Clinical and Population Translational Sciences (CPTS)  
Master of Science (MS) and Certificate

Preparing clinicians and researchers to translate scientific findings into improvements in human health

About CPTS
In the past, basic, clinical, and community-based researchers operated in separate domains, often creating barriers to the translation of scientific findings into widespread improvements in human health. The Division of Public Health Sciences created the CPTS program to prepare scientists to address translational gaps.

Program Objectives:
▶ Develop meaningful and feasible research questions
▶ Design and implement studies to answer clinical and population research questions
▶ Perform and interpret statistical analyses and collaborate effectively with biostatisticians
▶ Conduct research in a responsible and ethical manner
▶ Communicate through grant applications, protocols, manuscripts, abstracts, and presentations
▶ Collaborate productively in multidisciplinary scientific teams

Curriculum
Coursework emphasizes biostatistics, epidemiology, clinical trials, and applied clinical and population research methods, along with the responsible conduct of research and scientific communication. Courses are primarily taught by faculty within the Division of Public Health Sciences.

Master of Science Requirements
Masters students complete 26 hours of coursework during the first year of the program (including the summer session), and then conduct independent research and thesis work during a second year. Students pursuing a medical or physician assistant degree at Wake Forest School of Medicine can incorporate the CPTS MS into their medical training.

Optional Concentration: Antimicrobial Stewardship & Infection Control
Students wishing to focus on the area of infectious disease epidemiology are able to obtain a Concentration with the MS degree, by taking additional coursework in global health, antimicrobial stewardship, and infection control, in addition to the required CPTS coursework, and completing a thesis project relevant to the concentration.

Certificate Requirements
An abbreviated program resulting in the granting of a certificate rather than an MS may be suitable for some students. Students will need to complete at least 15 hours of coursework, including 10 hours from core classes, complete ethics training requirements, and demonstrate competency in graduate level biostatistics. Students generally complete all required coursework in one calendar year.
Kevin P. High, MD, MS  
Executive Vice President, Health System Affairs  
Wake Forest Baptist Health  
Professor of Medicine/Infectious Diseases  
Wake Forest School of Medicine

“It’s no exaggeration to say that I owe any success I’ve had in my research career to participation in the CPTS master’s degree program. Translational research is neither basic science, nor clinical research; it takes a broad understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of many research methods and study designs. But more importantly, in this era of team science, it takes tremendous colleagues to create an outstanding team. No one can be expert in every methodology or technique, but the ability to understand the needs of each member of the scientific team and communicate effectively is absolutely essential. The experiences and ties to faculty in other departments built during my CPTS experience allowed this to happen for me.” — Dr. High