Research Review Committee (RRC)
Department of Psychiatry
Policy on PRIME-the-R

A. <u>Goals of the Policy</u>

- To provide a process that helps junior faculty members receive departmental pilot funding to support their first R series grant.

B. <u>Policy Statement</u>

The Department of Psychiatry has access to foundation funds to support pilot research data collection for early-stage investigators' initial R applications. The Department will conduct scientific review to determine if the pilot project proposal is meritorious. The applications for this "Prime-the-R" program are intended to be short. Similarly, review comments are intended to be brief, simply highlighting major strengths and weakness sufficient to support a confidential funding recommendation. Reviewers will offer one of the following recommendations:

- Fund the pilot study as described

- Revise and reconsider the proposal

- Do not recommend funding of the pilot study

C. <u>Research Review Committee Process for Prime-the-R</u>

1. The process for review of Prime-the-R applications is intended to be simple and rapid.

2. The Principal Investigator will identify 3-5 mid-senior level Department faculty members to serve as a reviewer.

3. The RRC chair and/or administrator will invite the identified reviewers to review.

4. The proposals will include Specific Aims, a brief description of proposed methods, and how the data will help to support a subsequent R application. The Prime-the-R reviewers will complete brief review comments, consisting of a single paragraph of major strengths and weaknesses.

5. The reviewers will return their review and recommendation within five business days to the RRC chair and administrator. Brief comments on the following areas would be most pertinent:

- Significance
- Innovation
- Approach
- Likelihood of producing meaningful pilot data

6. Dr. Lewis will make final decisions on funding.

Date: August 1, 2021