

RESEARCH REVIEW

APRIL 2011

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HEALTH RESEARCH FUNDING

The National Health Council just announced a new database that will allow non-governmental funding sources to view non-funded National Institutes of Health and National Health Council member proposals.

The site will allow PIs to enter basic information on their scored but unfunded NIH grant applications into the HealthResearchFunding.org database. Potential funders will be able to view projects they may be interested in funding.

To be eligible to include your proposal on HealthResearchFunding.org you must be the Principle Investigator listed on the grant application, the application must have been peer-

reviewed with a numerical impact score and the application must not be funding by NIH.

The grant application information will only be viewed by funding organizations that search by the topic area and keywords which are identified by the Principle Investigators. Investigators will only be able to view funding organization profiles and not other grant applications.

Once a proposal is entered into the database, the PI will be notified directly by the funding agency if there are any questions or interest in funding.

For more information please visit <http://healthresearchfunding.org/>



DID YOU KNOW:

- BRINM can run funding searches using key words from your medical specialty
- BRINM can aid Investigators in grant and budget preparation
- BRINM can assist Investigators in obtaining R&D, IRB and IACUC approvals.

GOOD CLINICAL PRACTICE: BEST PRACTICES FOR VHA CLINICAL RESEARCHERS

BRINM and CSPCRPCC will be teaming up to host a Good Clinical Practice training course. Upon completion of the training program, participants will be able to:

- Discuss the relevance of USGCP requirements to VHA Research
- Discuss the evolution of human rights protection
- Discuss the roles and responsibilities of the investigator, IRB, and study sponsor in conducting clinical research.
- Understand the IRB review and approval process
- Be familiar with the informed consent process
- Discuss the investigator's role in safety monitoring in studies
- Be familiar with drug and device accountability requirements

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ATHEROTHROMBOSIS INTERVENTION IN METABOLIC SYNDROME WITH LOW HDL/HIGH TRIGLYCERIDE AND IMPACT ON GLOBAL HEALTH OUTCOMES (AIM-HIGH)

The NM VA Health Care System is an active participant in the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) sponsored research study AIM-HIGH. This study, which began in the Fall of 2005, has enrolled approximately 3300 participants internationally. The study is no longer enrolling and is now in the follow-up phase which is expected to conclude the Fall of 2012.

AIM-HIGH is a multicenter, randomized, double-blind, parallel-group, controlled clinical trial designed to evaluate the treatment strategy of increasing low levels of HDL-cholesterol (HDL-C) and lowering elevated levels of triglycerides, in addition to lowering LDL cholesterol (LDL-C) in order to reduce the risk of heart attack, stroke and acute coronary syndrome.

Enrolled participants are at least 45 years old and at high risk of recurrent cardiovascular events by virtue of having

established cardiovascular disease together with the two dyslipidemic elements of metabolic syndrome: low HDL-C and high triglycerides.

AIM-HIGH is designed to test whether the drug combination of extended-release niacin plus simvastatin is superior to simvastatin alone, at comparable levels of on-treatment LDL-C, for delaying the time to a first major cardiovascular disease outcome.

The study is the first large study to measure the independent effect of treating HDL-C and triglycerides with a combination of extended-release niacin and simvastatin as compared to treatment with simvastatin alone in the prevention of heart disease.

Dr. Michelle Ratliff and Dr. Gerald Charlton are the Principal Investigators at this facility, and Robyn Elliott, BSN RN is the Research Nurse Coordinator. Recently,

Dr. Ratliff and Robyn Elliott were invited and participated in a panel discussion regarding their success in participant retention at this year's AIM-HIGH Annual Investigators Meeting.

The NMVAHCS is one of the top enrolling sites in this international study and has been recognized, on separate occasions, by the NHLBI for its accomplishments in both subject enrollment and subject retention.



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GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

BRINM is working to host a grant writing workshop that would be open to all interested investigators including postdoctoral researchers and interns.

The workshop would include the following:

- Accessible writing and terminology
- Presentations by investi-

gators with successful proposals

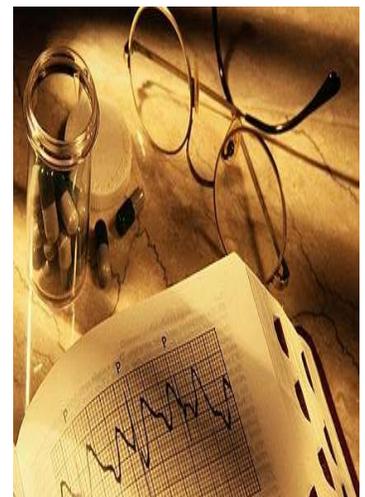
- Presentations by Program Officers
- Networking with Program Officers
- Review of successful and unsuccessful proposal
- Writing for the grant

reviewer: what they want to see

- Mock panel reviews

Investigators will learn that a successful proposal takes more than a great idea; it takes time and excellent writing skills.

More information and dates will be announced soon.



VA COOPERATIVE STUDIES PROGRAM CLINICAL RESEARCH PHARMACY COORDINATING CENTER BY ANNE DAVIS, PHARM.D.

The Cooperative Studies Program Pharmacy Coordinating Center (PCC) and BRINM have been partners for 17 years in an effort to improve the health of Veterans and all people.

The PCC, located three miles east of the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, supports multicenter clinical trials by handling the manufacture and distribution of investigational drugs and devices as

well as the regulatory and safety monitoring activities required in these studies. A recent Baldrige National Quality Award winner, PCC continues to strive for performance excellence in our mission to care for veterans.

A current study the PCC is conducting is to determine whether steroids (methylprednisolone in particular) can improve survival

rates in veterans with severe pneumonia.

As a quality organization, we are able to follow or adapt established procedures to ensure we are operating safely and taking care of the many details and complexities this 40-site study entails.



Branded with Quality

NIH UPDATES

- NIH has changed its Peer Review process by providing bulleted critiques and overall impact scores. Reviewers will also include a paragraph summarizing the factors that led to their overall score which will be included in the summary statements.

- NIH RePORT website has a new Funding Facts tool. This new tool allows people to run detailed reports for NIH-

funding related data. Search options include application success rates and budgets awarded.

- NIH Podcasts are great instruments for new investigators to learn how to navigate the submission process. Podcasts include information on Navigating a Funding Announcement and composing a Research Plan and Cover Letter.

- The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) has published four funded applications along with their summary statements for review. This is a great way to see different techniques used in submissions. To view the funded proposals please visit <http://funding.niaid.nih.gov/researchfunding/grant/pages/appsamples.aspx>

Visit http://grants.nih.gov/podcasts/All_About_Grants/AAG_Feed.xml to hear the new grant writing podcasts

INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

(Continued from page 1)

- Discuss essential documents and their management at clinic sites
- Discuss VHA and CSP's integrated GCP quality assurance program

Participants will also review VA regulations, guidelines and policies.

If you are interested in attended this training, please contact Alisha Saiz at Alisha@brinm.org or ext. 4311.



We are on the web!

www.brinnm.org

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P A R T N E R S I N R E S E A R C H

The Research Review is a collaboration between the New Mexico VA Research Office and the Biomedical Research Institute of New Mexico.

The newsletter serves to update investigators on research related topics, security measures and upcoming events on a quarterly basis.

If you are interested in writing an article on your current research for the newsletter, please contact Alisha Saiz at 260-1033 or ext. 4311.

C O N F E R E N C E S A N D C O U R S E S

April 11, Webinar: Latino Patient Recruiting: A Tailored Approach for Maximizing Enrollment. <http://www.acrpnet.org/Events.aspx>

April 27-29, NIH Regional Seminar on Program Funding Scottsdale, AZ. http://grants.nih.gov/grants/Arizona_2011/index.html

April 30-May 3, ACRP 2011 Global Conference and Exhibition. Seattle, WA. <http://www.acrp2011.com/acrp2011/public/enter.aspx>

April 27-28, Project Management, Seattle, WA. <http://www.acrpnet.org/Events.aspx>

April 28-29, 2011 Social, Behavioral & Educational Research Conference. Boston, MA. <http://www.primr.org/Conferences.aspx?id=9195>

May 4-5, FDA Clinical Trial Requirements, Regulations, Compliance and GCP Conference. http://www.socra.org/html/FDA_Conference.htm

May 22-25, MAGI Clinical Research Conference Philadelphia, PA. <http://www.magiworld.org/events/2011E/>

June 1, Webinar: Avoiding Common Mistakes in Clinical Research. <http://www.acrpnet.org/Events.aspx>

June 23-24, Fundamentals of Clinical Research. San Diego, CA. <http://www.acrpnet.org/Events.aspx>

