



inforMED

School of Medicine at UAB

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UAB Clinical Research Open Forum

Wednesday, May 16, 2007
Spain Auditorium
3pm-5 pm

Class Of 2007 Match Results

- Number of graduates – 153
 - Percent matched – 97%
 - National avg. = 94%
 - Number of hospitals – 65
 - Number of states – 27
 - Remaining in AL – 43%
- Specialties Represented
- Primary care – 40%
 - Surgery – 23%

Welcome New Faculty

1/1/07-3/31/07

Full-time permanent status

Anesthesiology: Meredith Robbins

Emergency Medicine: Jason Begue

Psychiatry: Cheryl McCullumsmith, Rosalinda Roberts

Radiology: Hartwig Jander, Baljendra Kapoor, Laurel Zollars

Best Wishes And Farewell

Biochemistry: Yancho Devedjiev

Dermatology: Sarah Boyce, Julie Harper

Pathology: Audrey Lazenby

Pharmacology: Hany Ezzeldin

Pediatrics: John T. Boyle

Psychiatry: Charlie Swanson, Jr.

Surgery: Alan Hawxby

Fiscal Approval Process

In an effort to ensure compliance with research billing rules for clinical trial services, UAB adopted a Fiscal Approval Process (FAP), implemented as a result of the January 2005 Clinical Trials Policy and Oversight Committee (POC) report that called for centralized review of standardized study budgets and development of consistent code and price lists. The Office of Human Research (OHR) is responsible for implementation of FAP.

Even though UAB Office of Human Research (OHR) is incorporated into the School of Medicine, it is also a centralized resource that serves the entire clinical research community at UAB. One of the functions of OHR is to serve as a liaison between investigators and UAB entities involved in human research compliance and billing. The purpose of FAP is to perform adequate and expeditious prospective review of clinical trial services and associated reimbursement rules to maintain proper billing of clinical trial services by UAB Health System providers.

A potential new clinical trial project, whether funded by industry, a grant, or intramurally, needs careful consideration from multiple perspectives. Financial and resource utilization review is an important part of any potential project to evaluate the impact this project will have on the research team and the program as a whole. Final study budgets are the result of negotiations of the Clinical Trials Agreement, carried out by the Office of Grants and Contracts Administration and the study sponsors, on behalf of the investigators.

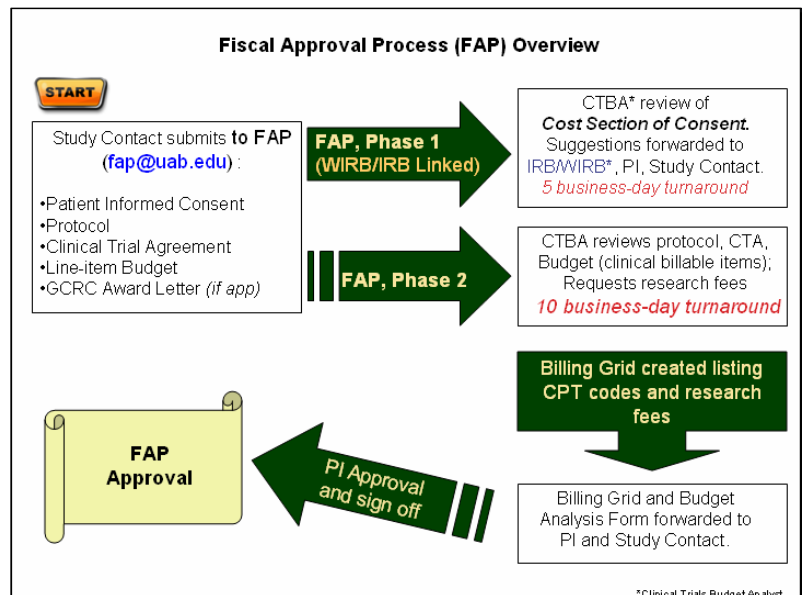
It is essential that everyone involved in clinical trials work as a team to ensure that clinical services associated with a research study are billed appropriately, and in compliance with relevant laws and regulations. Research related billing must be

coded and charged based on actual services rendered; must be allowable by regulations governing medical billing practices; and must be consistent with the informed consent signed by the research subject.

The Fiscal Approval Process allows for the centralized

review and coordination of information contained in the: (1) clinical trial agreement and/or grant application or award, (2) informed consent document, (3) research protocol and (4) departmental per patient budget. FAP assists the investigator and coordinator by providing:

- 1) Research fees for all study-required clinical activities billed through the UAB Health system (one-stop-shop)



Faculty Serving on NIH Advisory Councils

Eli Capilouto – NIDCR
Charles Elson – NIDDK
Douglas Heimburger – FIC
Michael Saag – Office of AIDS Research

UAB Faculty Serving on NIH Study Sections

Donna Arnett
Scott Barnum
S. Louis Bridges
William Britt
Donald Buchsbaum
Steven Carroll
John Chatham
Xinbin Chen
Stuart Frank
Barbara Gower
John Hablitz
Pauline Jolly
Louis Justement
Duck-Hee Kang
Catarina Kiefe
Kevin Kirk
Christopher Klug
Jeannette Lee
Lori McMahon
Richard Morrison
Louis Nabors
Cynthia Owsley
Sharina Person
Edward Postlethwait
Paul Sanders
Jane Schwebke
Rosa Serra
Denise Shaw
Phillip Smith
Harald Sontheimer
Donald Twieg
Michael Weaver
Danny Welch
Ann Woods

Alpha Omega Alpha, Reynolds Historical Collections Art Competition Winners

1st place: **Richard Shepard**, *"Man Post Nuclear-Bomb Exchange"* (Print of original watercolor on cardboard)

2nd place: **Helen Kim**, *Untitled* (Pine Needle-Raffia Basket)

3rd place: **Lisa Oestreich**, *"Blue Raft"* (Photography)

2) Review of the cost section of the informed consent document with feedback to IRB

3) A billing grid (excel spreadsheet) which includes CPT codes, research fees, and delineation of clinical billable protocol-required services to be billed to sponsor or insurance.

All departments performing clinical research on the UAB campus will be expected to submit their study information to OHR for fiscal approval. The planned Pilot Phase of FAP is now completed and the process is scheduled to be implemented campus wide by the end of the calendar year.

The ultimate goal for FAP is to help UAB clinical researchers create a financial plan that delivers the right bill for the right amount to the right payer at the right time. FAP is one part of a larger process at UAB to ensure that the clinical research conducted here will be legal, ethical and financially sound.

OHR is also charged with implementing the SiteMinder clinical trials management system. Once a study completes the fiscal approval process, it will be eligible to benefit from state of the art clinical trials management functions provided by the SiteMinder system, which will enhance the capability for investigators to administer, track, report and financially manage clinical research projects.

The OHR Philosophy:

- Efficient fiscal review is a shared responsibility among OHR, investigator and research staff
- Good communication is crucial; this can pave the way to smooth fiscal review and approval and promptly identify potential areas that need special attention
- Each investigator and group joining the FAP is treated as a long-term relationship.

It is anticipated that the additional investment in the clinical research infrastructure represented by these projects will allow clinical trials research to flourish at UAB for the foreseeable future.

Kudos

Janet Johnston, assistant professor of pediatrics and nursing faculty for the UAB Pediatric Pulmonary Center, located at Children's Hospital, is the first national recipient of the Preceptor Award from the Association of Faculties of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (AFPNP), whose annual meeting is held concurrently with the annual National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP) conference. Mrs. Johnston was nominated by her peers and selected from among all nominees nationwide by a panel of expert educators.

Isabel Scarinci received the 2007 Odessa Woolfolk Community Service Award during the Faculty Award Convocation on April 23rd, as well as **Robert Cerfolio** and **Louis Justement**, recipients of the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Ona Faye Petersen received the Outstanding Woman UAB Faculty Member Award for her many contributions including the Women in Pathology support group, which is designed to support the development of women faculty and trainees. She is also responsible for spearheading the Suits 4 Success Program, a clothing drive organized by the UAB Commission on the Status of Women.

Bruce Korf has been named President-Elect of the American College of Medical Genetics and will assume the presidency in 2009. **Charles Elson** has been appointed to a four-year term of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) Advisory Council. As you can see from the list on the left, UAB is well-represented on a number of NIH advisory councils and study sections.

James Meador-Woodruff is recipient of the American Psychiatric Institute for Education and Research (APIRE)/Kempf Fund Award. This award serves as the American Psychiatric Association's research mentor of the year award. Jim's model protégée, **Robert McCullumsmith**, also received \$20,000 of unrestricted funds in addition to Jim.

Third year MD/PhD student, **Kevin Nash**, recently attended the 48th National Student Research Forum in Galveston, Texas and received a number of outstanding research awards including the American Medical Association Foundation Award for Overall Excellence of Research (the highest honor awarded), the Edward S. Reynolds Memorial Award and the UTMB Cancer Center Award in Oncology Research.

Congratulations to you all!