The Annual OPALS Prehospital Research Group Meeting was held in November at the Lord Elgin Hotel in Ottawa. This was the 10th annual meeting and much of the focus was on new initiatives as well as discussion about the future of the OPALS Prehospital Research Group. Key topics also included Cardiac Arrest, Pediatric and Trauma updates. The Site Investigators planning meeting concentrated on details regarding the Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium protocols and the CanAm Pediatric protocol. Updates about these and all of the OPALS Prehospital Research Group studies will be featured in upcoming issues of the newsletter. Once again, the meeting was a huge success. Thank you to all participants for their questions and comments!

Presentations were made by Dennis Brown of the Ministry of Health to the outgoing steering committee, Base Hospital Medical Directors and Base Hospital Program Managers to commemorate the ten year partnership for the OPALS Study.

T Campeau, I Stiell, B Field, D Munkley, M Lyver, L Luinstra-Toohey

RESUSCITATION OUTCOMES CONSORTIUM [ROC] UPDATE

Planning and organizing is now in full swing for our latest endeavor which will have a large focus on cardiac arrest and trauma research. The Hypertonic Saline trial and the Impedance Threshold Device trial have been chosen as the first two protocols to study. Work is well underway to lay the foundation for both these trials, and many thanks to everyone for all the survey replies. Implementation for the Hypertonic Saline trial is scheduled for the fall of 2005. We have had the opportunity this winter to demonstrate exciting new technology available from Zoll, Laederal-Philips and Medtronic for optimizing CPR to our Base Hospital and EMS partners.

OPALS PRG STEERING COMMITTEE SUMMARY

The first meeting of the OPALS Prehospital Research Group [OPRG] was held on November 24, 2004. Progress of the many current projects was discussed. Nine abstracts were submitted for consideration to SAEM and CAEP. Contact Lisa Nesbitt at Inesbitt@ohri.ca if you would like complete meeting minutes.

BIPHASIC I STUDY UPDATE

We have nearly completed enrollment for the 200 required patients. Final data quality checks and analysis will take place this spring in preparation for submitting an abstract for the 2005 American Heart Association meeting.
OPALS TRAUMA STUDY UPDATE

We are in the final stages of data cleaning in preparation for presentation at SAEM and CAEP. These results were honored by being chosen for the first plenary presentation at SAEM.

CAN-AM PEDIATRIC CARDIAC ARREST STUDY

The CanAm Pediatric Cardiopulmonary Arrest group held its 3rd planning workshop in Naples, Florida in mid-January. The overall goal of the group is to improve the survival and morbidity of pediatric patients who suffer cardiopulmonary arrest outside the hospital. The group consists of researchers from seven sites: Ottawa, Toronto, Tucson/Phoenix, New York, Philadelphia, North Carolina, and Milwaukee. This workshop provided the opportunity to discuss work in progress, upcoming priorities, such as the current feasibility review, and the next steps in planning the definitive study.

NIAGARA PROGRAM ASSISTANT WINS MOCA STUDY GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR BASE HOSPITAL!
Congratulations to Lori Ann Parker!

NIAGARA PROGRAM
ASSISTANT WINS MOCA STUDY GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR BASE HOSPITAL!
Congratulations to Lori Ann Parker!

MOCA/ICD STUDY UPDATE

30 cardiac arrest survivors have been enrolled. Several sites are ready to undertake the chart review portion of the study and information from Dr. Birnie and Gwen Ewart to assist with the process is forthcoming. Contact: Tammy Beaudoin.

Submissions
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