



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.



An Update from the ACTG Network Data Management Center

The ACTG Network Data Management Center (DMC) is located at Frontier Science Technology and Research Foundation (FSTRF) in Amherst, NY. Since 1990, the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health has partnered with FSTRF to serve as the Statistical and Data Management Center (SDMC) for the ACTG Network. FSTRF provides data management services and expertise, computing and communications support, and manages the ACTG Network Central Database.

New Public Website Launches

The publicly facing website for FSTRF, www.frontierscience.org, was recently updated with several new features highlighting the services provided by the organization. The updated website introduces FSTRF, including background, capabilities, and extensive descriptions of the collaborative services offered. New Leadership is prominently featured and a "news" section has been added so visitors can read articles of interest in various research areas in which FSTRF is involved. To review the new and improved website, click [here](#).

New FSTRF President Assumes Role



Dr. Michael
Bretthauer

Dr. Michael Bretthauer has been appointed as the new FSTRF President following the retirement of Dr. Greg Pavlov after 42 years of service. Dr. Bretthauer brings over two decades of experience in leadership, clinical work, research, and medical publications to the role. He is credited with over 170 publications and has a strong interest in promoting quality scientific information dissemination. In addition, Dr. Bretthauer holds several editorial positions with prominent medical publications including the *Annals of Internal Medicine* and the *New England Journal of Medicine*. To learn more about Dr. Bretthauer, click [here](#).

FSTRF Staff Share Impressive Milestones with ACTG Network



Marlene Cooper



Kris Coughlin



Sue Siminski

Marlene Cooper celebrates 20 years working with the ACTG Network. Marlene has been the DMC Principal Investigator for the ACTG Network since 2015. She directs the Data Management Center in collaboration with SDMC Principal Investigator Michael Hughes, PhD.

Kris Coughlin celebrates 28 years working with the ACTG Network. Kris has been Chief Data Manager at FSTRF since 1998. She has been instrumental as a member of various ACTG Network committees over her tenure and manages the DMC Protocol Data Managers.

Sue Siminski celebrates 25 years working with the ACTG Network. Sue has been the Director of FSTRF since 2015 and supports the DMC staff with its various Leadership groups and collaborations.

CROI 2018 is March 4-7 in Boston, MA

ACTG Network Prominently Featured at CROI 2018

The annual Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI) brings together top basic, translational, and clinical researchers from around the world to share the latest studies, important developments, and best research methods in the ongoing battle



against HIV/AIDS and related infectious diseases. CROI is a global model of collaborative science and the premier international venue for bridging basic and clinical investigation to clinical practice in the field of HIV and related viruses.

The ACTG Network is pleased to announce it will be prominently featured at CROI 2018 with an impressive 11 oral presentations and 18 poster presentations.

To review the current CROI 2018 preliminary agenda, click [here](#).

ACTG Network Scientific Retreat Follows CROI

Scientific Retreat Serves to Assess Overall ACTG Network Research Agenda

The 2018 Annual ACTG Network Scientific Retreat will be held Thursday, March 8 at the Sheraton Boston Hotel, Boston, MA. The Scientific Retreat will immediately follow CROI 2018 and participation is by invitation only. The broad purpose of the Scientific Retreat is to assess and review the overall ACTG Network research agenda considering data presented at recent conferences, including CROI. The Retreat will be comprised of scientific committee sessions throughout the day, as well as a closed session of the Clinical Trials Unit Principal Investigators, Clinical Research Site Leaders, and Specialty Laboratory Directors. For those invited to attend, please note that the deadline for hotel reservations and Scientific Retreat registration is Tuesday, February 6.

REPRIEVE On Track to Hit Enrollment Goals

**Over 5,550 Participants Currently Enrolled in
REPRIEVE**



In its third year since launching, the REPRIEVE Trial currently has over 5,500 study participants enrolled and is in the midst of its latest recruitment challenge. The goal of the "Full Speed to 1500" challenge is for each site to enroll at least 15 participants so by May 1, 2018. The challenge started on December 4, 2017 and ends April 30, 2018. "Full Speed to 1500" has been well received and many sites are currently on track to win some exciting prizes. The REPRIEVE team is also pleased to welcome new sites in Haiti, Peru, India, and Uganda, which have recently starting enrolling study participants.

"We are so thrilled that REPRIEVE has enrolled over 5,500 study participants and we are extremely grateful for the huge effort by so many people all over the world to help us reach our lofty enrollment goals. With so much enthusiasm for our latest challenge and with the opening of several new international sites, we are definitely looking forward to enrolling 1,500 more study participants within the next few months," said Dr. Steven Grinspoon, REPRIEVE Principal Investigator, Massachusetts General Hospital Clinical Research Site.

This Moment in HIV/AIDS History



photo credit: Therese Frare

November 1990: LIFE Magazine Publishes Iconic Photo of David Kirby and Family

In November 1990, LIFE magazine published a photograph of a young man named David Kirby who had AIDS surrounded by his family in hospice care. Taken by a journalism student at Ohio University named Therese Frare, the picture quickly

became the one photograph most powerfully identified with the HIV/AIDS epidemic at the time. It humanized AIDS at a time when it was ravaging victims largely out of public view. Over the past nearly three decades, by some estimates, as many as one billion people have seen the now-iconic Frare photograph that appeared in LIFE.

David Kirby was born and raised in a small town in Ohio. Due to his participation in gay activism in the 1980s, he was living in California and estranged from his family. In the late 1980s he learned that he had HIV and called his parents to ask if he could come home. He wanted, he said, to die with his family around him. The Kirbys welcomed their son back with open arms. David Kirby passed away in April 1990, at the age of 32, not long after Frare began shooting photos at the hospice.

To learn more about this iconic photo and its impact on HIV/AIDS, click [here](#).



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 research 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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