



Cancer Trials New Zealand Newsletter

Issue 10, April 2012

2012 Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM)

Friday 27th July 2012, Auckland.

The 2012 CTNZ ASM will be held at the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences at the University of Auckland. This year we're showcasing the new home of the CTNZ office, the Boyle Building on the Grafton Campus. This state of the art building is located opposite Auckland City Hospital and boasts some amazing architecture and facilities, we're sure you'll enjoy it. The meeting is already looking very interesting with presentations on currently recruiting and recently closed trials. We will have the customary session in the afternoon for new concepts and plenty of time for discussions.

The meeting is free to attend, please register by sending your details to Kasturi Naicker (k.naicker@auckland.ac.nz) This is a perfect opportunity to catch up with colleagues, do some networking and hear about cancer trials and studies in New Zealand. We hope to see you all there!

The new Boyle Building at the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, the University of Auckland.



Director's Message

2012 is proving to be a busy time for CTNZ with the PIPER Project rapidly progressing in development, ReCharge is nearing its recruitment target of 200 patients and RAZOR data analysis is underway. The forthcoming CTNZ Annual Scientific Meeting is to be held on Friday 27th July in Auckland so please keep this date free in your diary. We look forward to seeing you there. We welcome Katy Wiessing to the CTNZ team, in the new role of PIPER Data Manager and also welcome back Jade Scott from maternity leave. Finally I would like to wish you all a safe and happy Easter break.



Mike | 1

Up-coming Meetings:

New Zealand Society for Oncology (NZSO) 2012

2-4 May, Wellington

American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) 2012

1-5 June, Chicago

European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO) 14th World Congress on Gastrointestinal Cancer

27-30 June, Barcelona

Cancer Trials New Zealand Annual Scientific Meeting 2012

27 July, Auckland

Australasian NET Meeting

17-18 August, Auckland

International Society for Clinical Biostatisticians

19-23 August, Norway

New Zealand Association of Clinical Research (NZACRes)

23-24 August, Auckland

Australasian Gastro Intestinal Trials Group (AGITG) 2012

6-8 September, Sydney

European Society of Medical Oncology (EMSO) 2012

28 September - 2 October, Vienna

Meeting Calender 2012

Visit our website: <http://www.fmhs.auckland.ac.nz/sms/oncology/ctnz/>

Meetings Update

The Australasian NET Meeting

17-18 August, Auckland

No ordinary meeting – a new paradigm for NETs in NZ

CTNZ is pleased to announce a meeting to discuss the management of Neuroendocrine Tumors (NETs) in New Zealand, with the primary aim of establishing a new national clinical management strategy for the next decade. The keynote speaker is Professor Kjell Oberg from Upsalla, arguably the world's leading authority on the management of NETs. We are also very pleased to host Professor Rod Hicks from Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne, and Associate Professor Nick Pavlakis from the Royal North Shore Hospital in Sydney. New Zealand Oncologist Dr Ben Lawrence will also attend, returning from a 2 year translational fellowship at Yale University where he has been studying the molecular biology of NETs.

The meeting will consist of two parts. Day 1 is focused on clinical management – but sprinkled with the right amount of science needed to make informed and up-to-date clinical decisions. Cases will be reported by invited clinicians from various New Zealand hospitals, with increasing clinical complexity across the day. Each case will be discussed by an expert panel, with invited speakers giving a series of short presentations germane to [Continued page 4](#)

Project Update: The PIPER Project

As we work our way to the end of the first 6 months of the PIPER Project we are quickly approaching the beginning of the data collection period. The initial phase of the project involved setting up contractual agreements with regional centres; development and finalisation of the study protocol; development of the statistical analysis plan; development of the publication plan; approval of the project from the multi-region ethics committee; employment of local site Data Managers for Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin regional centres; development of the fields for data collection list; development of the central database including initiating remote access for regional Data Managers; project publicity and networking with collaborators including the regional cancer networks.

We will soon begin testing of the database. As the data collection phase begins, increased input from our local Co-Investigators will be required to assist with regional data queries of a clinical nature. The first 6-monthly teleconference between the Co-Investigators and Advisory Group Members will be held in April 2012. Many thanks to everyone who has provided significant input into this project.

Current Trials Update

Trial Easter Cover CTNZ will be closed from 3pm Thursday 5th April until 9am Wednesday 11th April. SAES are to be faxed as per normal.

RAZOR

The Bone Specific Phase of the trial was completed at the end of December 2011. Many thanks to all the sites for the prompt query resolution early in the new year as this allowed us to submit the abstract, including the efficacy end points to ASCO by the 1st February 2012 deadline. We are pleased to announce that the abstract was recently accepted as a publish-only abstract. Meanwhile data collection continues for 1 year following completion of the Bone Specific phase of the study.

ReCharge

We recently announced that accrual to this NZ only study would be closing on 27th April 2012. This led to a dramatic surge in recruitment over the last couple of months, with it now looking increasingly likely that we will reach our target of 200 patients. As we go to press there are 197 patients enrolled in the study – that is only 3 more patients to go! CTNZ would like to thank all the sites for their dedication to this home-grown study.

SIRFLOX

SIRFLOX recruitment continues to climb with international recruitment now at 360 patients - leaving only 90 patients to meet the target of 450. New Zealand continues to be a top runner in International recruitment, with Auckland having recruited 3 patients in the first quarter of 2012.

Please note that there is a new version of the Investigators Brochure which was approved for use by MREC at the end of March 2012.

SOLD

1407 patients have been recruited to this study, including 77 New Zealand patients. There has been an excellent start to the year with 9 New Zealand patients randomised since January. Auckland continues to recruit well with 58 patients, the 7th highest recruiting site out of the 60 sites participating in this study.

Please continue to consider the SOLD study for patients with early breast cancer.

Trial Recruitment

(as at 4 April 2012)

ReCharge

Auckland	63
Christchurch	56
Dunedin	37
Wellington	24
Palmerston North	10
Tauranga	4
Waikato	3
TOTAL	197

SIRFLOX

Dunedin	23
Auckland	22
Christchurch	17
Palmerston North	5
Wellington	0
TOTAL	67

SOLD

Auckland	58
Christchurch	10
Dunedin	7
Wellington	2
TOTAL	77

For further information about these trials including trial contacts please visit our website:

<http://www.fmhs.auckland.ac.nz/sms/oncology/ctnz/>

Welcome back Jade!

Jade Scott has returned to CTNZ as of March 2012. The team are very pleased to have her back, and enjoy visits from her new helper Caden. Jade is looking after the SOLD study and the ReCharge Unblinded Pharmacy role.

Goodbye Heidi

Good bye and thank you to Heidi Koschwanez. Heidi has been doing a brilliant job looking after SIRFLOX with Melissa Murray over the last few months. She is leaving us in May to have her baby so we will have more CTNZ baby photos in the next newsletter! Thank you Heidi from all the team.



The Australasian NET Meeting continued from page 2.....

a management issue highlighted by the case. The recently approved Australasian Net guidelines will be officially launched.

Day 2 will have participants undertake the groundwork to launch a new national clinical and translational research programme for NETs. The aim is to start a virtual national MDM for NETs, with multicentre prospective tumor collection, and a collaborative translational network to enable clinicians, scientists and bioinformaticians to work together to improve outcomes for patients with NETs in NZ and the world.

The meeting will be suited to New Zealand and Australian clinicians who deliver clinical care to patients with NETs (e.g., oncologists, surgeons, endocrinologists, gastroenterologists, nuclear physicians, radiologists, etc) and those interested in translational research in NETs (from both the clinical and the science side). The meeting is kindly sponsored by an unrestricted educational grant from Novartis, which will include costs of participant travel and accommodation. Participants may stay for one or both days.

Contact Kasturi Naicker to register interest by email: k.naicker@auckland.ac.nz



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Bowel Cancer Awareness Week 2012

This year's Bowel Cancer Awareness Week will be held from June 4-10. For further information please see the Beat Bowel Cancer Aotearoa website.



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