Applications must propose to advance science in at least one of the following areas of program interest:

- **Improving Transfer to Practice**: Conduct comparative effectiveness and dissemination and implementation research to improve the transfer of clinical research discoveries into practice.

- **Translating Genetic/Genomic Findings**: Translate the findings of genetic/genomic research into studies that advance biomedical knowledge and improve human health, including tools for prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of human diseases.

- **Development/Evaluation of Therapeutics**: Accelerate the development and evaluation of new therapeutics, including drugs, biologics, devices, diagnostics, and behavioral therapies to improve human health.

- **Improving the Quality of Patient Care**: Increasing the likelihood of achieving outcomes valued by patients and their families. For example:
  - Exceptional disease-specific survival rates
  - Minimum hospital readmission rates for chronic diseases
  - Superior patient satisfaction with care
  - Improved patient functional status
  - Best possible quality of life consistent with patient needs
  - Patient/family understanding of, and involvement in, their medical care
  - Medical team training or dynamics

- **Enhancing Patient Safety**: Exploring reliable care processes to prevent all errors that result in issues such as:
  - Preventable mortality
  - Health care acquired infections (ex. surgical site infections)
  - Adverse drug events
  - Falls with injury
  - Pressure ulcers
  - Venous thromboembolism
  - Wrong site/wrong person procedures
  - Other preventable surgical and procedural complications

- **Improving Patient Outcomes**: Research where the results from hypothesis testing will potentially impact desirable health outcomes. For example:
  - More accurate or earlier diagnosis
  - Reduced disability
  - Increased survival
  - Decreased morbidity
  - Identification of risk factors
  - Design of reliable and effective care delivery processes
  - Patient-centered outcomes from the patient’s perspective (patient perception of care)