



The AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) Network is the largest HIV/AIDS clinical trials organization in the world. We currently have 34 domestic & 25 international sites.



World AIDS Day Media Coverage

Boston, MA - WCVB TV, Channel 5

Daniel Kuritzkes, MD, ACTG Network Chair and Co-Principle Investigator and Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases, Brigham and Women's Hospital was interviewed by the local ABC affiliate and shared the latest updates in HIV research. Additionally, ACTG Network study participant, Ed Perlmutter shared his thoughts on why he chooses to advocate/participate in clinical trials.

To watch this news piece, [click here](#).

Providence, RI - WPRI TV, Channel 12

Karen Tashima, MD, Clinical Research Site Leader, Miriam Hospital Clinical Research Site, was interviewed by the local ABC affiliate regarding HIV testing and treatment options as well as the potential impact of a recent high profile HIV disclosure. In

addition, she addresses the need for an HIV cure. To watch this news piece, [click here](#).

Atlanta, GA - WABE, National Public Radio

Carlos del Rio, MD, Co-Principle Investigator, Emory University Clinical Research Site, spoke with the local NPR station addressing the influx of HIV diagnoses in the greater Atlanta area and how stigma continues to be one the leading barriers when it comes to HIV testing and treatment. To listen to this interview, [click here](#).

To watch a World AIDS Day video message from ACTG Network leadership, [click here](#).

HAILO Connection Newsletter

Latest Edition of Protocol A5322/HAILO Study Participant Newsletter Now Available

The A5322/HAILO protocol team is happy to make available the first full issue of the A5322/ HAILO newsletter, The HAILO Connection. This issue has some preliminary results about the study participants, including some statistics on frailty and activities of daily living. HAILO (HIV Infection, Aging, and Immune Function Long-term Observational Study) is dedicated to the investigation of factors that influence healthy aging among older HIV-infected adults, including inflammation and immune activation. The HAILO results are a compilation of data gathered from HAILO participants who give generously of their time at study visits conducted twice yearly. To read the first full issue of The HAILO Connection, [click here](#).

A5332/REPRIEVE Meets First NIH Milestone



Protocol A5332/REPRIEVE Enrolls Nearly 650 Study Participants and Issues New Informational Video

The REPRIEVE protocol team is pleased to announce that they have achieved their first NIH milestone. As of last month, REPRIEVE had enrolled 644 study participants in just over seven months. In addition, there are currently 70 sites activated and enrolling and they expect another 43 sites to be activated in the near future. To assist in recruitment efforts, REPRIEVE has revamped their website www.reprievetrial.org and released a new animated informational video to help potential study participants better understand the goals of the study. REPRIEVE, a Randomized Trial to Prevent Vascular Events in HIV, will test whether a daily dose of a statin will reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease among people living with HIV. In order to achieve the goal of 6,500 study participants, the REPRIEVE protocol team asks all sites open for enrollment to enroll at least one participant per week so that the trial continues to

achieve its enrollment targets. To watch the newly released REPRIEVE animated informational video, [click here](#).

ACTG Network Spotlight

Director of Data Management Center Reflects on Nearly Two Decades of Research

Meet Marlene Cooper

Marlene Cooper, MS, has been involved in clinical trials data management and related research for 19 years. She started her work in the field of HIV/AIDS in 1996 as a Project Coordinator for the Ryan White Care Act HIV Needs Assessment for Northeast Ohio while working on her Masters degree in Epidemiology at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH. Working in the community, she became interested in the relationship between perceived susceptibility and risk behaviors as well as the need for programs to target underserved populations. Her initial introduction to clinical trials was as a Research Assistant at the Tuberculosis Research Unit at Case Western. However, it was when she relocated back to New York State, where she is originally from, that Marlene began her career at Frontier Science and Technology Research Foundation (FSTRF) focusing exclusively on clinical trials data. Fast forward nearly twenty years to last December when Marlene was promoted to the position of Director of the ACTG Network Data Management Center at FSTRF.



Marlene Cooper

[Read more>>](#)

This Month in HIV/AIDS History

December 1981: By the end of the year there is a cumulative total of 270 reported cases of severe immune deficiency among gay men, and 121 of those individuals have died.

December 1988: First World AIDS Day recognized.

December 1993: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention expand the case definition of AIDS, declaring those with CD4 counts below 200 to have AIDS.

December 1994: U.S. Food and Drug Administration approves an oral HIV test, the first non-blood-based antibody test for HIV.

Source: AIDS.gov



Thank you for taking the time to read the ACTG Network's Monthly Newsletter. If you would like to be a guest blogger, have your clinical trial site highlighted or would like to nominate a colleague for the Spotlight, please [click here](#). We welcome your feedback.

Sincerely,

Patrick Bayhille

Senior Research Communications Specialist

AIDS Clinical Trials Group Network

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