

## MPT Fieldwide Action Areas

### Background:

Established in 2013, the mission of the Supporting Agency Collaboration Committee (SACC) is to facilitate collaboration and build consensus among supporting agencies to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of MPT funding. The SACC is composed of representatives from public, private and foundation funders with diverse funding mandates and priorities, meets twice a year, and has prioritized five critical action areas (Table 1). Outcomes from IMPT stakeholder convenings and MPT action area assessments have been published in [peer-reviewed publications](#). A special issue in *Frontiers in Reproductive Health* aims to stimulate strategic thinking and action needed to address these action areas. The call for papers can be found [here](#).

**Table 1: MPT Fieldwide Action Areas (as of May 2023)**

Action Area
<p><b>1. A productive ecosystem of MPT product R&amp;D</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Focus on new products:</b> (1) Expanded pipeline of researchers for expanded product R&amp;D; (2) Stimulate research for anti-infective approaches targeting HIV and other STIs for MPTs; (3) Enhanced physical infrastructure for product R&amp;D; (4) Geographic expansion for MPT R&amp;D; (5) Expanded generic licensing opportunities and geographically broad manufacturing base</li> <li>○ <b>Focus on funding to support necessary expansion of MPT ecosystem:</b> (1) Novel and innovative funding and investment approaches to ensure successful development of MPTs through commercialization and scale-up; (2) Enhanced ability for cost-effective collaborations</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Improved understanding of reproductive biology for the purpose of new pharmaceutical development for MPT R&amp;D</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Enhanced focus on non-hormonal MPTs &amp; male contraceptive options</li> <li>○ Expanded understanding of cervicovaginal microbiome, pharmacogenomics, etc.</li> <li>○ Expanded understanding of underlying conditions in those likely to use MPTs</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Expanded understanding of socio-behavioral research (SBR) considerations among underrepresented groups in MPT research, including</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ People under the age of 18</li> <li>○ People with gynecological conditions</li> <li>○ Sexual and gender minority (SGM) populations;</li> <li>○ Older populations (e.g., perimenopausal women);</li> <li>○ Those known to metabolize drugs differently (e.g., obese individuals, Down syndrome patients)</li> </ul>
<p><b>4. Expanded understanding of market considerations to help ensure successful commercialization and uptake of MPTs, including</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Market segmentation and target segment identification</li> <li>○ Switching between products and triggers estimates</li> <li>○ Demand forecasting</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. Enhanced understanding of innovative approaches for MPT clinical trials that address regulatory and ethical challenges of testing multiple indications in the same trial</b></p>