RSS/Credentialing/CIRB/OEWG aka “Alphabet Soup”

Michael Kelly, MA, Director of Protocol Operations
Central Protocol Operations Program

Alliance New Investigator Training
Alliance Chicago May 2017 Group Meeting
Presentation Objectives

- Understand NCI and CTSU Infrastructure, Services, and Policies Supporting You, Your Clinical Trial and all NCI Clinical Trials
  - Operational Efficiency Working Group (OEWG)
  - Central Institutional Review Boards (CIRB)
  - Cancer Trials Support Unit (CTSU)
  - Regulatory Support System (RSS)
NCI Operational Efficiency Working Group (OEWG)

- **Working Group Goals**
  - Identify institutional barriers prolonging time from concept approval to accrual of first patient
  - Establish working group to recommend strategies to implement plans to reduce time to activation of group and cancer center trials
  - Focus on timeliness of trial activation

- **Constitution:** 10 Group Chairs, 8 Cancer Center Directors, Investigators, Statisticians, Protocol Specialists, Community Oncologists, NCI Clinical Trials Leadership and Staff, Pharma, Patient Advocates, FDA, CMS, CTSU

- **Launched 2009, Announced March 2010, Implemented January 2011**
Time to Activation – Current State
Cooperative Group Phase III Trials (2006 – 2008)

Percentage of Trials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time to Activation</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than one year</td>
<td>2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-2 years</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>More than two years</td>
<td>58%</td>
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Median Days per Step

- Protocol approval to trial activation: 94 days
- Protocol receipt to protocol approval: 348.5 days
- Concept approval to protocol receipt: 138.5 days
- Concept receipt to concept approval: 93 days
Time to Trial Activation
Current vs OEWG Target

Current median time includes CIRB approval, industry negotiations, and FDA approval
OEWG Target Timeline – 300 days

- **Concept review**
- **Concept revision/review cycles**
- **Protocol development**
- **Protocol review**
- **Protocol revision/review cycles**
- **Forms development**

- Feedback on major challenges in 5 days
- If registration trial, FDA review in 30 days

Time (days):

- 0
- 30
- 90
- 180
- 210
- 300

Protocol terminated if not activated in two years
Phase 3 Concepts OEWG Timeline

**OEWG timeline for opening a trial to enrollment, for Phase 3 Concepts:**

- **Target timeline:** 300 days
- **Absolute deadline:** 540 days

- **Concept approval stage:** 90 days (Day 1 – 90)
- **Protocol authoring stage:** 90 days (Day 90 – 180)
- **Protocol approval and open to enrollment:** 120 days (Day 180 – 300)
OEWG timeline for opening a trial to enrollment, for Cooperative Group Phase 2 (and 1/2) Concepts:

- Target timeline: 210 days
- Absolute deadline: 450 days

Phase 2 concept approval stage: 60 days (Day 1 – 60)
Protocol authoring stage: 60 days (Day 60 – 120)
Protocol approval and open to enrollment: 90 days (Day 120 – 210)
Alliance Protocol Development

Protocol & CRF Development Process

Author

- Develop Protocol Draft 1
  - Conference Call
  - Develop Protocol Draft 2
  - Develop Paper CRF Draft 1

Review

- CRF Content Meeting
  - Develop Protocol Draft 3 & Paper CRF Draft 2
  - Review Protocol Draft 3
  - Develop Protocol Draft 4
  - Protocol and Forms Review Meeting

Final Draft

- Develop Protocol Draft 5
  - Submit to NCI
  - Respond to NCI Review
  - NCI Approval
  - Develop eCRF
  - Finalize protocol and eCRF

Protocol Pre-Activation
NCI Operational Efficiency Working Group

- OEWG timelines drive protocol and forms development and protocol activation
- Development and activation is a complex, collaborative effort involving multidisciplinary co-chairs, biostatisticians, nurses, clinical research professionals, patient advocates, protocol coordinators, forms developers, IT staff, and an Alliance Executive Officer
- Alliance Protocol Coordinators and Executive Officers can help navigate Alliance and NCI processes. Get to know them. Heed their guidance.
NCI Central Institutional Review Board (CIRB) Benefits

- Beneficial for patients and research
  - Oncology-specific, multidisciplinary Boards
  - Dedicated initial, local context, and amendment review
  - Open trials faster (especially for rare diseases)
- Beneficial for investigator and research staff
  - Eliminates protocol roundtrips to IRB
  - Eliminates need for amendment review, continuing renewal, and adverse events
  - Eliminates/reduces completing IRB applications
NCI CIRBs

- Randomized phase II and phase III trials overseen by one of 4 NCI CIRBs
  - Early Phase CIRB
  - Late Phase CIRB
  - Cancer Prevention and Control CIRB
  - Pediatric CIRB
- OEWG protocol activation timelines include CIRB review and approval
Cancer Trials Support Unit (CTSU)

- Facilitates and harmonizes activities across NCI CTEP National Clinical Trial Network (NCTN) and NCI DCP National Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP)
- Streamlines clinical trials processes, eg. patient registration
- Facilitates access to Alliance, SWOG, NRG Oncology, ECOG-ACRIN, Canadian Cancer Treatment Group protocols
CTSU Services

- CTSU Web Site (www.ctsu.org)
  - Protocol Documentation (protocol, CRFs, study funding sheet, National Coverage Analysis, etc.)
  - Regulatory Portal Submission
  - Oncology Patient Enrollment Network (OPEN) Web-based, 24-7 Registration System

- Regulatory Support System (RSS)
  - Individual and Institutional Rosters
  - Comprehensive local IRB information and protocol specific requirements (PSR0s)
Conclusions

- CTSU systems infrastructure is designed to interact among the web-based applications (investigator, institution, protocol-specific requirements, IRB approval)
- CTSU systems are designed to alleviate institutional burden, facilitate physician access to NCI clinical trials, and support patient enrollment
- Alliance Protocol Coordinators and Executive Officers work with and understand CTSU system interactions. Consult and rely on them.
Thank You

● Michael Kelly, MA, Director of Protocol Operations
  ● 773-702-8812
  ● mkelly1@uchicago.edu

● Morgen Alexander Young, MPH, Associated Director of Protocol Operations
  ● 773-702-4236
  ● malexanderyoung@uchicago.edu