise awareness about the critical role of PRMC in delivering high quality trials to patients.

METHODS

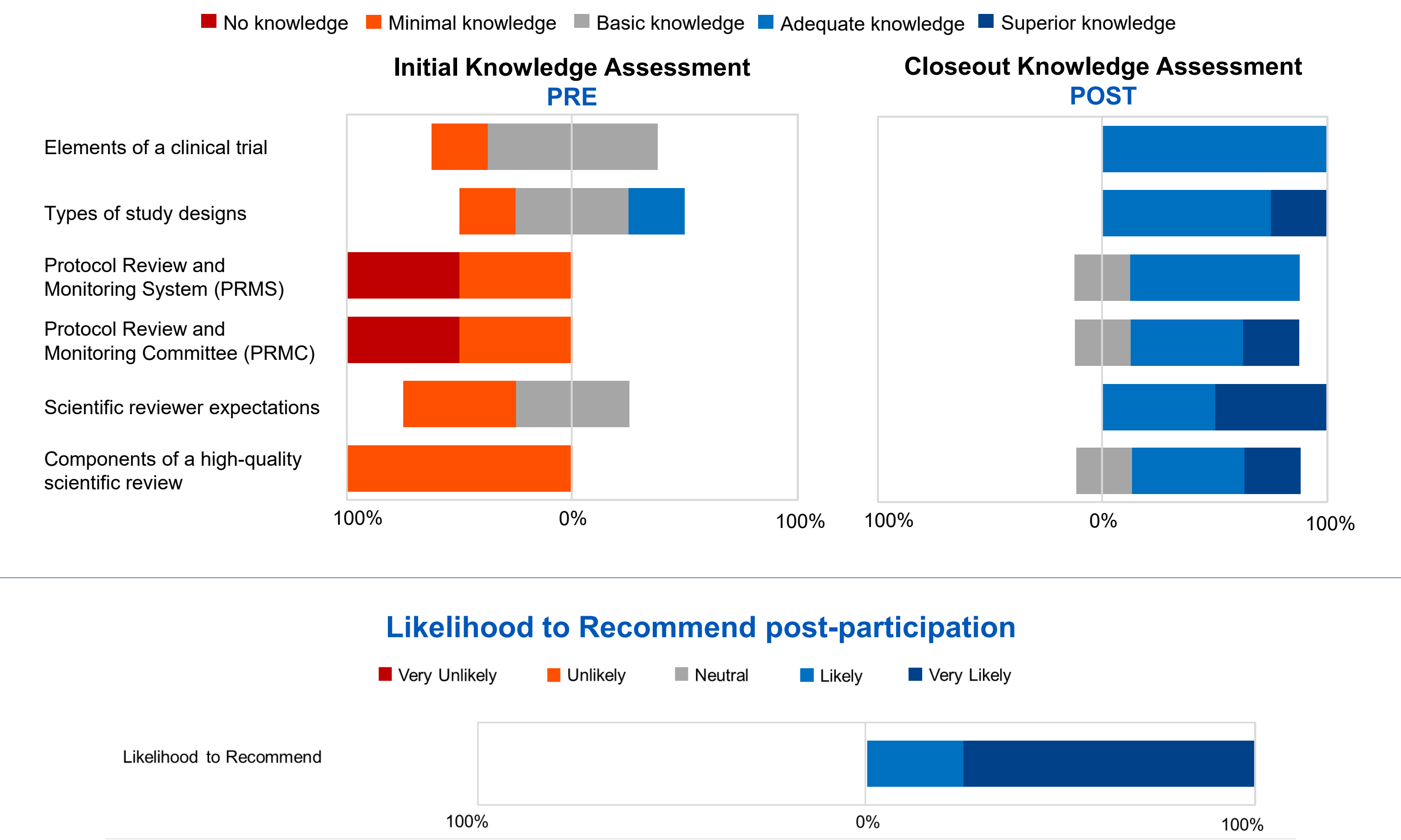
- Key elements of the Stage 2 scientific review process were identified and mapped into a longitudinal learning pathway and a REDCap system was built to facilitate the process.
- Mentees are paired with PRMC member mentors and given an Initial Knowledge Assessment. Following orientation, mentees must complete the following:
 - ☐ Participate in **4** PRMC meetings
 - ☐ Participate in **2** meetings with assigned mentor
 - ☐ Complete Scientific Review Training Form **1** protocol
 - ☐ Present **1** protocol review at PRMC meeting
- MCCCC piloted a PRMC Mentorship Program from January-May 2024 with 4 participants.

PROGRAM PROCESS FLOW



PILOT RESULTS

PRMC Mentorship Pilot knowledge assessments process pre- and post-participation (n=4)



OUTCOMES

- All 4 participants completed four-month the pilot.
- Comparisons of pre- and post-pilot surveys indicated that participants' knowledge of the scientific review process increased by **84.9%**.
- **100%** of participants were likely to recommend the program to others.
- These findings suggested that a formalized program would be feasible and effective.

“I gained much more insight into the protocol review process ... I have a clearer idea of how [to] design a clinical trial, and the elements that contribute to a strong protocol. This will be a great experience to draw from for my career as a physician scientist.”
– anonymous participant

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Implemented full program in October 2024.
- As of April 2025, received **45** applications, **10** participants completed the program, and maintaining **100%** likelihood to recommend.

Lessons Learned:

- To complete the program objectives, two months would be sufficient rather than four.
- The high number of applicants indicates that there is a clear appetite for this content.
- A structured onboarding process, regular communication, and clear expectations are essential for mentee success.

Future Directions:

- Expand evaluation metrics to further quantify program impact.
- Seek additional funding to expand the program to include Stage 1 review.