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**BORN’s mission is to improve the health of newborns and their families by establishing an evidence base for optimal outcomes. The network is a national collaborative of pediatric clinicians and researchers focused on evidence-based evaluation of clinical care in the birth setting and transition to home.**

**Research Goals**

BORN’s overarching goal is to conduct research to establish a firm evidence based for the routine care of the term and late preterm infant. BORN’s vision is to become internationally recognized and utilized by practitioners and educators as the primary source for evidence-based practice and health care delivery for newborns and their families.

**Proposal Review Criteria and Process**

Any research proposal may be submitted for consideration. The BORN Proposal Outline (see below) should serve as a template to help structure proposals in a standardized fashion. **Letters of Intent (LOIs) should be no more than 2 pages long.** Institutional IRB approval need not be obtained prior to submission of proposals.

Proposals will be evaluated using the following rubric:

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| **CRITERIA** |
| 1. Timely and relevant issue for BORN, the APA, network nurseries, and children/families  * Relevance to / advances knowledge in care of newborns |
| 1. Study aims (clear, justified, important) |
| 1. Study design and methods (clear, logical) |
| 1. Innovation (novel, creative) |
| 1. Study feasibility  * Project doable within newborn nursery setting, practice-based research network * Clear timeframe * What is required of APA staff? * Availability of funding |
| 1. Potential for study findings to lead to continued collaboration  * Research opportunities (e.g., grant funding, publication /presentation) * Continued engagement of BORN/APA |
| 1. Investigative team  * Resident/fellow involvement * Relevant experience of PI, mentors, and collaborators to conduct the proposed work |

The BORN Managing Directors and Steering Committee Chair will conduct the first review on the LOI by taking a vote of Yes or No to determine if the proposed study is relevant and of interest to the network. After the LOI vote, feedback will be provided to the principal investigator. If the majority vote is Yes, a full proposal (6 pages) will be requested for the Steering Committee to review.

Once the network approves a study, we expect that it will be carried out. Interested BORN members/nurseries will be solicited to participate in the study. Depending on the nature of the project, and at the discretion of BORN’s leadership, each site’s members, and the principal investigator, the scale of studies may be network-wide or limited to select number of sites.

Principal investigators will have the primary responsibility for the conception, design, administration, data management, analysis, and authorship of all studies conducted through BORN, in collaboration with the BORN Research Coordinator, the Network Director(s), and other select Committee members, when appropriate. Responsibility for acquisition of any needed funds will rest primarily with the principal investigator. BORN will hold in confidence submitted research proposals.  Submitted projects will only be performed by the network in collaboration with the author.

BORN members will serve as primary data collectors at their home site, and for most studies, BORN members will have the opportunity to participate in regular meetings on the progress and conduct of any studies in which they are involved. BORN members may also serve critical roles in study revision, data acquisition, analysis, and co-authorship in a manner agreed upon by BORN and the principal investigator at the time of study approval. BORN co-investigators who take a leading role in the design and analysis of studies and the revision of manuscripts will be invited to be co-authors on manuscripts and presentations resulting from the work.

At the conclusion of the study, it is expected that the PI and study team will present their findings and next steps to the BORN committee.

If you have any questions, please contact the BORN Research Coordinator at [born@academicpeds.org](mailto:born@academicpeds.org).

Thank you for your interest in performing research with BORN. We look forward to working together!

**BORN Proposal Face Page**

Date:

Proposal Title:

IRB Status:

Principal Investigator:

PI Title:

Email address:

Telephone:

Fax:

Institution/Program:

Co-Investigator:

Co-I Title:

Email address:

(Please provide information and biosketches for all Co-Investigators, if more than one.)

If this proposal is accepted for BORN, I understand and agree that:

* Each eligible BORN site will choose to participate. Studies will be conducted under the supervision of the cognizant IRBs at each participating study site.
* Study protocols, IRB approvals, other documents, and data collected from project sites will be deposited in BORN’s repository for sharing and archiving, and BORN shall have a nonexclusive perpetual license to maintain and share such documents and data.
* Publications arising from this study will acknowledge BORN and copies of manuscripts will be provided to BORN following acceptance for publication. Authorship of publications will be determined in advance of writing and with the concurrence of the study’s ad hoc oversight committee, whose members will be selected by the PI and the BORN Network Directors.

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Principal Investigator

**BORN LOI Outline**

The LOI should be **no more than 2 pages** in length.

1. **Title of Proposed Project**
2. **Objective and Specific Aims:** Clearly identify the primary objective and the aims you will accomplish to meet your overall objective
3. **Identify the evidence gap study results will fill and the significance of the findings.** Please keep this section to 1 paragraph.
4. **Describe Study Design:** Include details about the study sample and N
5. **Description of the study team/key personnel:** Describe the role mentor(s), mentee(s), and others will play in contribution to the study
6. **Long Term Vision:** Explain why you want to work with BORN, expected benefits to collaboration, benefits to participants, current and/or potential funding mechanisms, and proposed next steps after study completion

**BORN Full Proposal Outline**

If invited to submit a full proposal, the submission should be no more than 6 pages in length.

1. **Study Title**
2. **Study Aims & Hypotheses**
3. **Background:** Describe what is known in the literature and what gap(s) in knowledge the proposal seeks to address
4. **Significance:** Relevance to BORN’s mission, how the findings will address a gap in the literature
5. **Study Design**
6. **Participants:** Define population, inclusion, and exclusion criteria
7. **Outcome measures**: Distinguish primary outcomes from secondary outcome (if any)
8. **Variables:** Demographic, clinical, and other co-variables to be collected.
9. **Data collection procedures:** Who will collect, sampling strategy as needed, description of data collection instruments.
10. **Analysis Plan**
11. **Power calculation:** Justification of proposed sample size.
12. **Long Term Vision:** Explain why you want to work with BORN, expected benefits to collaboration, benefits to participants, and potential next steps after study completion
13. **Funding obtained/planned:** Including APA staff time and resources, incentives to participating sites, etc.
14. **Appendices:** Copies of all study instruments, biosketch of principal investigator(s), copy of IRB approval/exemption (if already obtained)