Blending Conference Sold Out!

The NIDA Blending Conference entitled "Blending Addiction Science and Practice: Evidence-Based Treatment and Prevention in Diverse Populations and Settings" will be held April 22-23, 2010, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The NIDA Blending Conference has reached capacity! At 60 days before the Conference is convened, NIDA had to cap registration at 1300 participants, which will be the highest attendance yet for a Blending Conference! If you have not yet registered, please visit http://www.seiservices.com/blendingalbuquerque/onlinerегистration.aspx to add your name on the waiting list. Contact Denny Pintello dpintell@nida.nih.gov for more information.

Poster Session Update

Scientific posters will be presented on each day of the conference. Two groups were invited to submit posters: individuals involved in NIDA's Clinical Trials Network (CTN) and professionals who are not affiliated with the CTN (general submission). The response has been fantastic – over 70 posters from across the CTN and several countries will be presented.

CTN 0032 Data Are Locked!

The lead team for CTN 0032, "HIV Testing and Counseling in Drug Abuse Treatment Programs," announces that all steps related to locking of the CTN 0032 databases were completed on February 26th. They are now moving on to the data analysis stage of the project. Many thanks go out to the teams at DCRI and EMMES for their hard work in organizing cross-site efforts to ready the final database. Congratulations are also in order to the incredible site PIs and study coordinators and their site teams for their efforts. This study began on January 5, 2009, at 12 sites across the CTN. A total of 1,281 participants completed the study which ended on December 31, 2009. The data lock took just 57 days to accomplish! We look forward to many publications from this important study!

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Tramway Ride and Dinner in Albuquerque

The Southwest Node is hosting a Tramway Ride and Dinner during the CTN Steering Committee Meeting in Albuquerque. The event is scheduled for Tuesday, April 20 at 5:30 p.m. Please visit http://casaa.unm.edu/download/ctn/SWNodeTramRideandDinner.pdf for more information or contact Deanna Sprunk at ctn@unm.edu if you are interested.

Register Now for CTN Meeting

The spring CTN Steering Committee will be held April 19-20, followed by the CTN 10th Anniversary event on April 21 and the NIDA Blending Conference on April 22-23. All events will take place in Albuquerque. Registration is still open at: http://www.seiservices.com/NIDA/CTN/Meetings/

CTN 0046 S-CAST Starts Enrollment!

The first participant in CTN 0046, "Smoking-Cessation and Stimulant Treatment (S-CAST): Evaluation of the Impact of Concurrent Outpatient Smoking-Cessation and Stimulant Treatment on Stimulant-Dependence Outcomes," was randomized at Maryhaven, Inc (Ohio Valley) on Wednesday, February 24th. Recruitment is in full swing at both the Maryhaven and Dorchester (Southern Consortium) sites, as well as at ADAPT (Oregon-Hawaii) which was opened for enrollment on February 18th. The Lead Team wishes to thank these three sites on beginning their active recruitment efforts so quickly!

The fourth Wave 1 site, Gateway (Florida Node) was endorsed for enrollment on Tuesday, March 2nd. The Lead Team congratulates the team at Gateway on their successful site launch! Two additional sites, La Frontera (Arizona-California) and Addiction Medicine Services (Appalachian Tri-State) are continuing with the initiation process and should be open for business soon!

Daylight Savings Time Begins Early!

Reminder- Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 14th. Turn your clocks forward 1 hour on Saturday night, March 13th.
Southwest Node News

Dissemination Activities:
Evidence-Based Approaches for Addiction
The Southwest Node’s Center on Alcoholism, Substance Abuse, and Addictions (CASAA), in collaboration with the Life Link Training Institute and the Gulf Coast Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC), has been active in dissemination efforts over the past several months. Deanna Sprunk, the Southwest Node’s Program Coordinator, has successfully coordinated a series of workshops to disseminate NIDA and SAMHSA Blending Initiative Products. The following upcoming workshop may be of interest to readers:

Buprenorphine Treatment: A Training for Multidisciplinary Addiction Professionals
March 26, 2010
Capacity: 35 participants
Each workshop has long waiting lists with community treatment providers expressing enormous interest in and appreciation for these trainings in evidence-based practices. If you are interested in attending, please visit http://casaa.unm.edu/swnode.html or contact Deanna Sprunk at (505) 925-2330 or ctn@unm.edu.

News from Turquoise Lodge Hospital
Turquoise Lodge Hospital and the new MOTU (Medical Observation and Treatment Unit) are run by the New Mexico Department of Health, and are focused on assessment and treatment of addiction to alcohol, opiates, and other drugs for all New Mexicans. The Metropolitan Assessment and Treatment (MATS) program, run by Bernalillo County, is housed in the same building.

Turquoise Lodge Hospital is a hospital for treatment of complex withdrawal (such as withdrawal complicated by co-occurring medical and psychiatric illness), and inpatient addiction rehabilitation. The MOTU is a new unit designed to provide rapid assessment, stabilization, and observation for addicted patients in Bernalillo County. MATS is a social-model addiction-treatment program; in other words, one that does not itself offer medical addiction treatment services.

The MOTU is designed to care for intoxicated patients brought in by Emergency Medical Services (EMS), who would otherwise be taken to a local hospital emergency department (ED). The purpose of this service is to decrease the load on local EDs and to provide more appropriate services to addicted individuals by offering them focused supportive care and the opportunity to enter into treatment for their addiction after they are no longer intoxicated. The other clientele served by the MOTU are patients residing at MATS. Although MATS does not offer medical treatment of addiction as part of their program, MATS patients often need medication to manage symptoms of withdrawal, and other common medical problems. MOTU has a capacity of 12.

Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Records

Some CTNers have asked how the confidentiality regulations (42 CFR Part 2) apply to practitioners in private practice and hospitals. Please note that this regulation applies to routine clinical treatment, not research. Research confidentiality is covered under human subject research regulations (such as the 45 CFR 46 and the Certificate of Confidentiality). You can find 42CFR2 at http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=ecfr&sid=6247d402ff26e26764580a5cd880bca &tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title42/42cfr2_main_02.tpl

Title 42 Part 2 applies to:
(1) Programs that are ‘federally assisted’ and
(2) To “those treatment or rehabilitation programs, employee assistance programs, programs within general hospitals, school-based programs, and private practitioners who hold themselves out as providing, and provide alcohol or drug abuse diagnosis, treatment, or referral for treatment.”

Deciding if Title 42 CFR Part 2 applies to a particular entity has to be addressed on a case-by-case basis. For further clarification, you may contact Carmen Rosa at crosa@nida.nih.gov.

Data Share News!

The de-identified data for CTN 0014, Brief Strategic Family Therapy for Adolescent Drug Abusers (BSFT™), are now available on the CTN data share web site and can be accessed at: http://www.ctndatashare.org. Each dataset is posted with corresponding study documentation, including the study protocol, data dictionary, annotated case report forms, and in both SAS and ASCII format. The data are de-identified to prevent linkages to the participants in the trials. The primary outcome paper for the study will also be referenced if it has been published.

To date, nearly 530 data sets have been downloaded by researchers, students, and consumers from 9 countries. There are 22 trial data sets available on the data share. The next trial to be posted will be CTN 0028, ADHD in Adolescent Substance Abusers, in mid-August 2010.
New York Node News

An abstract from the Infections and Substance Abuse Study (CTN 0012) has been accepted for oral presentation at the CPDD 72nd Annual Scientific Meeting. It is entitled, *HIV/AIDS-related health services in substance abuse treatment programs*. The lead author is Lawrence S. Brown, Jr., MD, MPH, FASAM, Executive Senior Vice President, Addiction Research and Treatment Corporation (ARTC) and Lead Investigator for the study. Co-authors are Steven Kritz, MD, ARTC; Edmund J. Bini, MD, MPH, VA NY Harbor Healthcare System; Jim Robinson, MEd, Nathan Kline Institute; and John Rotrosen, MD, NYU School of Medicine and NY Node Principal Investigator.

Four posters from the Infections and Substance Abuse Study that had previously been displayed at various national and international conferences have been accepted for the upcoming NIDA Blending Conference in Albuquerque. In addition, a non-CTN R01 study from ARTC, with Dr. Brown as Principal Investigator, has also been accepted for display at this meeting, entitled, *Implementation of an electronic information system to enhance practice at an opioid treatment program*.

Florida Node

The Florida Node is pleased to welcome Dr. Mark Stoutenberg, Research Assistant Professor. Dr. Stoutenberg is the NIH/NIDA Clinical Trials Network Scholar at the University of Miami where he is serving as the Interim National Exercise Director for CTN 0037 – Stimulant Reduction Intervention using Dosed Exercise (STRIDE). In addition, Dr. Stoutenberg will be the Florida Node Protocol Coordinator for CTN 0037, coordinating the implementation of the trial in two community-based drug abuse treatment centers in the Florida Node.

Dr. Stoutenberg earned his doctoral degree in exercise physiology in 2008. Among his accomplishments, Dr. Stoutenberg has initiated a colloquium for breast cancer survivors entitled, “From Surviving to Thriving: A Lifestyle of Exercise & Wellness for Breast Cancer Survivors.” Dr. Stoutenberg also played a role in developing the T.H.I.N.K. (Translational Health in Nutrition & Kinesiology) program and served as the program director for an internationally funded research study for the World Anti-Doping Agency investigating the impact of sildenafil citrate (Viagra) on exercise performance. Please join us in welcoming Dr. Stoutenberg to the Florida Node and to the CTN.

Mid-Atlantic Node Activities

The Mid-Atlantic Node is planning a Regional Dissemination Conference for June 3-4, 2010, at the Radisson Hotel in downtown Baltimore. The first day will provide workshops on medication-assisted treatments and motivational incentives. The second day will concentrate on long-term recovery/care. Meeting tracks will exist for clinicians and supervisors/directors.

Learn How to Apply for Grants

Each year, the Office of Extramural Research (OER) sponsors two NIH Regional Seminars on Program Funding and Grants. These seminars are intended to help demystify the application and review process, clarify Federal regulations and policies, and highlight current areas of special interest or concern. Please help us spread the word to your investigators and the staff at their institutions!

These comprehensive seminars are a great opportunity for investigators and administrators new to the NIH grants process. The ~800 participants in each seminar learn from and interact with seasoned staff from across NIH and HHS, including:

- NIH policy officials
- Grants management and program staff
- Electronic Research Administration experts
- Representatives from the Office for Human Research Protections, the Loan Repayment Program (LRP), the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR/STTR) program, the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) and more…

Recipients also have the opportunity to learn from their peers from around the world. This year’s seminars will be held in:

- Philadelphia, PA on April 15-16 (with hands-on eRA training offered on April 14)
- Portland, OR on June 24-25 (with hands-on eRA training offered on June 23)

Please visit [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/seminars.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/seminars.htm) for more information.

Reminder – Fall CTN Steering Committee

The fall CTN Steering Committee Meeting will be held in Bethesda, Maryland, from September 21-23, 2010. Registration and information will be made available on the Synergy meeting website this summer. Mark your calendars!
NNP Website
The NIDA Networking Project (NNP) provides opportunities for information sharing and research collaboration among NIDA’s networks across the country. The NNP gives researchers and clinicians access to networks’ locations, people, expertise, and resources to help synergize efforts, improve efficiency, and accelerate scientific discovery. Under “What’s New,” read about the following:

• **Postpartum Pain Control for Opioid-Treated Women**
  The MOTHER project at Johns Hopkins studied the adequacy of pain control post-pregnancy for women maintained on methadone or buprenorphine. They looked at ibuprofen and opioid medication to determine the best treatment regimen.

• **How Brain Regions Affect Risky Decision-Making**
  Studying patients with lesions of the insula in the brain, a USC team found that compared to healthy controls, the patients showed an altered decision-making pattern involving risky gains/losses.

• **Teen Drug Use a General Risk for Adult Onset**
  A University of Colorado team analyzed data from a longitudinal twin sample and determined that the use of many types of drugs by teens as they matured produced a generalized risk of later adult substance use dependence.

• **Does Smoking Affect Tobacco/Cannabis Use?**
  Investigators at Washington University-St. Louis looked at tobacco smoking and smokeless tobacco to see whether route of administration matters in the co-occurrence of tobacco and cannabis use.

Read the details and check out the NNP website at: [http://nnp.drugabuse.gov](http://nnp.drugabuse.gov).

Clinical Coordinating Center (CCC) at EMMES

**Regulatory Updates:**
Several CTN studies have recently encountered this question:
**What if the DEA registration holder is a pharmacy that is not at the same location as the research facility?**

*A pharmacy registered to dispense controlled substances may distribute such substances to another pharmacy (or research site) or to a practitioner at a research site to dispense, provided that the following conditions are met:*

- The recipient pharmacy (research site) OR practitioner has a DEA registration under the Controlled Substance Act to dispense controlled substances.
- The initial pharmacy records that it distributed the controlled substances, and the recipient pharmacy (research site) or practitioner records that they received the controlled substances.
- If a Schedule II controlled substance is distributed, the transfer must be documented on an Official Order Form (DEA Form 222). The distributing pharmacy must record the following information on an Official Order Form:
  - The name of the substance, the dosage form, and the quantity;
  - The name, address and DEA registration number of the pharmacy (research site) or practitioner to whom it is distributed.

If you have any questions pertaining to DEA registration, please contact Rajesh Venugopal, Regulatory Specialist, at rvenugopal@emmes.com or ctnregdocs@emmes.com.

**Other CCC related questions and topics**- Bob Lindblad at 301-251-1161, rlindblad@emmes.com, contact ctnsupport@emmes.com for laboratory and/or medication supplies, and ctnsafety@emmes.com for safety related issues/adverse event follow-up.

**Updates for this Bulletin should be sent to Carol Cushing at: ccushing@nida.nih.gov**