Delaware Valley Node

NIDA-Clinical Trials Network
Newsletter – March, 2011
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Delaware Valley Node News

Delaware Valley Node’s Dissemination Conference
“Integrating Treatment for Substance Use Disorders with Other Health Care Services” was held on Tuesday March 8, 2011. Among the approximately 80 attendees were Funding Sponsors, Clinicians, Researchers, Policy Makers, Substance Abuse Treatment Providers. The presenters included A. Thomas McLellan, Ph.D. who discussed policy directions as they relate to health care reform; Constance Weisner, Dr.Ph, who presented data on HMO settings and integrated treatment; Gail D’Onofrio, M.D., who presented data on SBIRT in emergency rooms; Terry Horton, M.D., who discussed SBIRT, with strong emphasis on RT, for patients admitted to in-patient medical units; Hyong Un, M.D., who discussed cost offsets associated with integrated treatment from the perspective of an insurance company; Holly Hagle, M.A., who discussed SBIRT training for nurses; Trip Gardner, M.D., who provided operational details on the integrated treatment programs that he organized and operates in Bangor, ME; and Julie Becher, Ph.D. who discussed the complexities involved in economic analyses of substance abuse treatment. These presentations all addressed different aspects on the general topic of integrating addiction treatment and general health care. The fact that the existing network of substance abuse providers treats only a small proportion of individuals with substance-related problems was repeatedly emphasized, as was the emerging opportunities to change the current situation by reaching out to establish linkages with general health care so as to expand the range and scope of interventions that are currently offered in specialty care.

Please contact Doreen if you would like copies of the presentations. dcardillo@tresearch.org

Upcoming Conferences/Meetings

NIDA SC Meeting
March 15-17, 2011
The NIDA CTN Steering Committee Meeting is scheduled to take place at the Bethesda North Marriott, March 15-17, 2011. Information on registration, logistics and agenda can be found by visiting: http://www.seiservices.com/nida/ctn/meetings/1025044/index.asp

ASAM 42nd Annual Medical-Scientific Conference, April 14-17, 2011
Washington Hilton, Washington, DC
The goal of ASAM's 42nd Annual conference is to present the most up-to-date information in the addictions field. To attain this goal, program sessions will focus on the latest developments in research and treatment issues and will translate them into clinically useful knowledge. To register, go to https://meetings.asam.org/registration.cfm
June 18-23, 2011
and International Narcotics Research
Conference (INRC) 42nd Annual Meeting
June 21-25, 2011 will be held at the
The Westin Diplomat
Hollywood, Florida
Registration open, visit www.cpdd.org

National CTSA Community Engagement
Conference August 30 – 31, 2011
Bethesda, MD
Registration is now open for the 4th Annual National
CTSA Community
Engagement Conference is scheduled for Tuesday &
Wednesday, August 30 – 31, 2011 at the
Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference
Center, 5701 Marinelli Rd, Bethesda, MD
20852. This year's title, “Using IT to
Improve Community Health: How Health
Care Reform Supports Innovation” will
provide a forum to discuss the interface of
Information Technology and community
health, present innovative examples of
clinicians' and the public's use of information
tools to improve health and the emerging and
current issues facing expanded use.
Conference Registration, Call for
Poster/Think Tank Proposals, Program
Agenda, and other Conference Logistics are
available at:
https://www.dtmi.duke.edu/ce-workshop

This conference is sponsored through
Cooperative Agreements by the National
Center for Research Resources (NCRR) — a
component of the National Institutes of
Health (NIH) and the U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services (DHHS) — and
the CTSA program of Duke University.
(U13RR030724-03)

For a complete list of
upcoming conferences,
please visit the:

CTN Dissemination Library
http://ctndisseminationlibrary.org

Current CTN Studies

CTN 0037 “Stimulant
Reduction Intervention
using Dosed Exercise
(STRIDE).” Penn-
Presbyterian Medical
Center, 39th & Market
Street in Philadelphia. Protocol team making
some final preparations and hope to be
endorsed by the Lead Node within the next
two weeks.

CTN 0050 “START Follow-
up Study.” Delaware Valley
Node will be participating in
the START Follow-up Study
(PI(s) Yih-Ing Hser and
Walter Ling), which will examine the path of
opioid use following admission to the original
study for participants randomized to suboxone
versus those assigned to methadone; and to
identify distinctive patterns and investigate
factors (patient treatment, site characteristics)
contributing to the way in which these events
develop over a period of time. This follow up
study is expected to role out over a 5 year
period and is an intent-to-treat model designed
to include all 1,269 subjects who were enrolled
in the original START trial.

Future CTN Studies

CTN 0049 – Hospital Visit as
Opportunity for Prevention
and Engagement for HIV
Infected Drug Users
(HOPE) Project Hope will
evaluate the effectiveness of a
brief intervention delivered 5to HIV-infected
drug users recruited from the hospital setting
in achieving viral suppression. In addition, the
study will also determine linkage and retention in HIV primary care, linkage and retention in drug abuse treatment, and reduction in numbers of hospitalizations. The Protocol Review Board reviewed this study in January. The lead team is finalizing the protocol and looking at potential study sites. Sites that submitted surveys for consideration from our Node are: HUP (Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania), Temple and Hahnemann. Site selection planned for June 2011. 

CTN 0052 “A Randomized Controlled Trial of Buspirone for Relapse Prevention in Adults with Cocaine Dependence (BRAC)”
Protocol currently in the development phase. The primary objective of the study is to evaluate the efficacy of buspirone, relative to placebo, in preventing relapse in cocaine-dependent adults in inpatient/residential treatment (14-28 days) who are planning to enter outpatient treatment upon discharge. Site Interest Surveys were distributed to determine whether there are a sufficient number of CTN sites that are able and interested in participating in this study. Penn Presbyterian under consideration or participation in this project as a Wave 2 site. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

Other Studies (Non-CTN)

LAX Pilot Project: Staying or Not Staying in HIV Treatment
Site: Jonathan Lax Clinic, Phila., PA Anna Pecoraro, Psy.D., Co-Investigator, University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Pecoraro reports we are nearly at our recruitment goal for this project, having enrolled 37 lost to care and 41 engaged for a total of 78. Anna hopes to recruit 4 more lost to care patients to complete the study.

Project Engage – SBIRT With Medically Hospitalized Patients.
Terry Horton MD, Anna Pecoraro PsyD, Ed Ewen, MD, Julie Becher, PhD, Patricia A. Wright BSW, Patricia McGraw RN, MSN, Basha Silverman BS, George Woody MD. Objectives: To retrospectively examine data from patients receiving a Project Engage intervention at Wilmington Hospital during their medical/surgical hospitalization on: Primary Outcomes: 1) Engagement in SUD treatment and 2) healthcare costs; and Secondary Outcomes: 1) Days in inpatient and outpatient SUD treatment; 2) days in mental health inpatient and outpatient treatment; 3) primary care office visits; 4) emergency room and urgent care visits; 5) hospital admissions and readmissions; 6) AMA discharges. Currently in the IRB submission process.

AUDIT PC Study – Using the AUDIT-PC to predict alcohol withdrawal in a General Hospital. Terry Horton, M.D., PI, Anna Pecoraro, PsyD. and Ed Ewen, M.D., Co-Is. Dr. Pecoraro will begin data collection with Dr. Ed Ewen on March 24th at Christiana Care.

Reykjavik, Iceland
The Extended Release Naltrexone for Treating Amphetamine Dependence in Iceland protocol began enrollment earlier this month. To date, 35 participants have been recruited, slightly over 1/3 of the targeted enrollment.
Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia

**Suboxone and Methadone for HIV Risk Reduction in Subutex Injectors**

Study began enrollment in January. To date 7 subjects have been randomized: 2 to methadone; 5 to suboxone.

St. Petersburg, Russia

**Adherence to HIV Therapy in Heroin Addicts**

The study will obtain pilot data on the impact of oral naltrexone vs. a sustained release naltrexone implant on response to antiretroviral therapy (ART) in opioid addicted patients beginning ART in St. Petersburg, Russia. Study start up is planned for September 2011.

**Local Activities**

**Final weekend to experience “Springtime in Paris”**

For ticket information, visit: http://www.theflowershow.com/home/index.html

**Grants Corner**

The following funding opportunities may be of interest to researchers:

**Notices**

*Request for Information (RFI): Creation Of A Consortium-Based Repository Of fMRI-Based Connectivity Brain Scans From Substance-Using Or Abusing Clinical Research Participants (NOT-DA-11-008)

National Institute on Drug Abuse

*Notice to Clarify PAR-09-239, Behavioral Science Track Award for Rapid Transition (B/START) (R03) (NOT-DA-11-010)

National Institute on Drug Abuse

Modification of the Biographical Sketch in NIH Grant Application Forms (PHS 398, PHS 2590, and the SF 424 R&R) to Permit a Description of Factors that may have Reduced Productivity (NOT-OD-11-045)

National Institutes of Health

*Request for Information (RFI): Input on Strategies for Leveraging Existing Health Data Linked to New or Existing Bio-specimen Repositories for Large Scale Epidemiology Research (NOT-RM-11-008)

NIH Roadmap Initiatives

**Requests for Applications**

*HIV/AIDS Implementation Science Targeting Drug Using Populations: A Collaboration with PEPFAR (R01) (RFA-DA-12-002)

National Institute on Drug Abuse
Application Receipt Date(s): August 01, 2011

*The Placebo Effect: Mechanisms and Methodology (R01) (RFA-DA-12-003)

National Institute on Drug Abuse
National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
Application Receipt Date(s): May 24, 2011
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-12-003.html
The University of Pennsylvania, Center for Studies on Addiction (TRC)
http://www.uphs.upenn.edu/trc/
The Penn Center for AIDS Research
http://www.uphs.upenn.edu/aids/

Sites to Remember

CTN Data Share – download public data sets, study information, and CRFs at
www.ctndatashare.org

Federal Per Diem Rates and GSA Forms
are available at
http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/21287

GCP Training is available on-line for all CTN Members at www.nihtraining.com/ctn

Links to Delaware Valley Node CTPs/Collaborators

Caron Treatment Centers
http://www.caron.org/
Central East ATTC
http://www.attcnetwork.org/regcenters/index_centraleast.asp
Christiana Care Health System
http://www.christianacare.org/
Fresh Start Foundation
http://www.freshstartfoundation.org
Jonathan Lax Center http://www.fight.org/
NET http://www.net-centers.org/
Northeast ATTC
http://www.attcnetwork.org
PHMC http://www.phmc.org/
Princeton House
http://www.princetonhcs.org/page1848.aspx
Presbyterian
http://pennhealth.com/behay_health/addiction/presby/
Rehab After Work (RAW)
http://www.rehabafterwork.com/contact.htm
Thomas Jefferson University
http://www.jeffersonhospital.org/psychiatry/article4821.html
Treatment Research Institute
www.tresearch.org

Sudoku Puzzle

Send updates for this newsletter to dcardillo@tresearch.org