Trial Progress – Nearing 15,000!

Trial enrollment numbers reflect study information as of February 28, 2012.

Open Studies

- CTN 0037 – Enrolled 249 (N=330)
- CTN 0044 – Enrolled 507 (N=500) (enrollment completed – in follow up phase)
- CTN 0046 – Enrolled 538 (N=528) (enrollment completed – in follow up phase)
- CTN 0047 – Enrolled 1,285 (N=1,285) (enrollment completed – in follow up phase)
- CTN 0048 – Enrolled 101 (N=300)
- CTN 0050 – Enrolled 336 (N=1,269)

Total Enrolled All Studies: 14,647

NIDA – New Site for Drug Facts

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) has launched a website for adults with limited literacy skills. NIDA’s new site, Easy-To-Read Drug Facts, features information on drug abuse for adults with limited literacy skills (eighth grade or below). The site was tested on a target audience in the Washington, D.C. area. It adheres to nationally known low literacy guidelines, including larger font size, limited text, stories about “real people” and use of videos. Two animated videos are featured explaining the science of addiction. It also has an audio option – users can click on an icon and the site will be read to them through an automated voice.

“Drug abuse and addiction affects people of all reading levels, yet there are no websites with drug abuse information created specifically for adults with limited literacy,” said NIDA Director Dr. Nora D. Volkow. “We hope this new site will inform a large segment of our population who may not have otherwise received potentially life-saving information.”

Check it out! http://easyread.drugabuse.gov/

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 0047 SMART-ED Reaches Target Recruitment

The SMART-ED (Screening, Motivational Assessment, Referral, and Treatment in Emergency Departments) team is thrilled to announce that the study has reached the recruitment goal of 1,285 participants across the six participating sites. Recruitment from an emergency department setting poses many unique challenges, and the Lead Team appreciates all the hard work and efforts that led to successfully reaching their target enrollment. The Lead Team thanks each participating site and Node for all their hard work and dedication:

- Southwest Node (Michael Bogenschutz, PI) – University of New Mexico Emergency Department (Cameron Crandall, PI)
- Ohio Valley Node (Eugene Somoza, PI) – University of Cincinnati Emergency Department (Michael Lyons, PI)
- Appalachian Tri-State Node (Dennis Daley, PI) – West Virginia University Emergency Department (Owen Lander, PI)
- Florida Node Alliance (José Szapocznik, PI) – Jackson Memorial Hospital Emergency Department (John Cienki, PI)
- Greater New York Node (John Rotrosen, PI) – Bellevue Hospital Emergency Department (Ryan McCormack, PI)
- New England Consortium Node (Roger Weiss, PI) – Massachusetts General Hospital Emergency Department (Wendy Macias Konstantopoulos, PI)

A special thanks goes out to all the ED RA’s and Interventionists! The top 3 recruiters were: Gary Thompkins, WVU ED; Erica Silen, Bellevue ED; and Phoebe Lott, Bellevue ED.

Currently all sites are engaged in retention activities and continue to work diligently to reach an 85% follow-up rate at the three month follow-up. The Florida Node and Southwest Node continue to lead the way with combined rates of 96% and 89%, respectively. The other four sites are close behind, and we are confident all sites will be able to achieve this follow-up rate.

A big thanks also goes to the Pacific Northwest Node and the Booster Interventionists for their hard work in administering the booster calls. It can be particularly difficult to track and engage participants in order to conduct a booster intervention over the phone. Due to their hard work, the treatment exposure is currently at 84%!
Next CTN Steering Committee Meeting
The next NIDA CTN Steering Committee Meeting is scheduled to take place in Atlanta, Georgia, on April 17-18, 2012. Registration information on the pre-ASAM Mini Blending Meeting, scheduled to take place at the Hilton Atlanta, in Atlanta, Georgia, on April 19, 2012, is also available. Hotel reservations are due by Friday, March 16, 2012, in order to qualify for the reduced rate. Please access online registration for the meetings at http://www.seiservices.com/NIDA/CTN/Meetings/.

New Funding Opportunities
The following announcements may be of interest to those in the CTN:

- Notice Announcing Data Harmonization for Substance Abuse and Addiction via the PhenX Toolkit (NOT-DA-12-008) National Institute on Drug Abuse
- Notice of Intent to Publish a Request for Applications for Centers of Excellence for Research Relevant to the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (P50) (NOT-DA-12-007)
- New Electronic Submission Process Now Available for Administrative Supplement Requests (NOT-OD-12-043)
- Phased Services Research Studies of Drug Use Prevention, Addiction Treatment, and HIV in an Era of Health Care Reform (R21/R33) (RFA-DA-13-001) National Institute on Drug Abuse
- PHS 2012-02 Omnibus Solicitation of the NIH, CDC, FDA and ACF for Small Business Innovation Research Grant Applications (Parent SBIR [R43/R44]) (PA-12-088)
- PHS 2012-02 Omnibus Solicitation of the NIH for Small Business Technology Transfer Grant Applications (Parent STTR [R41/R42]) (PA-12-089)
- Administrative Supplements to Existing NIH Grants and Cooperative Agreements (Parent Admin Supp) (PA-12-100)

Daylight Savings Time Begins!
Reminder - Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 11th. Turn your clocks forward one hour on Saturday night, March 10th.

Reminder – Training from the Western States Node
The Western States Node Dissemination Team, in collaboration with the Mountain West ATTC, the Pacific Southwest ATTC, and the Northwest Frontier ATTC, is offering a free Webinar on April 4, 2012, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. (PST), for which 1.0 free CEH is available. The title is “Demystifying Opioid Treatment: Introduction to the NIDA/SAMHSA Buprenorphine Treatment Blending Initiative,” and the presenter will be Beth A. Ruthkowski, M.P.H., of the Pacific Southwest ATTC. This Blending Initiative focuses on enhancing awareness among multidisciplinary (non-physician) addiction professionals about buprenorphine treatment. The training will focus on:

- Demystifying opioid treatment
- Providing an overview of the problem of opioid addiction in the United States
- Setting the stage for understanding the utility of medication treatment in general and buprenorphine treatment in particular

To register, please go to https://casatunr.wufoo.com/forms/intro-bup-webinar-registration-april-4-2012/. If you have questions about the Webinar or need assistance in registering, please contact Jennifer Norland, Mountain West ATTC Training Coordinator, at jnorland@casat.org; 775-784-6265.

Delaware Valley News
Dr. George Woody, Node PI, presented an overview of the CTN and some of its studies at the Winter Workshop on Addiction Research - 2012. The meeting was organized by Dr. Michael Krausz from the addiction program at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver and attended by participants from Canada, the U.S., and Europe. There was considerable interest in the structure and operations of the CTN, particularly from the Canadian participants, as they are considering starting a similar organization in Canada. Another presentation that generated a lot of interest was given by a physician from Basel, Switzerland, who pointed out the tremendous problems of benzodiazepine use by methadone patients and, other than the fact that alprazolam and diazepam are widely abused, the absence of data on the nature of the problem and how to address it. The Health Commissioner of Philadelphia had a meeting about three weeks ago on the same topic where a series of presentations and discussions were held on the importance of obtaining data on why it exists and how to address it.
What’s New in the CTN Dissemination Library?

The new online CTN workshop “Addressing Sexual Issues in Addictions Treatment,” where clinicians can earn 3 free CEUs, continues to pick up steam, with over 30 people viewing the videos and taking the quiz in the first 3 weeks since its launch online. The workshop, which is based on outcomes from CTN-0018 and CTN-0019, features video presentations by Louise Haynes, Donald Calsyn, and Susan Tross. Please help us spread the word! Forward this URL to your CTPs and colleagues, in the CTN and elsewhere: http://ctndisseminationlibrary.org/display/751.htm

Also new in the Library:


In addition to “In the CTN Library” articles like the three above that are based on CTN-related research, the Library’s “What’s New” blog also features trainings, resources, and occasional non-CTN articles that are labeled “Also of Interest,” on topics that we think would be useful to CTN members. Visit (or subscribe) to the What’s New blog at: http://ctndisseminationlibrary.wordpress.com/

This library web site is maintained by the Pacific Northwest Node of the Clinical Trials Network. Request and read about these items in the CTN Dissemination Library! http://ctndisseminationlibrary.org.

NIDA Council Adds A CTNer!

Greater New York Node PI, John Rotrosen, has been invited by HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius to join NIDA’s Advisory Council. His term will run until November 30, 2015. John says that he is delighted to have this opportunity to serve NIDA, particularly during these very exciting times of transition! Congratulations and welcome aboard John!

Western States Node News and Correction

Congratulations to Lynn Kunkel, Node Coordinator for the Western States Node! Lynn’s submission to the CTSA Translational Research Conference has been accepted for presentation in a breakout session.

The February 15th edition of the CTN Bulletin erroneously assigned CODA, a Community Treatment Program, to the Pacific Northwest Node. CODA is part of the Western States Node. Sorry for any confusion this may have caused!

Updates for this Bulletin should be sent to Carol Cushing at ccushing@nida.nih.gov