I have returned from the trip to Irkutsk, Siberia where a team of people from the project entitled "Healthy Russia 2020", sponsored by the President's Emergency Fund for AIDS Relief and SAMHSA, discussed the outlines of an educational course given by the Institute for Post Graduate Training in Irkutsk to primary care providers in Siberia. The topic that the educational people have focused on is teaching primary care physicians more about how to identify persons with substance use disorders, or potential disorders, and HIV, and refer them to specialty treatment. Their interests are much in line with the SBIRT project that is now being discussed by CTN. It's a small world!

Message from Susan Gordon, Ph.D.
Node CTP Representative

The Eating Disorders Workgroup of the CTN consists of scientists and clinical providers who are interested in the co-occurrence of eating disorders and drug and alcohol addiction. We were able to team with the Institute for Behavioral Research at the University of Georgia and add items to their National Treatment Center Study survey of addiction treatment programs. The items concerned how addiction treatment programs address eating disorder symptoms of patients. Our results will be presented at a symposium on women’s treatment at the American Psychiatric Association Conference in May 2008. Here is a brief synopsis of the results. Please contact me if you would like more information.

Title: Assessment and Treatment of Co-Occurring Eating Disorders in Publicly Funded Addiction Treatment Programs. Authors: Susan Gordon, Ph.D., Aaron Johnson, Ph.D., Shelly Greenfield, M.D., Lisa Cohen, Ph.D., Theresa Killeen, Ph.D. and Paul Roman, Ph.D. Abstract: This study surveyed publicly-funded addiction treatment programs (ATPs) to increase the understanding of current eating disorder treatment options for this population. It is part of a larger longitudinal survey, the National Treatment Center Study, which documents long-term changes in the addiction treatment field. Data were collected from detailed face-to-face interviews with program directors of a nationally representative sample of 351 publicly-funded ATPs between 2002 and 2004. Descriptive statistics, analyses of variance, chi-squares, and qualitative data analyses were used. Half (50.8%) of the ATPs screen new patients for eating disorders; 28.5% admit all ED cases and 48.1% admit cases of low severity. Few programs (17.3%) attempt to treat ED. As compared to programs which either do not admit or admit but not treat ED, programs that do admit and treat ED patients are more likely to emphasize a medical/psychiatric model of addiction, use psychiatric medications, assess and admit patients for other co-occurring psychiatric disorders, and have a lower caseload of African-American patients. Programs that treat ED identified differences in ED treatment from standard addiction treatment, and programs that do not provide ED services list reasons for not offering these services. Generally, patients with co-occurring ED and SUD do not appear to receive structured ED assessment or ED treatment in ATPs. These results highlight the need for education of addiction treatment professionals in assessment of eating disorders and the development of integrated treatments.
**Addiction documentary wins Emmy Award**

HBO’s 14-part documentary “Addiction” has won an Emmy award from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

*Addiction* was a venture that stripped away misconceptions about addiction and offered hope to addicts and their loved ones with information about new and effective treatments says Dick Askin, the Academy Chairman.

The EMMY was presented to *Addiction* collaborators HBO, funder The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Dr. Kathleen Brady of the CTN also played a prominent role in the development of the documentary.

During her acceptance speech, NIDA Director Dr. Nora Volkow thanked the Academy as well as HBO for its “vision in developing this project, which has allowed us to reach millions with our message that addiction is a chronic, relapsing brain disease. It does not care if you are rich or poor, famous or unknown, a man or woman, or even a child. If science-based treatment principles are followed, addiction treatment can work, and people can reclaim their lives.”

**World AIDS Day, December 1, 2007**

According to UNAIDS estimates, there are now 39.5 million people living with HIV, including 2.3 million children. During 2006 some 4.3 million people became newly infected with the virus. Around half of all people who become infected with HIV do so before they are 25 and are killed by AIDS before they are 35. Around 95% of people with HIV/AIDS live in developing nations. But HIV today is a threat to men, women and children on all continents *around the world*.

Started on 1st December 1988, World AIDS Day is not just about raising money, but also about increasing awareness, fighting prejudice and improving education. World AIDS Day is important in reminding people that HIV has not gone away, and that there are many things still to be done.

**Trial Progress:**

**CTN 0027 – Starting Treatment with Agonist Replacement Therapies, Site: NET Steps, Phila, PA**

In order to meet our goals for recruitment by the end of the active study period, the Net-STEPS site is enjoying an increased collaboration and flexibility with intake. More staggered scheduling and the ability to employ some weekends may provide us with more than two intakes per week on average. We hope this will result in two candidates per week being randomized regularly. Then, the focus is on better retention through increased communication and cooperation, so that as many of these ‘opportunities’ are realized as evaluable.

**CTN 0028 – ADHD in Adolescents, Site: Rehab After Work, Paoli, PA**

**Congratulations to our Study Staff at RAW**

Things are picking up for them. They have just randomized our eleventh participant! Yippee!! They are now at 43 prescreened, 21 consented, 11 randomized. Recruitment continues to be an uphill battle.

Gretchen has joined the Chester County Caring Community Coalition and she has given presentations about the study at several meetings throughout Chester County. These meeting are attended by staff members in the local school districts as well as various other representatives from organizations geared towards helping teens in the community. The reception has been fantastic. People are excited about the study and optimistic about referring adolescents. Gretchen has spoken with a local marketing firm and she has ordered some small office supplies with study information on them so she can hand them out to people so they remember to refer to the study.

Katie has created a web page for the study, [www.adhdsud.com](http://www.adhdsud.com), and she has posted the link on several local community resource websites. It has been registered with several search engines including Google and Yahoo. We continue to work closely with intake staff, as they have been our strongest source of referrals. Katie sends a daily reminder via instant message to all staff members about the study along with a fun quote.

Gretchen and Charlotte attended a conference at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia called “Managing ADHD Across the Lifespan.” It was a great educational experience as well as an opportunity to network with other individuals in the field as well as families dealing with ADHD.

Feedback from study participants remains very positive. Attendance and follow-up rates remain high
Grants Corner
The following are funding opportunities in drug and alcohol abuse research:

RFA-OD-07-00

1 - This RFA solicits research grant applications from academic/scientific institutions and community organizations that propose to forge partnerships (1) to study methods and strategies to engage and inform the public regarding health science in order to improve public understanding of the methods and benefits of publicly funded research, and (2) to increase scientists’ understanding of and outreach to the public in their research efforts.

These areas of research of of special interest:

- Enhance the community’s understanding of biomedical, behavioral, and/or clinical research
- Identify strategies to improve the understanding of specific elements of the research process such as informed consent
- Design strategies to involve communities in research and researchers in the community
- Increase scientific literacy
- Identify effective techniques for disseminating study findings and implementing research in the community
- Enhance networks and infrastructure that will promote community research that not only takes place in the community, but involves the community

Each application must represent a partnership between community and scientific/academic investigators. Link to full announcement: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-OD-07-001.html

Trainings Conducted

Charlotte Royer-Malvestuto and Dr. Deni Carise, Delaware Valley node, conducted ASI training on an adaptation of the EuropASI in Vienna, Austria, on September 7th-10th. The training, hosted by Schering-Plough, was attended by investigators and study staff from 16 countries, who will be participating in several post-marketing trials of Suboxone.

Following ASI training, Charlotte and Deni attended the Third European Association of Addiction Therapy Conference (EAAT) 2007 in Vienna. The program covered a wide range of topics intended to increase understanding of the scientific, medical, and social bases of addiction. The EAAT Conferences provide a forum for generating discussion regarding the development of relevant treatment therapies throughout Europe and for disseminating information about the prevention and treatment of addiction across national and cultural boundaries. Dr. Carise was invited to attend a two-day UN planning meeting afterwards.

Sabrina Poole, M.S. conducted ASI-Train the Trainers on Thursday October 24-25 for the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, ASSC Campus, 120 Silver Lake Road, Middletown, DE.

Future Trainings/Workshops

PHMC and the DelVal Node of the CTN present:
“Motivational Interviewing Across the Life Span” training. Training will be held at PHMC on December 5, 2007. 260 s. Broad Street, Phila., PA 19104.

UPDATE: We are working to resolve some scheduling issues and and will let you know as soon as we have more information

Princeton House Behavioral Health Presents:
Save the Date:  Wednesday, February 20, 2008, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  Motivational and Client-centered Treatment in Mental Health and Substance Abuse Conference and Workshops with keynote speaker John C. Norcross, Ph.D., ABPP.  The Conference Center at Mercer, 1200 Old Trenton Rd., West Windsor, NJ 08550. Social Work, LPC, CADC and MD credits will be offered. Projected cost will be between $65-75 per person. For more information, please contact Janine at: jbell@princetonhcs.org tel:609-497-2605; fax: 609-683-0630

Upcoming Meetings/Conferences

Dr. Susan Gordon will be presenting the NTCS results for how addiction programs address eating disorders. The APA 161st Annual Meeting will be held on May 3-8, 2008 in Washington, DC. For more details:
NIDA Blending Meeting

“Blending Addiction Science and Treatment: The Impact of Evidence-Based Practices on Individuals, Families and Communities” will be held June 2-3, 2008 in Cincinnati, Ohio. The meeting website is open at: www.NIDABlendingConference.info.

Delaware Valley Node Steering Committee

The next meeting of the Delaware Valley Node of the CTN will be on March 15, 2008 from 2-4 p.m. at TRI. Mark your calendars!

Call for Abstracts

CPDD 70th Annual Scientific Meeting
Date: June 14-19, 2008. The Caribe Hilton, San Juan, Puerto Rico. For more details: www.cpdd.org

Travel Log

Sorrento, Italy

Dr. Woody was an invited speaker at the Federazione Italiana Degli Operatori Dei Dipartimenti E Dei Servizi Delle Dipendenze in Sorrento, Italy. His topic was "Collaboration and Maximizing Addiction Treatment Outcomes". The conference was attended by about 500 Italian psychiatrists, social workers and psychologists who are involved in addiction treatment. The focus was on heroin and cocaine addiction treatment in Italy, and several important points are worth reporting. First is that Italy, like other EC countries, has a national health system that funds addiction treatment at a level that appears to be close to parity with other health conditions. For example, it was reported that the national health system supports 44 therapeutic communities, and has 200,000 patients on methadone maintenance with another 6000 on buprenorphine. They estimate that 60% of the “target” population of opioid-dependent persons are in treatment. This expansion of heroin addiction treatment appears to have been done about ten years ago in response to the HIV epidemic and has been guided by data from the U.S. showing that addiction treatment, particularly methadone maintenance, reduces the risk for HIV and opioid use, and improves overall outcome. Cocaine has not been a problem in Italy, however it is becoming more of a problem, especially in the north where about 30% of the heroin addicts are using it. The importance of a national health system seems to be a key factor in the way Italy has responded to the heroin and HIV problems. I have heard similar data from researchers in Austria, Germany, Spain and Switzerland. Essentially, they have used our data and applied them on a level such that it has is likely to have an important impact on public health. The presence of a national health system seems to be a key factor. Very interesting...

CTN Dissemination Library

The CTN Library is web-based, and includes all the CTN related publications (under What’s New). The web site is maintained by the Washington Node of the Clinical Trials Network. The address is: http://ctndisseminationlibrary.org
For a more detailed list of upcoming conferences, click on “Upcoming Conferences” under “Dissemination Opportunities”

Links to DelVal Node CTPs/Collaborators

Caron Foundation http://www.caron.org/  
Consortium http://www.consortium-inc.org/ 
Jonathan Lax Center http://www.fight.org/ 
NET http://www.net-centers.org/ 
PHMC http://www.phmc.org/ 
Presbyterian http://pennhealth.com/behav_health/addiction/presby/ 
PRO-ACT www.proact.org  
RAW http://www.rehabafterwork.com/contact.htm 
Seabrook House http://www.seabrookhouse.org/ 
Thomas Jefferson University http://www.jeffersonhospital.org/psychiatry/article4821.html 
Treatment Research Institute www.tresearch.org 
The University of Pennsylvania, Center for Studies on Addiction http://www.uphs.upenn.edu/trc/

REMEMBER: The single best way to protect against the flu is to get vaccinated each year. October or November is the best time to get vaccinated, but you can still get vaccinated in December and later. Flu season can begin as early as October and last as late as May.
Key Facts About Seasonal Flu Vaccine can be found at: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/keyfacts.htm
Winter Solstice

Saturday, December 22 2007, 1:08 A.M. EST (06:08 UT), marks the solstice—the beginning of winter in the Northern Hemisphere and summer in the Southern Hemisphere.

Word Search Puzzle

S D E P E N D E N C E C H U
A V X T N E M TA E R T M R
A D W C W Z S U B O X O N E
L X D K S Q V E P R I M Y E
C E K I Y R E V O C E R R C
O T R G C I K W U T O B G N
H I B A P T S N H Q P U M A
O U K N R Y I A M Q I D E T
L T I C R O D O P P A T K S
T W A Y T O O I N I T C K B
U W E H N H L G J G E B R U
G Z I E M H C R A E S E R S

Addiction, alcohol, dependence, methadone, opiates, recovery, research, suboxone, substance, treatment

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season & Happy New Year!
From all of us here at the Delaware Valley Node of the CTN

Updates for this newsletter should be sent to Doreen Cardillo
dcardillo@tresearch.org