



DATA COORDINATING CENTER

The Central Data Management and Coordinating Center (CDMCC) has officially changed its name to Data Coordinating Center (DCC). Mike Dean, the Principal Investigator, and Sally Jo Zuspan, RN, MSN, the Program Director, lead the DCC in its responsibilities to implement PECARN-wide standards for data collection. Our goal is to ensure uniformity and quality of the data, and monitor the safety and timely progress of PECARN studies. The DCC includes four Project Managers, Heather Gramse, Marci Fjelstad, Hai Le and Marie Kay. Each one is the main point of contact for PECARN sites and is assigned to manage studies for the study investigator team. The DCC works with many statisticians and data managers who all contribute to PECARN studies.



MARIE T. KAY, BA, CCRC, recently joined the CDMCC as a Project Manager. In 2004, she earned her degree in Psychology and Anthropology from UW Madison where her research career began. She spent an exciting 3 years researching primates in both the lab and the rainforest eventually paving her way into human research. For the past 4 years, she has coordinated clinical trials in numerous therapeutic areas from pediatrics to geriatrics. For fun, she loves to rock climb, ski, and spend time with her family and friends. Marie is delighted to join the PECARN team.

GLEMSCRN Node



KATIE MARHEFKA joined the staff at Nationwide Children's Hospital in May, 2011. She graduated with a BS in Biological Sciences from Ohio University and an MPH from The Ohio State University. Katie grew up in Columbus, Ohio and enjoys cheering on the Buckeyes. She enjoys spending time with her family, friends and her black lab Tobi.



SUSAN GAILEY joined the staff of Nationwide Children's Hospital Emergency Medicine in January 2011. She has been a Research Coordinator for five years and recently obtained her CCRC certification. She is originally from Cleveland and graduated from the Ohio State University. She enjoys traveling, white water rafting, and camping.



RAHSHELL STEPHENS is a new Research Coordinator at the University of Michigan Hospital. She obtained her M.S. in Clinical Research Administration from Eastern Michigan University. Rahshell enjoys traveling, and spending time with her poodle Basil. She is excited to be a part of PECARN, and looks forward to learning with such a great team.

HOMERUN Node



RICHARD RUDDY, MD, is the new Nodal Principal Investigator for the HOMERUN node. His clinical research focus is respiratory illness and improvement science / knowledge translation in EMSC. He is director of the Division of Emergency Medicine at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.



MELANIE HOUNCHELL, BA, CCRC, is the new Nodal Administrator for the HOMERUN node. Ms. Houchell has served as the Clinical Research Manager for the Division of EM since 2005. She has 13 years of experience in Clinical Research and has been ACRP certified since 2002. She coordinated over forty multi-center clinical trials. Ms. Houchell has been active in the PECARN network since 2005, having overseen 8 PECARN studies. Ms. Houchell was a member of the Feasibility and Budget Subcommittee from 2007-2009.



PRIME Node



Britta Ameel, MFA, began as a student in the Academic Associate Program and shifted from temporary research assistant work to full-time clinical research coordinator as of this past June. She coordinates DKA, Seizure, and Progesterone studies and is currently applying to medical school for fall of 2012. She's married and has a MFA in creative writing from the University of Michigan. She's a poet and non-fiction writer and

PRIDENET Node



ROBERT HICKEY, MD, FAAP, FAHA, is the Principal Investigator for the PRIDENET node. He is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Pittsburgh and serves on numerous committees within the American Heart Association including work related to the development of the PALS curriculum.



THOMAS H. CHUN, M.D., M.P.H., FAAP, is the Principal Investigator of the Rhode Island HEDA Site and an Associate Professor in the Departments of Emergency Medicine and Pediatrics at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and a member of their Committee on Pediatric Emergency Medicine.



JONATHAN BENNETT, MD, is the Principal investigator for the A.I. duPont Hospital for Children HEDA site in Delaware. He is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Jefferson Medical College.

Good Clinical Practice Tip

Q: What is "protected health information", or "PHI"?

A: Health information is defined as any information, whether oral or recorded in any form or medium, that is created or received by a health care provider, health plan, public health authority, employer, life insurer, school or university, or health care clearinghouse; and relates to the past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual. Health information is individually identifiable, and thus is considered to be PHI if there is any reasonable basis to believe that the information can be used to identify an individual.

Source: *Good Clinical Practice: A Question & Answer Reference Guide May 2006*

Submitted by **Hai Le, BS**
PECARN Project Manager

CONGRATULATIONS!

The **PRIME** node would like to congratulate our nodal PI, Dr. Nathan Kuppermann, on his receipt of the 2011 ACEP Award for Outstanding Contribution in Research. This award is given to one person each year. We are also proud to announce that both UC Davis (Drs. Kuppermann and Holmes, PIs) and U Penn (in collaboration with CHOP) are recipients of the K12 Research Career Development awards in Emergency Medicine. Finally, we offer our congratulations to Libby Alpern, who received funding from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality for her PECARN Registry project.



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PECARN Newsletter online at:

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