

# CORE VALUES & STRATEGIC PILLARS



Pacific Pediatric  
Neuro-Oncology  
Consortium

The PNOC leadership, Member Institutions and PNOC Scientific Committee, with support from the Operations Office will collectively ensure we remain true to our Core Values and guiding Strategic Pillars, in order to fulfill our Specific Aims and Mission Statement and drive change for children and young adults suffering from CNS tumors.

## MISSION

To understand how brain tumors develop in children and identify personalized treatment strategies

## SPECIFIC AIMS

- 1. To conduct early phase clinical trials in children with CNS malignancies, with the goal to target specific pathways or molecularly characterized alterations with drugs or strategies specific to each patient*
- 2. To coordinate the translation of pre-clinical laboratory findings into new therapeutic strategies for children with CNS malignancies*

## CORE VALUES

- To drive innovation*
- To collaborate*
- To be bold*

Our Core Values are driven by the need to quickly address the significant unmet need of children and young adults with CNS tumors under a set of guiding principles. We work rapidly, quickly translating discoveries in the lab to the bedside, and then collecting and returning trial data to our labs in real time to confirm therapy efficacy. We do not believe we should remain constrained by study conduct only within North America, and we will reach out to other countries and continents to complete studies quickly and bring potentially effective therapies to a broad range of patients. We believe, collectively and globally, we can push for breakthroughs and boldly push boundaries; while maintaining a balance of safety and disruption. We feel we should not be constrained by conservative strategies of the past, understanding that the stakes are high and incremental results are not our goal. Our key stakeholders are our patients and their families and being innovative, collaborative and bold are critical to the mission of PNOC.

## STRATEGIC PILLARS

Essential to our Mission, Specific Aims, and Core Values, are the following key Strategic Pillars that were developed during the strategic session and will inform our day-to-day operations:

[www.pnoc.us](http://www.pnoc.us)  
[www.pnocfoundation.org](http://www.pnocfoundation.org)

**PNOC FOUNDATION**  
PEDIATRIC NEURO-ONCOLOGY  
CONSORTIUM FOUNDATION



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## STRATEGIC PILLARS

### Translational Bridge to Bedside

PNOC In a commitment to improving the lives of children affected by CNS tumors, PNOC will strive to only perform rapidly translatable studies that are based on strong scientific data, that are biologically and clinically interrogatable for success and failure, and that maximize a collaborative shared resource environment for accelerative preclinical development.

Action items that were developed from the strategic meeting include:

- *Build a directory of investigators and their associated interests and resources*
- *Establish multi-institutional, pre-clinical working groups with disease focus*
- *Establish a protocol review committee and develop centralized gatekeeping of proposals/concepts that are based on PNOC's defined goals and mission*

### Disease Focus

PNOC will focus on bold and innovative approaches to disease states with unmet needs that we are uniquely positioned to tackle under our Core Values. The PNOC community did not endorse that we should only focus on specific brain tumor subtypes, but rather focus on diseases with clear unmet needs and no current standard of care or cure.

### Clinical Trial Conduct

To offer broad global access to innovative, patient-centered therapies through agile clinical trial implementation and expanded eligibility criteria that will improve outcomes in young people with CNS tumors.

Action items that were developed from the strategic meeting include:

**A.** Patient-centric focus: this pillar aims to provide clinical trials that reach the greatest number of patients possible, providing access to therapeutic options that patients may not otherwise have

- *Development of a new clinical trial protocol template that removes unnecessary restrictions on patient enrollment, e.g. allowing telemedicine visits; decreasing study requirement burdens on families, while maintaining a good clinical research standard; expanding eligibility criteria when appropriate*
- *Inclusion of a compassionate use arm in protocols to expand access to patients that may not otherwise be eligible to enroll on a clinical trial*

**B.** Clinical appropriateness: this pillar aims to maximize efficiency and agility of our clinical trials and remain in line with core value to be 'innovative' by conducting small experiments often, failing fast, learning from our mistakes, and rapidly improving our therapeutic strategies. To achieve this, a set of review functions were proposed by two working groups:

- *Periodic trial/concept review: Critical assessment of ongoing PNOC studies or concepts in development on a regular basis with decision to close or not open studies that are not in alignment with PNOC's Core Values*
- *Update of concept review form: Incorporation of the requirement that all PNOC-related concepts must fulfill PNOC's Core Values, with an explicit statement of the PNOC Core Value within the review form and details on how each concept will meet these values*

