The NIDA CTN New England Consortium
CTN New Englander newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 2

Spring 2013

Protocol Updates

The **CTN-0030 POATS Long-Term Follow-up Project** is now completed with the database locked on February 15, 2013. The aim of the project is to examine long-term outcomes for individuals with opioid analgesic (OA) dependence who participated in CTN-0030. A total of 375 participants were enrolled in this ancillary follow-up study. We collected data from study participants at 18, 30, and 42 months following randomization to Phase 1 of the main trial. Overall, we completed 252 Month-18 assessments (78.3%), 312 Month-30 assessments (312/375 = 83.2%); and 306 Month-42 assessments (306/375 = 81.6%).

**CTN-0047 Screening, Motivational Assessment, Referral, and Treatment in Emergency Departments (SMART-ED).** This study is being conducted in collaboration with the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) Emergency Department. *Recruitment for the study is complete as of February 14, 2012.* 1,285 participants were randomized into the study overall, with 135 randomized at the MGH site. Follow-up tracking is finished and we are now preparing for study database lock. Retention at follow-up visits was good: 84% at Month-3, 85% at Month-6, and 76% at Month-12 for an overall follow-up rate of 81%.

**CTN-0049 Project HOPE.** This study is being conducted locally at Boston University-Boston Medical Center. Project HOPE seeks to evaluate two strategies in order to find the most effective one to link and retain HIV-infected substance users recruited from the hospital setting to HIV primary care and substance use treatment. Research staff affiliated with the Boston Medical Center’s Center for Infectious Diseases are conducting the study. *Boston Medical Center started recruiting and enrolling study participants in August 2012 and currently has 41 participants randomized into the study as of April 4, 2013.*

**CTN-0050 START Follow-Up Study.** Lead Investigator, Yih-Ing Hser is conducting a long term follow-up of participants from the original START protocol (CTN 0027). Two sites from the former New England Node, Connecticut Counseling Centers and Hartford Dispensary participated in CTN0027. The Hartford Dispensary and the research team from the Yale RRTC are participating in CTN 0050. *As of April 2, 2013, 124 participants have been enrolled from Hartford Dispensary and 88 participants have been recruited from the Connecticut Counseling Center.*
CTN-0049 Project HOPE News:
Ashley Leech and Gena Hong from Boston University Medical Center were the January 2013 Project HOPE (ctn-0049) stars of the month for their teamwork and ongoing commitment to the success of the Project HOPE study. Great work!

2012 Dan Anderson Research Award:
Roger Weiss, M.D. was named as the recipient of the 2012 Dan Anderson Research Award. This award honors a single published article by a researcher who has advanced the scientific knowledge of addiction treatment and recovery. He was selected for the CTN-0030 study main outcome results published in the *Archives of General Psychiatry*. Congratulations!

JAMA Research Letter:
Pharmaceutical Overdose Deaths, United States, 2010 (February 20, 2013; Vol. 309, No. 7)
Recent data released by the National Center for Health Statistics through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show that drug overdose deaths increased for the 11th consecutive year in 2010. Opioid analgesics have been a major driver of this increase in overdose deaths. Other pharmaceuticals are involved in opioid overdose deaths, but their involvement is less well characterized. Using 2010 mortality data, the authors of this research letter describe the specific drugs involved in pharmaceutical and opioid-related overdose deaths.
**PRESENTATIONS:**

- **Shelly Greenfield, M.D., M.P.H.** and **Kate McHugh, Ph.D.** participated in a Gender Special Interest Group (GSIG) symposium on March 13, 2013 in Bethesda, MD discussing recently published and new analyses of CTN studies addressing gender-related research and their impact on clinical practice. Kate Mcugh discussed gender differences in prescription opioid dependence.


**PUBLICATIONS:**


**UPCOMING MEETINGS/CONFERENCES:**

