

Minutes

Hirschsprung Disease Research Collaborative (HDRC) Conference Call

June 23rd, 2015 3:00pm EST

(Attendees: Aravinda Chakravarti and Courtney Berrios, Johns Hopkins University; Ankush Gosain, University of Wisconsin, Rebecca Ragar and Erica Baimbridge, Phoenix Children's Hospital; James Dunn, UCLA; Jacob Langer, Hospital for Sick Children; Lindsay Stephens, Texas Children's Hospital; Phil Frykman, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center)

- I. Welcome – Aravinda Chakravarti welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.
- II. HDRC Update (see attached HDRC Membership table)
 - a. Membership – Courtney Berrios provided an update that three new international sites are preparing IRB applications or have them in process and have been added to the membership table; Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz with PIs Stephan Rohleder and Oliver Muensterer, Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne with PI Sebastian King, and Universitas Gadjah Mada in Indonesia with Dr. Gunadi as PI.
 - b. Samples – Ms. Berrios also reported that numerous sites have enrolled participants over the last quarter. This includes, 2 at All Children's Hospital, 5 at Texas Children's Hospital, 6 at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, 1 at Emory University, 4 at The Hospital for Sick Children, 1 at Johns Hopkins University, 5 at Nationwide Children's Hospital, 5 at Phoenix Children's Hospital, 8 at Primary Children's Hospital in Utah, and 1 at UCLA. This brings our total enrollment up to 236 affected individuals and 326 unaffected family members.
- III. Grant resubmission – Dr. Chakravarti discussed that the HDRC will resubmit a revised R01 grant application to the NIDDK for the July 5th due date. The primary writers of the grant are Aravinda Chakravarti, Raj Kapur, Phil Frykman, Cheryl Garipey and Courtney Berrios. Thank you to all HDRC members who submitted Letters of Support for the grant. The revision will address the primary criticisms of the initial submission that the proposal was not hypothesis driven, the findings would not alter HSCR management, that exome sequencing was not the best genetic analysis to pursue, that the HDRC could not meet recruitment targets, and that the proposal had significant overlap with Dr. Chakravarti's existing MERIT award. Ankush Gosain asked how the revision would address the inadequate expertise on the review panel for the initial submission. Dr. Chakravarti responded that we had discussed this with the Program Director who recommended that we request review by the Clinical, Integrative and Molecular Gastroenterology (CIMG) study section, which we will do in the cover letter.
- IV. HDRC database – Ms. Berrios discussed that we are looking at options for expanding the current HDRC database. The grant submission includes a request for funding of a REDCap database to collect both baseline and longitudinal data on outcomes. REDCap was initially chosen because of its electronic data entry capabilities, its availability at HDRC sites and management through the REDCap consortium. The Steering Committee is, however, open to other database options for the HDRC and is currently exploring potential options. It is

important that data entry be easy and support high quality data, possibly using tools to interact with Electronic Medical Record (EMR) systems, so the Steering Committee welcomes feedback about what would ease data entry for sites.

Jack Langer added that we need to determine what data we want to collect for longitudinal, prospective outcomes and determine how it can be collected most easily for busy HDRC sites.

Dr. Gosain suggested that we look to HDRC members who have bioinformatics experience and pointed out that the HDRC has a diversity of sites so it is important that the technology chosen not exclude any sites.

Dr. Chakravarti added that the HDRC will work with the APSA Hirschsprung disease interest group (see below) to determine what data to include, and will also look at database options and possible funding sources.

Ms. Berrios will be in contact with HDRC members to get feedback regarding functionalities that each site feels is important for easing data entry and to seek information about EMR systems in use.

V. Interest groups

- a. Surgery / APSA Hirschsprung Interest Group – Dr. Langer discussed that a Hirschsprung Disease Interest Group was recently approved by the APSA board. The HDRC Steering Committee wished to have various interest groups representing member interests. Dr. Langer in discussion with Allan Goldstein and Jason Frischer thought it would be helpful to also have APSA resources with the surgical interest group, so submitted a proposal to APSA for an interest group. Any APSA member can be a part of the interest group, whether or not they are in the HDRC. The interest group will work to help determine what data on surgical treatment and outcomes is important for the HDRC database and what database functionalities will be useful for members. Over time, the interest group also hopes to develop research questions to submit as proposals for projects using HDRC data.
- b. Microbiome and Enterocolitis – Dr. Gosain and Phil Frykman reported that the Microbiome and Enterocolitis group has been meeting and is currently working on a standardized definition of enterocolitis that can be used by the HDRC for studies and for which all data points will be available for collection at HDRC sites. In the future the group also hopes to collect microbiome specimens for inclusion in the HDRC biobank and use in studies.

VI. REACH meeting – Dr. Chakravarti reported that several HDRC members including himself, Jack Langer, Jason Frischer and Courtney Berrios attended an annual symposium on Hirschsprung disease held by the REACH (Research, Education and Awareness for Children with Hirschsprung Disease) organization, on which Allan Goldstein serves on the board. There were many helpful discussions about how the HDRC and REACH can interact in a positive way.

Dr. Langer added that the HDRC's relationship with REACH can be important as we develop our data collection instruments in including data to address research questions of interest to families.

- VII. Sharing of Contact Information – Ms. Berrios let the group know that she will be in contact with all HDRC members to request their preferences for potential sharing of their contact information with other HDRC members or those outside the HDRC with an interest in Hirschsprung disease. The list of HDRC member names is publicly available on the HDRC website and member tables, but we won't share members' contact information without their permission. Please respond when that email is received.

Thank you for joining the call!