



UPSTATE CAROLINA

Connector

December 2019

Upcoming Events

**NRG**  
ONCOLOGY

Winter Meeting  
Houston, TX  
January 9-11

AnMed Health Research Team



*Pictured left to right: Penny Argo, Rhonda Ballew, Stephanie Fielding, and Cindy Haguewood*

AnMed's Oncology Research Department began in 1996 with SRHS and the Upstate Carolina CCOP. Now, twenty years later, they are once again in affiliation with SRHS through the Upstate Carolina NCORP. AnMed offers a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary approach to cancer treatment which has improved patient care by requiring consultations among surgeons, oncologists, radiologists, pathologists, and other specialists. They have had success in Cancer Control, Prevention, and Symptom Management studies.

In addition to their research, AnMed is able to offer various treatment options to their patients including radiation therapy, chemotherapy, rehabilitation, integrative medicine, and a lymphedema center. In 2017, they were awarded the Three-Year Accreditation with Commendation by the Commission of Cancer. In order to earn this accreditation a program must "maintain levels of excellence in the delivery of comprehensive patient-centered care".

Their staff is comprised of a manager, Rhonda Ballew, and three research nurses, Cindy Haguewood, Stephanie Fielding, and Penny Argo. Cindy is the CCOR Lead and guides Cancer Control efforts. Stephanie is a breast specialist and Penny meets with most GYN oncology patients. AnMed is staffed by four medical oncologists, one GYN oncologist, and two radiation oncologists. Three nurse practitioners and a physician's assistant

Issue Highlights

- AnMed's Research Team
- Accruals & Biospecimens-Special Events
- Wake Forest meeting recap



- **CCDR Connections**

- **Members in the Media**



work in the medical oncology practice and one nurse practitioner works in the GYN oncology practice.

AnMed currently has approximately 30 studies open and have several more in review. They were an integral part of the successful application that led to a National Cancer Institute NCORP grant. We are thrilled to have AnMed as a part of our Upstate Carolina NCORP!

## Alliance Meeting Recap

Arctic cold weather in Chicago did not deter a contingency of Upstate Carolina NCORP-ians from attending the Fall Alliance Meeting. Upstate Carolina was well represented and its members serve on many of the Alliance committees helping to make a positive impact in the world of research.

As part of the meeting, Alliance announced the following staff changes:

- Barbara Barrett, MS, Director of Quality Assurance and Audit Program is retiring at the end of the year and will be replaced by a new QA Co-Director, Kurombi Wade-Oliver.
- New CPOP PI/Director - Olwen Hahn, MD
- New Translational Research Program Coordinator - Breanna Bertacchi

Dr. Humeniuk reports that he looks forward to opening A031701: Phase II study of dose dense gemcitabine plus cisplatin (ddGC) in patient with muscle-invasive bladder preservation for those patients whose tumors harbor deleterious DNA damage response (DDR) gene alterations.

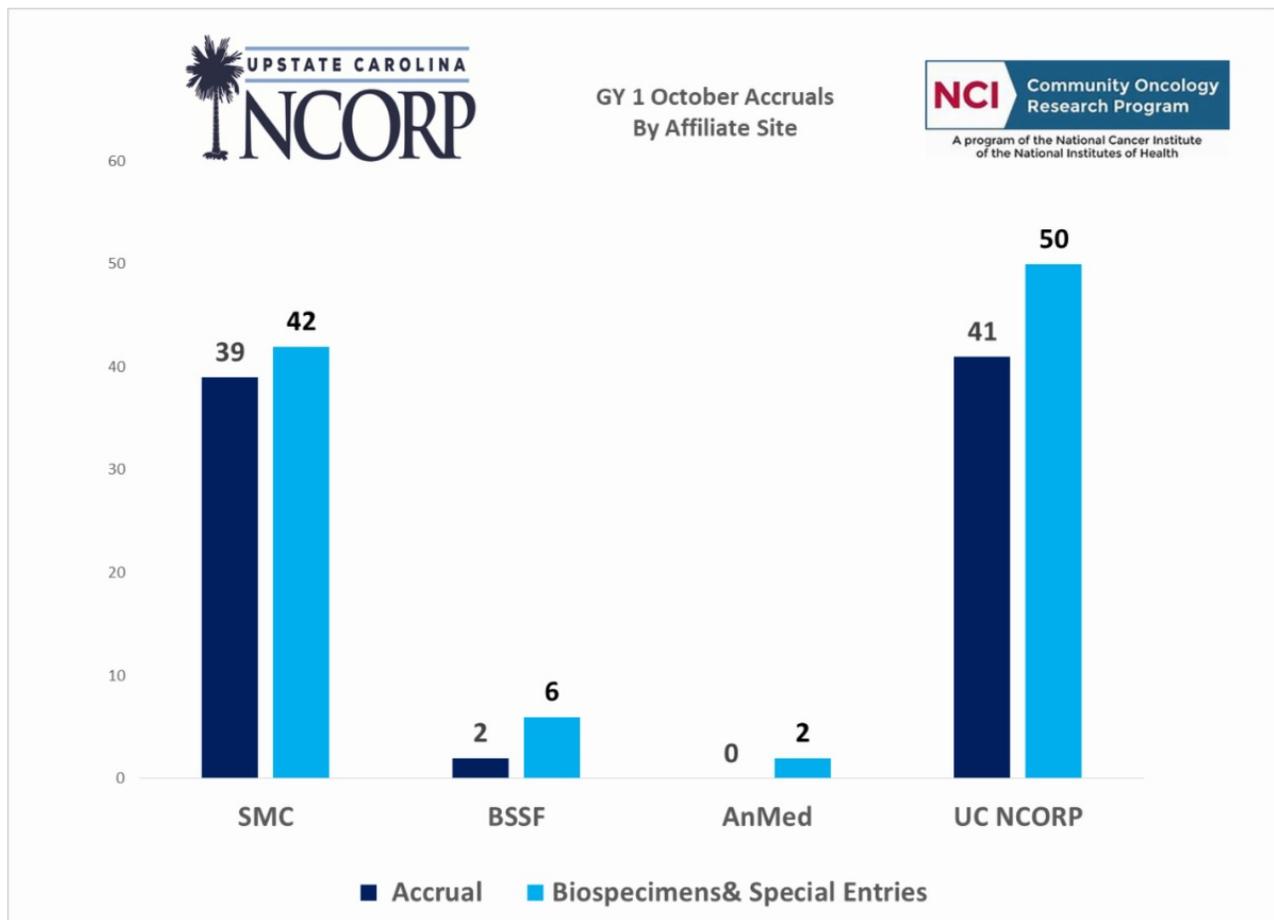
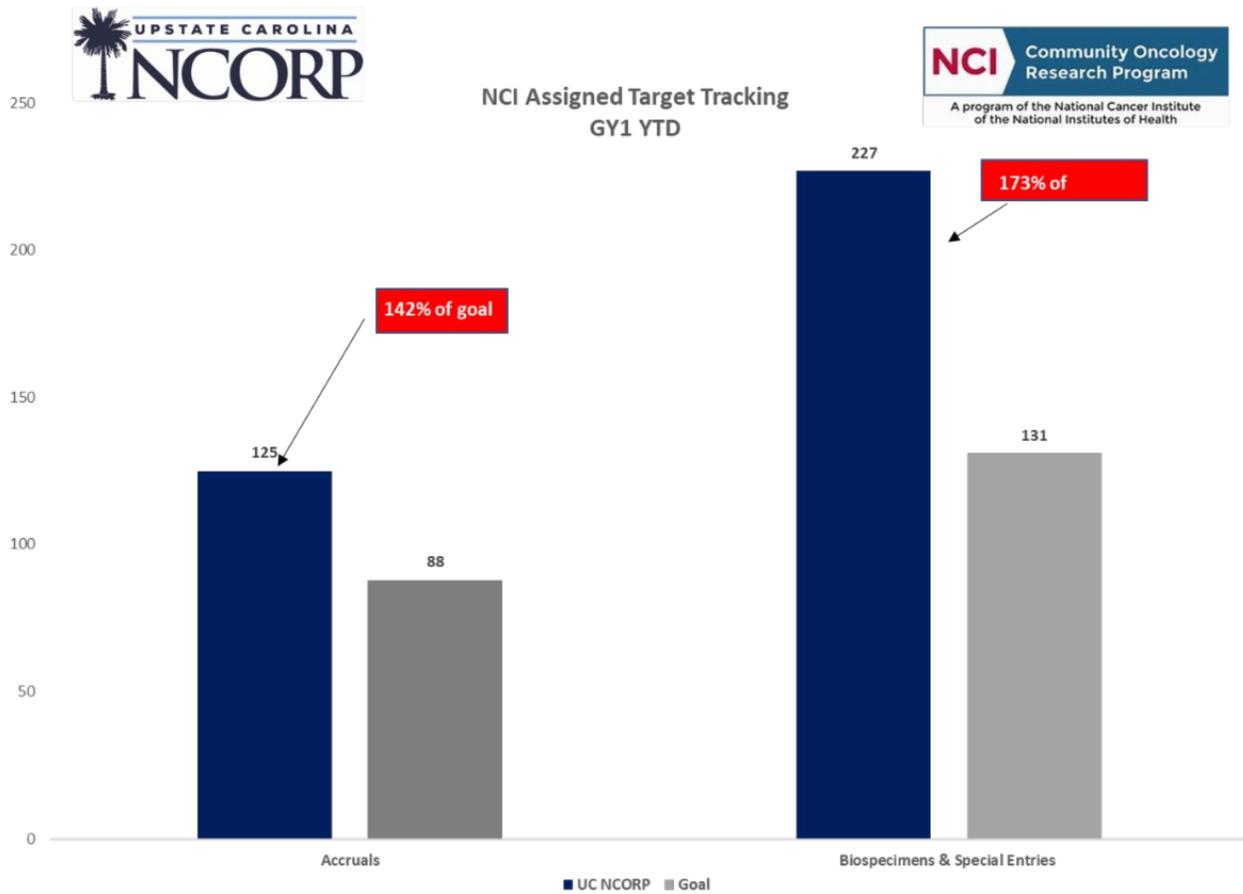
## Wake Forest Meeting Recap



NCORP Administrator, Kamara Mertz-Rivera, and NCORP CCDR Coordinator, Lucy Gansauer, participated in a discussion panel aimed at increasing diversity participation in NCORP trials

Thanks to the Upstate Carolina NCORP team for *representing* at the annual Wake Forest meeting! A large group from BSSF and SMC attended the Annual Meeting, learning about protocols and networking with other research professionals. Special thanks to Dr. Crosswell, Dr. Siegel, Dr. Curtis and Dr. Bearden for taking time away from their busy practices to attend. Presenters and PI's from Wake Forest discussed selected findings from NCORP studies, presented information about currently accruing and soon-to-open protocols, and explained concepts in development.

# Accruals & Biospecimens-Special Events



# Under-Represented Populations

All Accruals	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Goal	Status
<b>Under-Represented Populations</b>					
AYA (15-39 yrs)	0	0	2	6%	1.6%
Older Adults (>65 yrs)	16	15	15	16.1%	36.5%
African American	7	15	10	17.6%	25.4%
Other Minorities	1	0	0	3%	0.8%
Hispanic	0	0	1	6.2%	0.8%
Rural	9	1	4	35%	11.1%

## CCDR Corner

OPEN CCDR PROTOCOLS	
<b>Alliance</b>	<a href="#">A231602CD</a> : Assessing Financial Difficulty in Blood Cancer
<b>Alliance</b>	<a href="#">A231601CD</a> : Improving Surgical Care & Outcomes in Older Cancer Patients Through Implementation of an Efficient Pre-Surgical Toolkit (OPTI-Surg)
<b>COG</b>	<a href="#">ACCL16N1CD</a> : Documentation and Delivery of Guideline-Consistent Treatment in Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) (BSSF and SMC)
<b>ECOG-ACRIN</b>	<a href="#">EAQ161CD</a> : Biomarker Testing in Common Solid Cancers: An Assessment of Current Practices in Precision Oncology in the Community Setting (AnMed, BSSF, and SMC)
<b>ECOG-ACRIN</b>	<a href="#">EAQ162CD</a> : Longitudinal Assessment of Financial Burden in Patients with Colon or Rectal Cancer Treated with Curative Intent (AnMed, BSSF, and SMC)
<b>ECOG-ACRIN</b>	<a href="#">EAQ171CD</a> : Implementing a Virtual Tobacco Treatment in Community Oncology Practices: Smoke Free Support Study 2.0
<b>NRG</b>	<a href="#">NRG-CC007CD</a> : Increasing the Dose Survivorship Care Planning in Prostate Cancer Survivors Who Receive Androgen Deprivation Therapy (AnMed)
<b>Wake Forest</b>	<a href="#">WF 1803</a> : Supportive Care Services for Cancer Caregivers in Community Oncology Practices (Caregivers) (AnMed, BSSF, and SMC)
<b>Wake Forest</b>	<a href="#">WF 1804</a> : Assessing Effectiveness and Implementation of an HER Tool to Assess Heart Health Among Survivors (AH-HA)
<b>Wake Forest</b>	<a href="#">WF 30917CD</a> : A Stepped Care Telehealth Approach to Treat Distress in Rural Cancer Survivors (SMC)
<b>URCC</b>	<a href="#">URCC 18004CD</a> : Understanding the Impact of Drug Shortages on Oncology Care Delivery (SMC-pilot phase)
<b>URCC</b>	<a href="#">URCC18110CD</a> : Implementing Palliative Care: Learning Collaborative VS. Technical Assistance



Mohsen Alqalam took the challenge and met his goal. He is the highest accruing coordinator to the EAQ162CD study in the nation. Way to go, Moshen!



Amy Adams, RN, answered the call from Wake Forest PI, Dr. Kate Weaver, to find a WAYS patient. She did and registered the patient only a few days after the meeting.

## Q.A. with Kelsey

### Upcoming Audits



SWOG LungMap  
**12/17/2019**  
(only SRHS sites)

[Click here to visit our website](#)

**Administrator**  
**Kamara Mertz-Rivera**  
Email: UpstateNCORP@srhs.com  
Phone: 864-560-6104

**Regulatory**  
**Heather Farmer**  
Email: UpstateNCORPRegulatory@srhs.com  
Phone: 864-560-1060

**Finance**

**Quality Assurance**  
**Kelsey Bridges, MSHS**  
Email: UpstateNCORPQA@srhs.com  
Phone: 864-560-1961

**CCDR Coordinator**  
**Lucy Gansauer**  
Email: UpstateNCORPCCDR@srhs.com  
Phone: 864-809-8349

**CCDR Lead**

**Alex Akkary**

**Email:** UpstateNCORPFinance@srhs.com

**Phone:** 864-560-6967

**Melyssa Foust, MSN, RN**

**Email:** UpstateNCORPCCDR@srhs.com

**Phone:** 864-560-1035



**101 E. Wood St • Spartanburg • SC • 29303**

---