

CTSA Imaging Working Group Bi-Monthly Update WebEx
Wednesday, February 18, 2009
3:00PM (CST)
Call Summary

In attendance:

Daniel Sullivan, MD (moderator)
Denise Aberle, MD
Ruth Carlos, MD, MS
Jeffrey Carr, MD
David Channin, MD
Cecil Charles, MD
Gary Dorfman, MD
Brad Erickson, MD, PhD
Sean Fain, PhD
Thomas Fitzgerald, MD
Yaorang Ge, MD
Randy Gollub, MD
William Hanlon, MS
Wei Huang, MD
Gordon Harris, PhD
Krishna Juluru, MD
John Kotyk, PhD
Daniel Marcus, PhD

P. David Mozley, MD
Brad Navia, MD, PhD
Tony Pan, MD
Nick Petrick, PhD
Eric Perlman, MD
Fred Prior, PhD
Brian Reynolds, PhD
Rathan Subramaniam, MD
Doug Sheeley, ScD
Alice Tarantal, PhD
Annick Van den Abbeele, MD
Walter Wolf, PhD
RSNA
Linda Bresolin, PhD, MBA, CAE
Fiona Miller
Susan Anderson
Joseph Koudelik
Mary Cerceo

NCRR Update on the CTSA Consortium (Dr. Sheeley)

- CTSA Strategic Goals proposed at January 26-27, 2009 meeting of four combined Strategic Goal Committees
- Each SGC presented a single goal that best matched the consortium's priorities with an emphasis on priorities and deliverables that are achievable within a 12 - 18 month timeframe.
- The four goals:
 - Improve the efficiency of the study process by reducing the time taken to achieve the protocol and contract approval needed to initiate a clinical study
 - Open access to training resources across the CTSA Consortium with downloadable core competencies and curricula posted to a portal
 - Create a research networking/social networking capability linking basic and clinical junior researchers with knowledge and advice from both local and distant research communities
 - Link and facilitate collaboration among community-based research networks, even using different platforms, to implement research and best practices
- Outcomes:
 - Extend and enhance the research networking goal to include physical resources such as cores.

- Address concerns about lack of emphasis on T1 Translation
- Consider:
 - What are the major issues or challenges for moving a discovery into a clinical application?
 - How can these challenges be met?
 - Are these needs being addressed by the goals proposed by SGCs 1-4?
- Shared instrumentation grants
 - Stimulus funding may be available for high-end instrumentation programs

Dr. Sheeley also reported on *Decision Making in T1 Translational Research*, held on Feb. 10-11, 2009

- Sponsored by the National Center for Research Resources and the Clinical and Translational Science Awards Translational Key Function Committee
 - Workshop to identify common challenges encountered in T1 translational research, solutions to these problems and best practices for moving projects forward.
- [Agenda](#)
- Videocast Archive: <http://videocast.nih.gov/Summary.asp?File=14907>

Role of the Imaging Working Group in addressing concerns about T1 translational research in CTSA Strategic Goals (Dr. Sheeley)

- Consider:
 - What are the major issues or challenges for moving a discovery into a clinical application?
 - What resources and infrastructure are needed for T1 translational research?
 - How can these challenges be met?
 - What would you like to see done first?
- Upcoming:
 - PAR-09-028: Shared Instrumentation Grant Program (S10)
 - Due Date: March 23, 2009
 - High-End Instrumentation Grant Program Announcement
 - Higher cap, shortened timeframe

CTSA site presentation, University of Michigan (Dr. Carlos)

- Clinical core and part of CTSA; no devoted imaging core
- Provides data processing services
- Provides monetary support for high-end technologies
- Provides infrastructure to implement technology radiotracers in readiness for trials
- Provides consultative advice for radiologists

Subgroup Updates

Cores/Education (Dr. Reynolds)

- Gathering data which will be used to drive refinement of some best- or common-practice recommendations at the joint IRAT/CTSA workshop March 29-31 in Baltimore. Recommendations will be shared with the entire consortium.
- Information gathering from imaging or operational cores:
 - Work flow or procedural documents; organizational charts; information on educational programs; creative approaches to funding core activities and increasing awareness of the CTSA and imaging cores; processes that have enhanced involvement in clinical trials
- Seeking volunteers from “highly functional systems” to participate by:
 - joining the team gathering information on best practices
 - serving as a subject expert or providing referrals to other subject experts
 - responding to a survey on topics of interest
- Teams are being organized to:
 1. Investigate educational programs or approaches related to clinical or translational imaging
 2. Identify best practices in providing review of protocols involving imaging
 3. Identify mechanisms of obtaining funding for: core services and personnel; infrastructure/engineering efforts; integration into and compensation for services in clinical trials
 4. Create awareness of the CTSA and the imaging capabilities available to researchers and knowledge of how to access them.
 5. Provide researchers with access to appropriate imaging expertise

Clinical Trials/UPICT (Dr. Dorfman)

- Developing work products to be discussed in two four-hour breakout sessions at the joint IRAT/CTSA workshop March 29-31, 2009 in Baltimore.
 - Extracting one protocol per modality to populate template
 - Dr. Dorfman is developing suggested eligibility criteria/thresholds
 - Dr. Subramaniam is working on domains
 - Dr. Jaffee will work on creating a library of annotations
- Dr. Charles suggested exploring password protection and locking strategies for acquisition and imaging protocols
 - DICOM acquisition protocol object needs to be defined/IHE
- Priority will be to define domains and metrics of interest
 - Both ideal and minimum performance characteristics for profiles needed
- Semantics and lexicons need to be clarified

Imaging Informatics (Dr. Erickson)

- Grant application was developed and submitted via the Radiology Informatics Committee; it is anticipated that the grant will be funded
- NIH stimulus funding will be targeted to patient care, especially the personal health record (PHR)
- Working towards application for NIH challenge grant to address image management and building a more in-depth infrastructure for research, automation of validation of adherence to research protocols, and project status

- Grant focus to be on patient data sharing based on various technologies
 - IHE constraints to be used
- Dr. Sheeley suggested leveraging the group's activities, identifying core resources (e.g. in areas of cardiology, pediatrics, trauma, assessment) and aims and preparing to respond quickly to request supplemental funds, possibly through CTSA
- Dr. Erickson indicated that e-mail discussion will be needed prior to the Baltimore meeting

CTSA/IRAT, March 29-31, 2009, Baltimore, meeting agenda (Dr. Sullivan)

- Joint IRAT and CTSA programming
- One or two 4-hour breakout sessions available for each CTSA Subgroup

Next steps

- Explore further funding opportunities linked to stimulus package