

CTSA Imaging Working Group Bi-monthly Update WebEx
Monday, June 15, 2009 at 3:00 PM CDT
Call Summary

In attendance:

Daniel Sullivan, MD (moderator)
Bradley Erickson, MD, PhD
Yaorong Ge, MD
Randy Gollub, MD, PhD
Luna Hilaire, PhD
Valerie Humblet, PhD
John Kotyk, PhD
Katarzyna Macura, MD, PhD
Dan Marcus
David Miller, PhD
Kevin O'Donnell
Eric Perlman, MD

Fred Prior, PhD
Brian Reynolds, PhD
Ann Scherzinger, PhD
Doug Sheeley, ScD
Annick Van den Abbeele, MD
Linda Valasquez, MS, CCRC

RSNA

Fiona Miller
Joseph Koudelik
Mary Cerceo

- **Discussion of March 29-31, 2009, Joint CTSA/IRAT Workshop, Baltimore**
 - Core/Education and Clinical Trials (UPICT) breakout sessions held in Baltimore
 - Good attendance by industry
 - Continued interest to share information among CTSA sites
 - UPICT and QIBA's Volumetric CT Technical Committee have merged their first standardized protocol focusing on establishing specifications for obtaining quantitative imaging results
 - Interest in face-to face meetings remains, although travel funding remains an issue

CTSA Site Updates:

- **Vanderbilt Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (Thomas Yankeelov, PhD)**
 - Vanderbilt CTSA focusing on human studies
 - There is not a specific pilot project for strictly imaging studies available through the CTSA. However, many groups have applied for pilot studies through the CTSA that do include imaging studies and Vanderbilt matches up to six scans with funds from their Imaging Institute. For example, if a pilot project to the CTSA requests 6 scans, the investigator will get 12 scans. There is no limit (in principle) to the number of scans that can be requested from the CTSA.
 - The cancer center support is ramping-up: 50%/50% small animal/human
 - Start-up funds available for pilot studies – cancer as main focus
 - The program is not being utilized as much as Vanderbilt would like
 - Vanderbilt is notifying team leaders within oncology that CTSA funds are available
 - Companion protocols are being developed when the trials come through
 - Three main groups include breast, colorectal and brain cancer
 - Largest barriers tend to be physician/radiologist buy-in, making people aware of available funds.

- **Harvard Clinical Translational Science Center “Overview of the Harvard Catalyst Imaging Program” (Randy Gollub, MD, PhD)**
 - 18 participating institutions
 - Grant Budget: \$38 Million (\$23m NIH and \$15m matching)
 - Imaging has its own space; just one component of what the catalyst is attempting to do
 - Goal: Leveraging existing expertise into translational clinical research
 - Harvard uses a live Web forum; within 30 seconds an investigator can get free consultations; Harvard staff (Valerie Humblet) receives requests via web mail.
 - A Web-based tracking tool is used to forward requests to imaging experts; weekly teleconferences are held to discuss key points.
 - Currently working on:
 - Informatics support for trialists: developing methods to gain access to research data
 - Educational program core curriculum
 - Funding pilot grants with imaging as a component

- **Formation of Steering Committee and Begin Process of Developing Major Priorities; Define Scope of IWG (Daniel Sullivan, MD)**
 - Exploring formation of a 8-10 person steering committee; sub-group chairs will participate
 - Steering Committee will focus on major priorities of the CTSA and alternate meeting times with the IWG
 - Dr. Sullivan requests that comments and member suggestions for Steering Committee be sent to him via email (daniel.sullivan@duke.edu)

- **Activities at the Joint ACRIN-CTSA Meeting (Daniel Sullivan, MD)**
 - Approximately 20-30 CTSA representatives attending the ACRIN meeting
 - Lunch meeting and an afternoon education session planned during ACRIN
 - Two education sessions:
 - Quantitative Imaging facilitated by Drs. Gollub, Macura, Yap and Reynolds
 - RSNA staff to schedule t-con to discuss details
 - Panel on issues and potential of conducting multisite clinical trials with industry panel to include radiologist, CRO rep, trialist and pharma/industry reps

- **Education Course at RSNA Annual Meeting 2009**
 - Drs Gollub and Macura to facilitate an educational course on Quantitative Imaging on Tuesday, Dec 1 from 3:00-5:00PM

- **RSNA 2009: Planning for CTSA Face-to-Face Meeting**
 - The last two years of the RSNA have shown high interest and good attendance
 - Explore hosting ‘webinars’ for those who cannot attend the meeting.
 - The breakout session during RSNA 2008 did not provide enough time.

- **NCRR CTSA update (Douglas M. Sheeley, ScD)**
 - The Strategic Goals Committee held a conference call on June 15, 2009.
 - The committee was encouraged to think about projects it would like to see pursued.

- As CTSA sites are approved, data sharing, communication and standards will be improved
- The Strategic Goals Committee (made up of 8 PIS) needs examples of how CTSA sites could work together and suggestions for defining and focusing on the highest priority items
- **CTSA Sub-group updates:**
 - **Imaging Informatics (Bradley Erickson, MD, PhD)**
 - Image sharing pilot is moving ahead
 - RSNA is working on logistics with the IHE.
 - This subgroup is developing a white paper that will elucidate additional research imaging informatics infrastructure requirements for a September '09 time frame
 - Imaging Informatics subgroup has sent a survey to 38 institutions.
 - Better connections to the CTSA in general will be discussed at the July caBIG meeting- imaging is just one area of interest.
 - **Clinical Trials (Gary Dorfman, MD)**
 - UPICT reported progress with templates posted on UPICT Wiki
 - QIBA Volumetric Ct and UPICT have collaborated on draft QIBA Profile.
 - **Cores/Education(Brian Reynolds, PhD and Katarzyna Macura, MD, PhD)**
 - Cores/Education has started authorship of a white paper on survey findings. The entire committee will receive this in 45 to 60 days for review.
- **Next Steps:**
 - Send nominations for the CTSA IWG Steering Committee to Dr. Sullivan via email.
 - Educational Course teleconference scheduled for June 29, 2009 at 1:00PM
 - RSNA staff to look into use of WebEx/ Webinars during RSNA 2009/2010
 - Dr Gollub's slide deck to be distributed
 - Next IWG call is August 17th at 3:00PM CST