Parvesh Kumar, M.D., currently serves as the Principal Investigator (PI) for the Mountain West (MW) Clinical and Translational Research Infrastructure Network (CTR-IN) Program, a U54 CTR grant that was recently renewed under his leadership at the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV). The MW CTR-IN Program is the largest CTR in the U.S. that involves a partnership with 13 State Universities stretching across 7 MW states representing 1/3rd of the U.S. land mass and almost 1/3rd of all IDeA states (Figure 1). The main objectives of the CTR-IN Program are to increase and enhance the clinical and translational research capacity across the 13 MW universities in order to make their faculty members more competitive for extramural grant funding. Dr. Kumar also serves as the Vice Dean for Research, Cancer Program Director and Chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at the UNLV School of Medicine.

Prior to joining UNLV in February 2016, Dr. Kumar had served in several administrative leadership roles as the Chair of the Departments of Radiation Oncology at the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School [(RWJMS) in New Brunswick, NJ], University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine [(USC KSOM) in Los Angeles, CA], and the University of Kansas School of Medicine [(KU SOM) in Kansas City, KS]. He was the founding Chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at Rutgers RWJMS, and he re-built the radiation oncology programs at USC KSOM and the KU SOM. Moreover, while as Chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at these medical schools, he also served in other leadership roles (e.g., Chief of Service and/or Medical Director) for their respective affiliated hospitals. In addition, he also served in research leadership roles at these institutions as follows: Associate Cancer Center Director for Radiation Oncology at the Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ) at Rutgers RWJMS; and Associate Director of Clinical Research, PI for the Radiation Therapy Oncology Group (RTOG), Contact PI for NRG Oncology and US Oncology Site Leader, all at the University of Kansas Cancer Center (KUCC). Both CINJ and KUCC are NCI designated cancer centers.

In terms of his research activities, he has served as PI / Co-PI on several national oncology co-operative group clinical trials focused on lung, prostate and head/neck cancers as follows: Cancer and Leukemia Group B (CALGB) Protocols #8935 (Lung Cancer, Radiation Oncology PI), #9134 (Lung Cancer, Radiation Oncology PI), #9493 (Prostate Cancer, Study PI), and RTOG Head/Neck Cancer Protocol #9615 (Radiation Oncology Study Chair). He has also achieved independent federal (e.g., Department of Defense) and Pharma (i.e., Aventis Oncology) extramural grant funding for investigator initiated clinical trials focused on novel treatment strategies such as docetaxel radiosensitization for high risk prostate cancer.