Clinical Trials Network

Trial Progress – Over 11,000!

Trial enrollment is taken from the official Trial Progress Report prepared by the Data and Statistics Center (DCRI) each month. These enrollment numbers reflect information in the database through October 31, 2009.

Open Studies (5)

- CTN 0027 – Randomized 1,269 (completed new enrollment, in follow up phase)
- CTN 0027A (Genetics) – Randomized 790
- CTN 0031 – Randomized 471 (completed new enrollment, in follow up phase)
- CTN 0031A – Randomized 217 (completed new enrollment, in follow up phase)
- CTN 0032 – Randomized 1,281 (completed new enrollment, in follow up phase)

Total Randomized All Studies: 11,449

CTN Data Share Update – New Addition CTN 0029

The CTN Data Share web site (www.ctndatashare.org) now contains data and the related study documentation from the following twenty-one studies: CTN 0001, 02-13, 15-21, and 0029. A total of 480 data sets have been downloaded since the trial data have been posted beginning in May 2006.

The de-identified data from CTN 0029 (Adult ADHD Smokers) were posted to the web site on December 15. The next study data set to be posted will be CTN 0014 Brief Strategic Family Therapy (BSFT) in January 2010.

The DSC 1 (DCRI) is working on creating “flat files” for the current data sets as an alternative to the CDISC files on the web site. If you have suggestions about what you would like to see or any questions about the web site’s content, please contact Cindy Green at cindy.green@duke.edu or Carol Cushing at ecushing@nida.nih.gov.

Federal Offices Closed

The CCTN office and NIDA will be closed at noon on Thursday, December 24, on Friday, December 25, and on Friday, January 1, 2010, for the Christmas and New Year’s Day holiday observances.

2010 NIDA Blending Conference – Save the Dates!

The meeting website is now active – please go to www.NIDABlendingConference.info to see information on the two day event entitled Blending Addiction Science and Practice: Evidence-Based Treatment and Prevention in Diverse Populations and Settings. The Early Bird conference registration is $79 and includes all applicable sessions, continental breakfast, refreshments, lunch and course materials. To get this reduced rate, register by March 1st, 2010. The Student Rate is $49 if registered by April 5th. See travel awards on page 6 of this Bulletin!

Poster Session at Blending! Please see the web site for information on how you can submit a poster for this year’s conference.

Changes in Node/Site/Staff Numbering

The DSC 2 (EMMES) is creating a new numbering system to ensure uniqueness of identification numbers of sites, sub-sites, and staff members across the CTN. These identification numbers are used in all the electronic data capture systems across the Network. For the past 10 years, the uniqueness of the identifiers was achieved by assigning codes in a hierarchical manner within each Node, but this allowed for the creation of duplicate records. With the potential consolidation of Nodes with the new RFA, this could lead to problems.

A database management system will be used to allow authorized staff members to create site, sub-site and staff ID numbers which will be unique across the entire Network. The DSC 2 will be able to consolidate Nodes, add or remove sites and sub-sites, and allow staff members to move from one location to another without losing their unique number and without any impact to any processes where this information may have been used. More information will be forthcoming as the procedures are worked out with DSC 1 (DCRI) and NIDA. All the new trials from CTN 0037 onward will be using these new codes. A cross reference list will be maintained for identifying the old codes once this is implemented. For questions, please contact Colleen Allen at callen@emmes.com or Oscar Moreno at omoreno@emmes.com.

CTN is a program of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, part of the National Institutes of Health within the Department of Health and Human Services.
CTN 0044 Completes Site Selection

The site selection process for the CTN 0044 protocol – Web-delivery of Evidence-Based Psychosocial Treatment for Substance Use Disorders – is now complete. Dr. Edward Nunes (Lead Investigator), Dr. Aimee Campbell (Project Director), and the Lead Team are pleased to announce that the following 10 Community Treatment Programs (CTPs) will participate in the study in a single wave:

- The Center for Drug Free Living (Florida Node)
- Evergreen Manor (Pacific Northwest Node)
- HARBEL Prevention & Recovery Center (Mid-Atlantic Node)
- Hina Mauka (Pacific Region Node)
- Homeward Bound (Texas Node)
- Midtown Community Mental Health Center (Ohio Valley Node)
- Midwestern Connecticut Council on Alcoholism Inc (New England Node)
- Project Outreach (Long Island Node)
- Stanley Street Treatment and Resources Inc. (Northern New England Node)
- Willamette Family Inc (Oregon/Hawaii Node)

In all, 36 sites from 16 Nodes completed site selection surveys and were considered for the study. The process was competitive and selection difficult. The Lead Team thanks all of the Nodes and their CTPs for their interest in the protocol and time spent completing surveys, interviews, and site visits.

Primary CTP considerations deemed critical for the success of this protocol included:

- An ability to recruit and enroll a minimum of 40 study clients within 1 year,
- Treatment intensity of at least 2 therapeutic sessions per week (group and/or individual) for a minimum of 12 weeks,
- Being willing to allow participants in the study condition to replace approximately 2 hours of treatment-as-usual with the web-based Therapeutic Education System,
- Not routinely offer contingency management or the Community Reinforcement Approach,
- Provide adequate space to accommodate all research activities and additional staff, and
- Be able to integrate the research study into ongoing clinical services.

Congratulations to the selected CTPs. The Investigator’s Training has been scheduled for March in New York City. The Lead Team looks forward to a productive and collaborative study!

CTN 0037 STRIDE – Looking for Sites!

The STRIDE (Stimulant Reduction Intervention Using Dosed Exercise) study team plans to finalize Wave 2 site selection by February 2010. If there are any CTN sites that want to be considered but have not yet contacted the team, they can e-mail Kolette Ring at kolette.ring@utsouthwestern.edu. The Wave 1 sites are: Arapahoe House (Florida Node), Gateway Community Services (Florida Node), Gibson Recovery (Ohio Valley Node), and Nexus Recovery (Texas Node). The study is led by Dr. Madhukar Trivedi of the Texas Node. Enrollment is expected to begin in the spring.

Southwest Node Dissemination Activities

Evidence-Based Approaches for Addiction

The Southwest Node’s Center on Alcoholism, Substance Abuse, and Addictions (CASAA), in collaboration with the Life Link Training Institute and the Gulf Coast Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC), has been active in dissemination efforts over the past several months. Deanna Sprunk, the Southwest Node’s Program Coordinator, has successfully coordinated a series of workshops to disseminate NIDA and SAMHSA Blending Initiative Products. Recent workshops have included:

Buprenorphine Treatment: A Training for Multidisciplinary Addiction Professionals,
August 14, 2009
Number of attendees: 40 participants

Motivational Interviewing Assessment: Supervisory Tools for Enhancing Proficiency (MIA-STEP),
November 16-17, 2009
Number of attendees: 25 participants

Promoting Awareness of Motivational Incentives (PAMI),
December 3, 2009
Number of attendees: 35 participants

Each workshop had long waiting lists with community treatment providers expressing enormous interest in and appreciation for these trainings in evidence-based practices. Future workshops will continue in the spring of 2010 with the next anticipated workshop:

Buprenorphine Treatment: A Training for Multidisciplinary Addiction Professionals. Please visit http://casaa.unm.edu/swnode.html for future workshops or contact Deanna Sprunk at (505) 925-2330 or ctn@unm.edu.
News from the Appalachian Tri-State Node

Regional Dissemination Conference

The Appalachian Tri-State (ATS) Node collaborated with the National Institute on Drug Abuse Clinical Trials Network (CTN), the Northeast Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC), the Institute for Research Education and Training in Addictions (IRETA), Community Care Behavioral Health Organization (CCBHO), the WPIC Office of Education and Regional Programming (OERP), and the Allegheny County Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services to co-sponsor a regional dissemination conference. The theme of the conference was “Evidence-Based Treatments for Addiction: A Conference for Clinicians.” It was held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on October 28 – 29th.

The 2-day conference provided attendees with an update on Evidence-Based Treatments (EBTs) of addiction. It offered 5 plenary sessions and 6 clinical workshops focusing on the application of research in clinical settings. The presenters were national and local representatives including those who have developed EBTs, participated in clinical trials, or implemented EBTs in their treatment agencies.

Plenary speakers included: 1) Mr. Larry DeMarzo (ATS Node CTP Director) and Mr. Jim Aiello (Director, Northeast ATTC) who provided an overview of the Clinical Trials Network and the Addiction Technology Transfer Centers (ATTC); 2) Ms. Marilyn Byrne (PI Chestnut Ridge ATS Node CTP) and Dr. Eric Hulsey (Scientific Director, Northeast ATTC), who presented an overview of evidence-based psychosocial treatments; 3) Dr. Dennis C. Daley (ATS Node PI) and Dr. Michael Flaherty (Executive Director, Northeast ATTC and IRETA) who spoke about relapse prevention and recovery management; 4) Dr. Carl Rollyn Sullivan (Professor and Vice Chairman, Department of Behavioral Medicine and Psychiatry, WVU Chestnut Ridge Center and ATS Node CTP Co-Investigator) and Dr. Richard Silbert (Senior Medical Director, Community Care Behavioral Health) who provided an update on Medication Treatments of Addiction; and 5) Dr. April Jackson Gilfort (Center for Treatment Research on Adolescent Substance Abuse, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine) who spoke about the impact of addiction on families and children.

Participants chose from 6 clinical workshops: 1) Twelve-Step Facilitation Therapy (Mr. Stuart Baker, CTN 0031 Trainer and Consultant and Ms. Mimnie Byrne); 2) Integrated Treatment of Co-occurring Disorders (Drs. Antoine Douaihy and Thomas Kelly, ATS Node); 3) Relapse Prevention and Recovery Management (Drs. Dennis Daley and Michael Flaherty); 4) Promoting Awareness of Motivational Incentives (Ms. Holly Hagle); 5) Helping Families and Children (Dr. April Jackson Gilfort); and 6) Treatment Planning M.A.T.R.S. (Mr. Phil Orrick, and Mr. James Bradley). The conference drew over 200 attendees for this 2-day event.

Participants received a manual with copies of all PowerPoint handouts of plenary and workshop sessions. They also received copies of NIDA’s “Principles of Drug Addiction Treatment,” “The Science of Addiction,” and copies of Dr. Daley & Dr. Dennis Donovan’s “Using 12-Step Programs in Recovery”, and Dr. Daley’s “Relapse Prevention Workbook.”

The ATS Node offered a series of 6 monthly telephone case conferences for CTP clinicians interested in ongoing consultation on one of three treatment approaches: Twelve-Step Facilitation Therapy, Treatment of Co-Occurring Disorders, and Group Treatment for Addiction. The purpose of these ongoing sessions is to help clinicians sustain their interest in adapting EBTs to their current clinical work. Conference attendees were given contacts for these cases.

Southern Consortium Dissemination News

On November 2, 2009, the Southern Consortium Node, along with the Southeast Addiction Technology Transfer Center, sponsored an intensive one day CTN dissemination workshop, “News You Can Use: Improving Your Practice of Addiction Treatment,” highlighting the CTN Blending products: Promoting Awareness for Motivational Incentives (PAMI), Motivational Interviewing Assessment: Supervisory Tools for Enhancing Proficiency (MIA:STEP), Medications Used in the Treatment of Addictions, which included Use of Buprenorphine for Opioid Dependence and Assessment, Treatment Planning, and Service Provision: From Documentation to Clinical Care.

Tom McLellan, PhD, Deputy Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy was the keynote speaker. His plenary presentation was entitled “A New Demand Reduction Strategy: Prevention, Intervention, Treatment & Recovery.” Dr. McLellan also met with Community Treatment Program directors to discuss his vision for the future of addiction treatment, including future funding that supports evidence-based treatments. Deni Carise, PhD, Director of the Section on Treatment Research Systems at the Treatment Research Institute in Philadelphia, PA, spoke on “Reconsidering Addiction Treatment: Letting Technology Work for You.” Approximately 100 participants were in attendance.
**CTN Dissemination Library Update**

Slide presentations from the recent RUC Dissemination Workshop, held at the CTN Steering Committee meeting in Bethesda on October 20, 2009, are now available in the CTN Dissemination Library:

http://ctndisseminationlibrary.org/display/403.htm.

Speakers representing several CTPs spoke at the workshop on topics ranging from training clinicians in teleconferencing technology, to treatment systems improvement projects, to implementation of an HIV rapid testing protocol.

Also new in the Library are two articles in* press in Drug and Alcohol Dependence*. The first, by Steven Ondersma, Theresa Winhusen, and Daniel Lewis, “External Pressure, Motivation, and Treatment Outcome among Pregnant Substance-Abusing Women,” examines the associations between external pressure and key outcomes of retention and substance use among a sample of 200 pregnant women participating in CTN-0013.

The second, “Predictors of Buprenorphine-Naloxone Dosing in a 12-Week Treatment Trial for Opioid Dependent Youth,” is by Amit Chakrabarti, George Woody, and colleagues, and reports on an ancillary investigation of CTN-0010 examining baseline patient characteristics to predict dosing of buprenorphine-naloxone, a promising treatment for opioid addiction in youths.

The CTN Dissemination Library is maintained by the Pacific Northwest Node of the CTN. To access, go to: http://ctndisseminationlibrary.org The librarians would love to put your article, presentation, or other CTN-related document in the Library. Just email it to: info@ctndisseminationlibrary.org!

**News from the California/Arizona Node (CA/AZ)**

Varda Shoham, Ph.D., of the CA-AZ Node, is the newly elected president of the Society for a Science of Clinical Psychology (SSCP). The purpose of SSCP, which was established in 1966, is to affirm and promote the integration of science and practice in training, research, and applied work. The membership represents a diversity of interests and theoretical orientations across clinical psychology, but the common bond of the membership is a commitment to empirical research and to the idea that scientific principles should play a major role in training, practice, and establishing public policy for physical and mental health. Congratulations Varda!

**Training Grant Opportunity**

Scientists interested in pursuing independent research careers and funding are invited to apply to the University of California, San Francisco’s Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS) Training Program for HIV-Prevention Research in Minority Communities. Scientists conducting social and behavioral HIV-prevention research in racial and ethnic minority communities will receive intensive mentorship and research training from leading UCSF faculty to assist them in obtaining large-scale funding for their independent HIV-prevention research programs from NIH, CDC, and equivalent institutions. Program participants are supported for three summers in San Francisco, receive funds to conduct pilot studies, and are guided in analyzing their pilot study data and in developing a full research proposal. All program participants work closely with a faculty mentor.

This interdisciplinary program welcomes applicants from a wide variety of disciplines (e.g., MD, PhD, DrPH) working on a wide variety of topics, including but not limited to: substance use, mental health, development issues, and contextual, environmental, and structural factors affecting HIV risk. Scientists from underrepresented groups (including those with disabilities and disadvantaged background) are strongly encouraged to apply. The deadline for applications is January 11, 2010.

For more information, contact Jackie Ramos at jackie.ramos@ucsf.edu or at 415.597.4976. More information about the program as well as the program application can be found at http://www.caps.ucsf.edu/CAPS/about/fellows/minorityindex.php.

**New from CTSA – Recruitment Resource**

The Vanderbilt University CTSA (Clinical and Translational Science Awards) has developed a website and dataset to be used as a recruitment tool for clinical trials. ResearchMatch is a tool to bring together people who are trying to find research studies, and researchers who are looking for people to participate in their studies. Potential volunteers register online, entering their demographic information, health conditions, and how far they’re willing to travel for a study. Alerts are sent to people who are potential matches for a project. This is a free and secure registry that has been developed by major academic institutions across the country. Check it out at: https://www.researchmatch.org/about/.
Florida Node News

Dr. Michael S. Robbins, Co-PI for Brief Strategic Family Therapy for Adolescent Drug Abusers (CTN 0014 BSFT™), delivered a plenary address entitled State of the Science on Evidence-based Treatment for Drug Using Adolescents, at the The Norwegian Center for Child Behavioral Development’s 8th National Conference in Oslo, Norway, on November 11, 2009. This international conference was attended by over 500 mental health and addictions professionals from Northern Europe and beyond. The presentation covered emerging global trends in adolescent drug abuse treatment, including the impact of urbanization and migration on adolescent treatment. The presentation also focused extensively on dealing with challenges to implementing evidence-based practices with competence and effectiveness in real world settings. Marc Puccinelli and Marie Guadagno of the Florida Node were co-authors for this presentation.

New Grants

The following grant opportunities may be of interest to researchers:

- Seek, Test, and Treat: Addressing HIV in the Criminal Justice System (R01) (RFA-DA-10-017) Application Receipt Date(s): April 01, 2010 [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-10-017.html]

Two NIDA Blending Conference Travel Awards

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) is providing an opportunity to support both students at the pre-doctoral level as well as researchers interested in drug abuse treatment or prevention research in American Indian/Alaska Native populations. Attendees will participate in a mentoring program at the April 22-23, 2010, conference titled: “Blending Addiction Science and Practice: Evidence Based Treatment and Prevention in Diverse Populations and Settings.”

The conference will take place in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Scholarships will support travel, registration, lodging, and per diem expenses. Participation in this mentoring effort will help connect awardees with top drug abuse scientists, key NIDA staff, and researchers and practitioners in the NIDA Clinical Trials Network. Applications are due January 20. Please contact Kathy Etz at ketz@nih.gov for more information. Information about the NIDA conference is at: [www.NIDABlendingConference.info](http://www.NIDABlendingConference.info)

Women’s Addiction and Recovery Conference

The 4th National Conference on Women, Addiction and Recovery: Thriving in Changing Times will be held at the Chicago Marriott from July 26-28, 2010. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)/Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, in partnership with Treatment Alternatives for a Safe Community, announce that they are now accepting proposals for presentations for this conference. They are seeking a combination of presentations – including workshops, learning labs, demonstrations and facilitated discussions. Non-traditional conference presenters such as individuals who are implementing innovative practices in their women’s program or recovery advocates working with specific populations are encouraged to apply as are researchers and program leaders.

The Web site, [SAMHSAWomensConference.org](http://SAMHSAWomensConference.org) provides more detailed information. Proposals must be submitted online by Tuesday, January 26, 2010.

Contact Beth Fraster at 978/261-1451 or at the email address of [SAMHSAWomensConference@ahpnet.com](mailto:SAMHSAWomensConference@ahpnet.com) with any questions.