



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.



JAMA Highlights History of ACTG Network

Journal of the American Medical Association Reflects on Challenges and Obstacles Overcome by the ACTG Network

JAMA The Journal of the American Medical Association

The December 2015 edition of the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) featured a thoughtful article by author Rita Rubin titled *Collaboration and Conflict: Looking Back at the 30-Year History of the AIDS Clinical Trials Group*. Featured prominently in the article is Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), who reflects fondly on the early days of the ACTG Network. It was clear at the onset of the AIDS crisis in the early 1980's it was going to be essential to create a network of clinical trial units to pool data and quickly find answers.

To read this informative article and review a historical timeline of the ACTG Network over the past 30 years, [click here](#).

To view a video message from Dr. Anthony Fauci to the ACTG Network, [click here](#).

ACTG Network Clinical Trial Update

TBTC Study 31/ACTG A5349: Rifapentine-containing Treatment Shortening Regimens

for Pulmonary Tuberculosis

Although the United States has falling rates of tuberculosis (TB), which can be attributed to strong public health programs that is not the case in many other parts of the world. For example, countries such as South Africa, Zimbabwe and Kenya experience TB rates of up to 300-times greater than the United States. These alarmingly high rates of active TB disease result in almost one-third of all HIV/AIDS-related deaths. Currently, treatment for TB takes at least six months and it is not uncommon for patients to stop therapy once they feel better prior to completing the treatment course. This increases the risk of relapse and/or development of resistance to available TB drug regimens. It is clear, that by expediting TB treatments, enormous benefits will be reaped by not only patients, but also health care systems. With that in mind, the ACTG Network has partnered with the Tuberculosis Trials Consortium (TBTC) to launch the latest treatment shortening regimen study, TBTC Study 31/ACTG A5349: Rifapentine-containing Treatment Shortening Regimens for Pulmonary Tuberculosis: A randomized, open-label, controlled, phase 3 clinical trial. [Read more>>](#)

@REPRIEVE Trial Utilizes Social Media to Assist in Recruitment Efforts



SAVE THE DATE: Join the REPRIEVE Twitter Chat on February 17th at 1pm EST

Since the launch of REPRIEVE, a Randomized Trial to Prevent Vascular Events in HIV, the protocol team has worked diligently to meet enrollment milestones. One way they are doing this is by utilizing social media combined with traditional enrollment tactics and strategies. On Wednesday, February 17th at 1pm EST, the REPRIEVE team will host their first ever Twitter chat. A Twitter chat is where a group of Twitter users meet online to discuss a certain topic, using a designated hashtag (#) for each tweet contributed. A host or moderator poses questions to prompt responses from participants and encourage interaction among the group. If you would like to create a Twitter account so you can participate in the REPRIEVE Twitter chat, [click here](#).

If you are unable to participate in the Twitter chat on February 17th, be sure to visit the [REPRIEVE website](#), [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter feed](#) for a complete summary of the event.

ACTG Network Scientific Subcommittees Merge

Outreach Recruitment and Retention Joins Protocol Development and Implementation Subcommittee

In late 2015, the structure of the ACTG Network Scientific Subcommittees was re-evaluated and it was agreed that the Outreach Recruitment and Retention (OR&R) Subcommittee would be more beneficial if they worked in conjunction with Field Representatives and the Community Advisory Board (CAB). The merger of the OR&R with the new Protocol Development and Implementation Subcommittee (PDISC) will help to better support protocol development and implementation activities across the Network. The OR&R will continue to have a working group focusing on specific Network outreach activities as well as supporting the needs of the PDISC and Site Operations Subcommittees. [Read more>>](#)

This Month in HIV/AIDS History

January 1982: First American AIDS clinic is established in San Francisco.

January 1983: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports cases of AIDS in female sexual partners of males with AIDS.

January 2003: President George W. Bush announces the creation of the President's Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) in his State of the Union address.

January 2010: U.S. Government officially lifts the HIV travel and immigration ban.

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,

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AIDS Clinical Trials Group Network

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