**Study detailing avoided research costs resulting from a large shared cell culture facility at the University of Colorado Boulder as a model for new budget scenarios post Covid-19**

**Core Administration**

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With universities facing ongoing and potentially irreversible budget cuts as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, shared resource facilities offer a robust model for strategic and continuous cost avoidance. The Biochemistry Cell Culture Facility (BCCF) has been in existence for over 25 years at the University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) and is currently utilized by 18 research labs with over 100 investigators combined. The sharing of space and equipment has conferred substantial cost avoidance resulting from a smaller environmental footprint as well as salary reduction and managing efficiency. Studying the comparative costs and benefits to operate the shared BCCF versus a hypothetical scenario of 18 individualized lab spaces (the most common approach) provides an actual dollar amount for campus scientists and CU Boulder administration made possible through efficiencies of this shared resource. The BCCF presents a cost avoidance of over $240,000/year with approximately $80,000 of these costs realized by facility and building management and the remaining $160,000 by scientists and the department. In addition to a reduced environmental footprint, our results show that shared resource cores like the BCCF optimize investments, maximize cost-effectiveness and provide a paradigm in the new budget scenarios being envisioned and implemented by universities post pandemic.