Congratulations on a great first year Upstate Carolina NCORP! As we close out and think about the past year we want to give a huge thank you to all of our staff and investigators who have worked tirelessly making sure we are successful. Despite the unforeseen obstacle of COVID-19 we were able to surpass our goals. We had a very successful first year and are looking forward to the future. We couldn't have done it without you!
The Cancer Letter is taking a short break and will resume publications on September 4th.
BSSF was able to enroll UC-NCORP's first patient onto the NCI COVID study this month!

Keep up the great work!

Meeting Updates

NCORP Meeting

Annual NCI NCORP meeting

Part One
Monday, August 31st (Virtual)
12PM-6PM

Part One:
- Telemedicine: The New Normal?
- Telehealth and Policy Implications
- Making Telemedicine Work in the NCORP
- Thinking Out of the Box: Implementing Novel Processes to Cope with COVID
- NCORP Appreciation Awards

You can find the full agenda with meeting times here

Register Here

Part Two will be held on Tuesday, October 6th, 2PM-5PM: Details to follow
Thank you to our 29 investigators who registered patients onto NCI Studies in our first year! Let's keep up the great work in year two!

Accruals & Biospecimens—Special Entries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Base</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NCI NCORP Annual Meeting Part I</td>
<td>August 31, 2020</td>
<td>Virtual Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URCC Annual Meeting</td>
<td>September 11, 2020</td>
<td>Virtual Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWOG Fall 2020</td>
<td>September 23-26, 2020</td>
<td>Virtual Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCI NCORP Annual Meeting Part II</td>
<td>October 6, 2020</td>
<td>Virtual Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECOG-ACRIN Fall 2020</td>
<td>October 21-23, 2020</td>
<td>Virtual Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wake Forest Summer 2020</td>
<td>October 29-30, 2020</td>
<td>Virtual Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alliance Fall 2020</td>
<td>November 5-7, 2020</td>
<td>Virtual Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRG Oncology</td>
<td>January 28-30, 2021</td>
<td>New Orleans, LA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

29 Investigators Participated!
NCI Assigned Performance Target Tracking
GY 1 YTD 2020

Total as of 08/21/2020
CCDR Corner
**Pharmaceutical Monitoring Branch (PMB) Reminders:**

- CTEP–supplied agents from PMB can only be ordered by registered <IVR> Investigators.

- NPs and PAs cannot prescribe or sign off on treatment plans for any protocol directed therapies including CTEP–supplied investigational agents OR commercial supplied agents.
  - PMB Registered NPs and PAs <NPIVR> can write the prescription but registered <IVR> investigator MUST co-sign the prescription.

**Data Quality Tips:**

- Double check your data entries.
- Have additional personnel double check data entries.
- Clarify any questions via email with NCI Protocol Coordinator and/or Data coordinator.

---

**Audit Update:**

- S1418 (BSSF Only) – October 20, 2020.
Diving into Disparities

Rural Population
Cherokee County, South Carolina
Population: 57,300

Cherokee County, South Carolina is home to widespread peach farms and a sprawling landscape. Unfortunately, it may also lack adequate access to healthcare. Many studies have shown that cancer patients from rural areas have worse outcomes than their urban neighbors. How awful! An actual difference in a patient's outcome based simply on where he or she lives. What can can Upstate Carolina-NCORP, which has a large rural population in its catchment area, do to improve these patients' outcomes? We can work diligently to match patients with appropriate clinical trials and we can go the extra mile (literally and figuratively) to ensure enrollment. Dr. Joseph Unger and a team from the SWOG Research Base performed a comparative effectiveness retrospective cohort analysis of over 36,000 patients and found that enrollment in a clinical trial improved access and allowed rural patients' outcomes to equal those seen in urban patients. Imagine that, we can affect outcomes just by enrolling a patient on a trial! All in a day's work for our Research Team!

Click here to access the full article

Smiling Faces

Do you have any staff you would like highlighted in The Connector? Please submit it by the 10th of the month to Alaina: akennedy@srhs.com

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
Alex Akkary
Email: UpstateNCORPFinance@srhs.com
Phone: 864-560-6967

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

CCDR Coordinator
Melyssa Foust, MSN, RN
Email: UpstateNCORPCCDR@srhs.com
Phone: 864-560-1035

2759 Hwy 14 • Greer • SC • 29651