NCTN & ETCTN Transition News: What You Need to Know!

NCTN News
Information on the NCI National Clinical Trials Network (NCTN) transition is now available on the CTSU members’ website homepage by clicking on the link under “Transition News.” During the month of February, CTSU will post additional information to help sites ensure a smooth transition to the NCTN. Materials will include training PowerPoints and FAQs.

Institutions will experience service interruptions for multiple CTSU applications during the transition weekend beginning on February 28, 2014 until Monday, March 3, 2014 at 9:00 am ET. OPEN will not be available for patient enrollment from 3 PM ET on 2/28 until 9AM ET on 3/3. Please plan accordingly for patient enrollments.

In addition we would like to inform clinical site staff of the following changes planned for March 3, 2014:

I. OPEN & Rave Roles
- Persons with OPEN roles will retain their roles if their institution remains an active participant under the NCTN.
- Persons with Rave roles will retain their roles if their institution is an active participant under the NCTN, or their institution is following subjects under the Cooperative Group mechanisms.
- Access to protocol documents, Rave, and OPEN will be based upon the user having the appropriate role on either the Lead Protocol Organization (LPO) roster or a Participating Organization (PO) roster (e.g., Group 1 is the LPO & Group 2 is a PO then persons on either the Group 1 or Group 2 with appropriate roles will have access).

II. Crediting Rules & Network Participation
- After the transition, all new accruals to NCTN trials will be credited to the new NCTN Network Groups even if the studies are still identified under the Cooperative Group nomenclature (e.g. CALGB 140503).
- Phase 2 and 3 studies that are currently available to cross-group participation will remain available for network participation; in the new NCTN any Participating Organization can be credited with enrollments.
- In general, new phase 3, phase 2/3, and phase 2 studies under a CTEP IND will be available for cross-network participation.
III. Trial Funding Information

- The information displayed in the protocol funding folders on the CTSU website will be revised; under the NCTN, upfront follow-up payments will be included in the base intervention payments for treatment trials.

- Sites must use OPEN to document they have met requirements for additional reimbursement for correlative, QOL, and supplemental funds if available. An OPEN Funding Screen Instruction Sheet will be available on the OPEN Tab of the CTSU website and on the OPEN Portal.

For additional information on the NCTN, please refer to updated document Navigating the NCI National Clinical Trials Network (NCTN): Information for Participating Institutions/Sites

ETCTN News

A second NCI program will be launching at the same time as the NCTN. The Experimental Therapeutics Clinical Trials Network (ETCTN) is intended to be a consolidated, integrated network that will develop and conduct early phase cancer treatment trials. The ETCTN will comprise up to 10 member organizations (grant holders) dedicated to new agent developmental efforts with emphasis on early phase clinical trials. Along with the 10 new grantees, the current Phase 2 Consortia (P2C) members will be brought into the program to utilize many of the ETCTN centralized services. The ETCTN will be supported by CTEP as well as the CTSU, Theradex, and other organizations.

For more information on the ETCTN, keep an eye on the Transition News box on the CTSU members’ website homepage, where a link will be posted to ETCTN-specific information and resources within the next few weeks.