Dr. Woody accompanied Dr. Metzger and Dr. Marak Chawarski to Jakarta, Indonesia to do training for a NIDA study of counseling in methadone maintained patients. This study resulted from a one year fellowship at Penn to Adhi Wibowo Nurhidayat, MD,MPH, the PI of the Indonesian study, who was mentored by Drs. Metzger and Woody. Methadone maintenance was recently introduced in Indonesia in response to a growing HIV problem that is resulting from heroin addiction. The usual level of counseling in the methadone programs consists of sessions as needed and dropout rates from treatment are higher than what is typically seen. We think the situation can be improved by more regular counseling so in this study we will compare regular, scheduled weekly counseling with the usual treatment and outcomes will be treatment retention, opioid (heroin) use, and HIV risk.

**Regulatory Q&A**

**Question:** When is an institution considered to be “engaged in research”?

**Answer:** In general, an institution is considered to be engaged in human subjects research whenever it receives a direct HHS award to support such research, even if all of the human subjects activities will be performed by agents or employees of another institution. For example, when the direct awardee institution subcontracts all human subjects activities to another institution the direct awardee institution would still be considered engaged in the research. In such cases, the awardee institution bears the ultimate responsibility for protecting subjects involved in the research conducted under the award. In general, simply informing potential subjects about a research study is not considered engagement in research. Also, providing written information about a research study, including how to contact the investigators for information and enrollment, and seeking and obtaining prospective subjects’ permission for investigators to contact them are not considered engagement in research. However, seeking or obtaining informed consent from a research participant is considered engagement in research.

[For details, please see OHRP guidance on this topic at](http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/humansubjects/assurance/engage.htm)
DelVal Node Trial Progress:
CTN 0027-START – In the process of wrapping up at NET Steps. The national study monitors at EMMES and Lin Denton, our local QA monitor, have been busy with close-out activities.

CTN 0044 “Web delivery of evidence-based psychosocial treatment for substance use disorders”. So far, one site within our Node has expressed interest in this study: Rehab After Work (RAW). Thomas Whiteman and Tim Boyle have completed and returned the site selection questionnaire for consideration.

CTN 0047 “Screening, Motivational Assessment and Referral to Treatment in the Emergency Department” (SMART-ED).
Study Objectives: To evaluate the implementation of and outcomes associated with a screening and brief intervention process to identify individuals with substance use, abuse, or dependence seen in emergency departments (EDs) and to provide interventions and/or referral to treatment consistent with the severity of their substance use disorder. Two sites are being considered for this protocol: Thomas Jefferson University and Christiana Medical Center. Drs. Stephen Weinstein and Terry Horton are in the process of completing site selection questionnaires.

Upcoming Meetings/Conferences

“New Developments in Addiction Treatment”
Conference - Sponsored by the Delaware Valley Node of the Clinical Trials Network, PHMC and IRETA - NeATTC. Keynote speaker: A. Thomas McLellan, Ph.D. Conference will be held on September 11, 2009 at 260 S. Broad Street in Philadelphia. For registration information, contact Doreen Cardillo dcardillo@tresearch.org

NIDA SC Meeting
The NIDA CTN Steering Committee Meeting is scheduled to take place at the Hyatt Regency Bethesda on October 20-22, 2009. More information, including registration, agenda and logistics, will be available once registration is open on August 10, 2009. A notice will be sent to SC Members once registration is open.

LAX Pilot: Staying or Not Staying in HIV Treatment
Site: Jonathan Lax Clinic, Phila., PA
Lax Pilot Study is underway. So far 20 clients have been interviewed. Anna Pecoraro, PhD, University of Pennsylvania and Allen Howell, LAX Outreach Coordinator have been doing a great job on this project!

Recovery Walks! September 12, 2009
Date: September 12, 2009 (rain or shine)
Location: Penn’s Landing
Walker check in begins: 8:30 AM
Program begins: 10:00 AM
Official walk start time: 11:00 AM
Distance: 3 Miles
Recovery Walks! is a National Alcohol & Drug Addiction Recovery Month event. For more information, go go: http://www.recoverywalks.org
Recovery Month is an annual observance that takes place during the month of September.

The Recovery Month observance highlights the societal benefits of substance abuse treatment, lauds the contributions of treatment providers and promotes the message that recovery from substance abuse in all its forms is possible. The observance also encourages citizens to take action to help expand and improve the availability of effective substance abuse treatment for those in need. Each year a new theme, or emphasis, is selected for the observance.

Recovery Month provides a platform to celebrate people in recovery and those who serve them. Each September, thousands of treatment programs around the country celebrate their successes and share them with their neighbors, friends, and colleagues in an effort to educate the public about treatment, how it works, for whom, and why. Substance abuse treatment providers have made significant accomplishments, having transformed the lives of untold thousands of Americans. These successes often go unnoticed by the broader population; therefore, Recovery Month provides a vehicle to celebrate these successes.

Recovery Month also serves to educate the public on substance abuse as a national health crisis, that addiction is a treatable disease, and that recovery is possible. Recovery Month highlights the benefits of treatment for not only the affected individual, but for their family, friends, workplace, and society as a whole. Educating the public reduces the stigma associated with addiction and treatment. Accurate knowledge of the disease helps people to understand the importance of supporting treatment programs, those who work within the treatment field, and those in need of treatment.

For more information, visit: http://www.recoverymonth.gov/About-Recovery-Month.aspx

Baby News…..Congratulations to Charlotte Royer-Malvestuto and husband Paul, who welcomed their second grandson, Isaac August Royer, on July 15th. He was 7lb 2oz, 19” long.

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 detailed list of upcoming conferences, click on “Upcoming Conferences” under “Dissemination Opportunities”

For additional information, contact Ed Weiss, Assoc. Project Manager, Delaware Valley Node eweiss@tresearch.org or call 215-399-0980 x145.

AIDS Walk Philly
Sunday, October 18, 2009
Remember Why
Over 30,000 people in the Delaware Valley are living with HIV/AIDS. Many of our friends, family and neighbors are in desperate need of health care services and other life-saving programs, but with cutbacks in government dollars, these programs are often under-funded. Now, more than ever, your donations are needed to support organizations providing HIV/AIDS awareness, prevention education, counseling and testing and care services for people living with HIV/AIDS.
• Since 1981, over 600,000 Americans have died of AIDS.
• Every 9 1/2 minutes, someone in the U.S becomes infected with HIV.
• Approximately 20% of people infected with HIV do not know it.
• According to the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, Philadelphians are being infected with HIV at a rate MORE THAN 50% higher than residents of New York City.
• The rate of infection in Philadelphia is FIVE times the national average.
• About half of the 1.2 million people living with HIV in the U.S are not receiving medical care.

For more information, visit:
http://www.aidswalkphilly.org/

To register, visit:
http://www.aidswalkphilly.org/walk/register/login.php

Links to DeVal Node
CTPs/Collaborators

Caron Treatment Centers
http://www.caron.org/

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/behav_health/addiction/pr esby/

PRO-ACT www.proact.org

Rehab After Work (RAW)
http://www.rehabafterwork.com/contact.htm

Seabrook House
http://www.seabrookhouse.org/

Thomas Jefferson University
http://www.jeffersonhospital.org/psychiatry/arti cle4821.html

Treuement Research Institute
http://www.tresearch.org

The University of Pennsylvania, Center for Studies on Addiction (TRC)
http://www.uphs.upenn.edu/trc/

Van Horn Consulting
http://www.vanhornconsulting.com

Grants Corner

The following grant opportunities may be of interest to researchers: FY 2010 RFA’s

Substance Use and Abuse among U.S. Military Personnel, Veterans and their Families
RFA-DA-10-001 (R01), RFA-DA-10-002 (R21) - [Receipt Date: December 22, 2009]

International Research Collaborations on HIV/AIDS and Drug Use (R01)
RFA-DA-10-008 (R01) - [Receipt Date: November 18, 2009]

Integrating Translational Neuroscience and Adolescent Drug Abuse Treatment (R21)
RFA-DA-10-003 (R21) - [Receipt Date: September 1, 2009]

Economic Studies of Health Insurance Coverage on Drug Abuse Treatment Availability, Access, Costs, and Quality (R01)
RFA-DA-10-004 (R01) - [Receipt Date: July 14, 2009]

For more information on funding opportunities, visit: http://www.nida.nih.gov

Sudoku Puzzle

Please send updates for this newsletter to dcardillo@tresearch.org

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