

Patient Support Program Update

Nimit Ruparel ICOC/ARS Meeting December 11, 2025





Goal for Today

To provide an update on the status of the CIRM Patient Support Program (PSP), what we've learned to date, and to answer any questions about the program



Patient Support Program Update

- Background
- 2 Timeline
- 3 Program Pilot and Improvement Areas
- 4 Next Steps

Proposition 14 - Patient Assistance Fund (PAF)

Revenues received by CIRM shall be deposited into the General Fund "Licensing and Revenue Fund" to be spent on "offsetting the costs of providing treatments and cures arising from Institute-funded research to **California** patients who have insufficient means to purchase such treatment or cure, including the reimbursement of patient-qualified costs for research participants." - Proposition 14 125290.30(j)(1)

Strategic Allocation Framework (SAF)

Goal 5 - Ensure that every BLA ready program has a strategy for access and affordability

Strengthen Clinical Infrastructure Connectivity

Build interconnectivity & performance metrics between CIRM Clinical Infrastructure (Alpha Clinics, CCCEs, PSP) to ensure enhanced referral, enrollment, & retention of California patients in clinical trials

Program Funding - Grant vs. PAF

Funds to directly cover patient costs

- Dedicated to allowable expenses for eligible CA residents in CIRM funded trials
- Fund may be supplemented by future CIRM royalty streams

Patient Assistance Fund (PAF) 15.6M



Program Funding - Grant vs. PAF

Funds to directly cover patient costs

- Dedicated to allowable expenses for eligible CA residents in CIRM funded trials
- Fund may be supplemented by future CIRM royalty streams

Patient Assistance Fund (PAF) 15.6M

Patient Support Program (PSP) 2.5M

CIRM INFR7 Award

- Grant for program design planning, and operational expenses
- Supported by CIRM AA budget
- Issued to ensure that the PAF is utilized to directly address patient financial and logistical barriers



Patient Support Program (PSP) Award

- The PSP awardee was required to perform 4 primary operational activities:
 - 1. Patient intake and navigation through development of a call center
 - 2. Assessing patient financial eligibility for access to PSP support
 - 3. Distributing payments for eligible expenses for transportation, travel, lodging, and nutrition
 - 4. Coordinating with CIRM and trial sites to maintain accounting and assurance of non-duplication of permitted costs



PSP Support Services Offered



Nutrition

Meals or other nutritional assistance (up to \$100/day for patient, \$50/day for caregiver)



Travel

Travel coordination (e.g. flight booking up to \$500 per flight for patient & caregiver)



Lodging

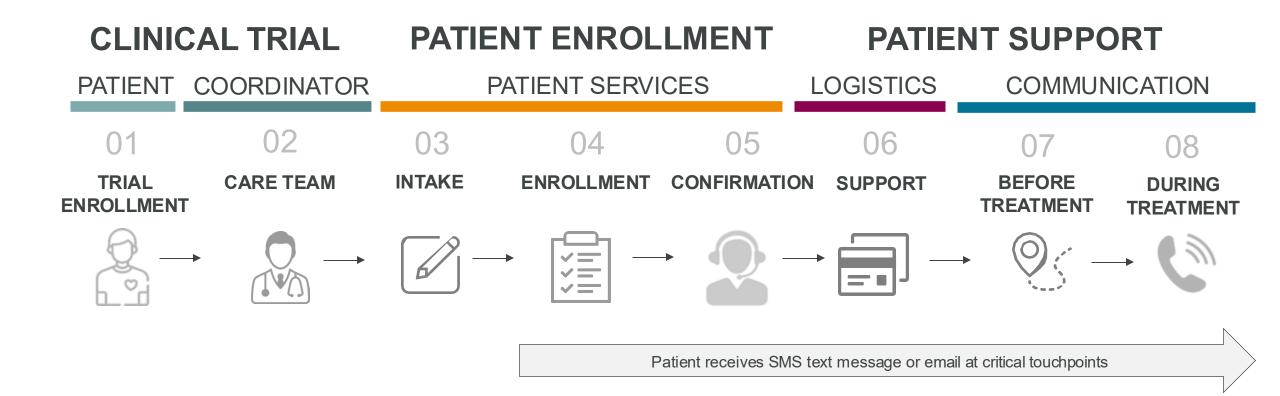
Lodging throughout clinical visits (\$275 per night)



Transportation

Including gas, ride share and parking (\$50 limit)

PSP Patient Journey



PSP Development Timeline



Feb-Dec 2022

Access and Affordability
Working Group (AAWG)
convened to determine program
mechanism and scope



CIRM released RFA for INFR7 for Patient Support Program



November 2024

Program launched at three Alpha Clinic sites with goal of completing 5 patient enrollment pilot phase

ICOC approved Concept Plan for \$2.5M / 5-year CIRM Patient Support Program to deploy the \$15.6M Patient Assistance Fund

March 2023

ICOC approved grant award and selection of Eversana as vendor to administer PSP

March 2024

5th patient enrolled & new Program Manager for PSP recruited

June 2025



PSP Initial Pilot



Program well received by participating clinical trial sites, Alpha Clinics, and patients



Smooth enrollment process through text and email allows for efficient communication with patients



Use of pre-paid debit card increases accessibility and reduces administrative burden on patients



Program infrastructure adaptable to emerging needs (e.g. ground transportation, additional service offerings)



PSP Pilot Improvement Areas



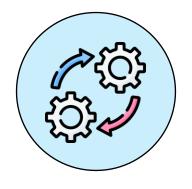
Reporting

Modifying reports to be **more robust** for comprehensive expense category reporting



Compliance

Refining allowable merchant codes and transaction tracking



CLIN2 Outreach

Increasing awareness with CLIN2 study teams and Alpha Clinics



Policy & Legal

Engaging CIRM Legal and Finance to inform program eligibility and compliance questions



Navigation

Implementing enhanced clinical navigation support





Q3 24-25 Q4 24-25 Q1 25-26 Q2 25-26

PSP Initial Pilot

- Operational framework, call center scripting, platform and business rules developed
- Debit card vendor (Klyre) and travel vendor (Concur) contracted
- Program launched at 3 Alpha Clinics 12/24
- Fiscal agreement finalized 1/25
- Program expanded to all Alpha Clinics and CLIN2 award sites 5/25
- Program expanded to support screening 6/25
- Fifth patient enrolled 6/25



PSP Initial Pilot

- Operational framework, call center scripting, platform and business rules developed
- Debit card vendor (Klyre) and travel vendor (Concur) contracted
- Program launched at 3 Alpha Clinics 12/24
- Fiscal agreement finalized 1/25
- Program expanded to all Alpha Clinics and CLIN2 award sites 5/25
- Program expanded to support screening 6/25
- Fifth patient enrolled 6/25

Limitations of Pilot

- Low overall patient volume
- Only 3 clinical trial sites
- Not enough data on costs and utilization
- Not enough variety of data on patient usage to identify edge cases to strengthen business rules



Q3 24-25	Q4 24-25	Q1 25-26	Q2 25-26
----------	----------	----------	----------

PSP Initial Pilot

- Operational framework, call center scripting, platform and business rules developed
- Debit card vendor (Klyre) and travel vendor (Concur) contracted
- Program launched at 3 Alpha Clinics 12/24
- Fiscal agreement finalized 1/25
- Program expanded to all Alpha Clinics and CLIN2 award sites 5/25
- Program expanded to support screening 6/25
- Fifth patient enrolled 6/25

PSP Extended Pilot

- Continue to provide existing PSP support, including financial support & trial navigation
- Expand PSP to support more patients with screening appointments
- Engage existing CLIN2 awardees and Alpha Clinics to market services
- Strengthen reporting, SOPs, exception policies, and implement operational improvements
- Enhance clinical trial navigation capabilities
- Evaluate options for offering additional care support services (e.g. child care)



Q3 24-25	Q4 24-25	Q1 25-26	Q2 25-26
----------	----------	----------	----------

PSP Initial Pilot

Rationale for Expansion

- **Increase** overall **enrollment**
- Gather more data on costs and utilization
- Strengthen program integrity, business rules, and reporting
- **Identify more edge cases** that may inform business rules development

PSP Extended Pilot

- Aue to provide existing PSP support, uding financial support & trial navigation Expand PSP to support more patients with screening appointments
- Engage existing CLIN2 awardees and Alpha Clinics to market services
- Strengthen reporting, SOPs, exception policies, and implement operational improvements
- Enhance clinical trial navigation capabilities
- Evaluate options for offering additional care support services (e.g. child care)

PSP Award Implementation Schedule

Award Start: 8/1/2024 **Award End:** 7/31/2029



Phase 2 Discovery 1/1/26 – 6/30/26

 Move into full program implementation as more CLIN2s come online



Phase 3 Expansion 7/1/26 – 12/31/26

 Solidify full program implementation



Year 3 Steady State 1/1/27-12/31/27

 Steady state program implementation



Year 4 Steady State 1/1/28-12/31/28

 Steady state program implementation



Year 5 Assessment 1/1/29-7/31/29

- Wind-down of award
- Ramp up next phase of program (if applicable)



Questions?