Increasing Activation Transparency with Research Insights Dashboards

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Background

In 2016, the Yale School of Medicine and the Yale Cancer Center (YCC) identified clinical trial activation timelines as a strategic improvement opportunity. The intended goal of improving activation timelines is:

• advance medical care and research,
• enhance Yale’s position as a competitive Medical School and Comprehensive Cancer Center, and
• ultimately improve patient access to clinical trials within the Yale Medicine network.

The Protocol Activation (PAct) Team worked with Forte to build a tool for displaying study activation progress in real-time for the investigators, disease teams and sub-process owners. Data for each activation sub-process are expected to be entered in real-time into OnCore, Yale’s Clinical Trial Management System. These data are then displayed as interactive charts called “Protocol Activation Dashboards” in Research Insights.

Goals

The goal of implementing the activation dashboards is to increase the data transparency between the PAct team, sub-process owners, disease teams, study teams, departmental and Cancer Center leadership. Real-time availability of the data provides study team members the opportunity to:

• provide transparency to where a study is in the activation process
• ensure studies continue to move through the activation process
• identify any roadblocks and challenging steps within the activation process

Methods

The PAct project team introduced three study activation dashboards:

Study Activation: Past Performance

Offers a past performance view to assess the time it takes to complete an activation sub-process compared to the target duration.

Study Activation: Portfolio Task List

Offers a portfolio view to assess how protocols in a disease team’s portfolio are progressing towards study activation in comparison to the expected target durations.

Study Activation: Protocol Task Lists

Offers a protocol-specific view to assess how each sub-process is progressing for a selected protocol compared to the target durations.

Outcomes

• To date, 60 stakeholders have been provided access to the protocol activation dashboards.
• The PAct team is integrated into disease team meetings, clinical trial manager meetings and Cancer center leadership meetings.
• The disease teams have started to incorporate the dashboards into their weekly protocol review discussions.

Lessons Learned and Future Direction

Yale looks forward to incorporating feedback from the investigators, the research teams, and from leadership to further optimize the current dashboards and create additional dashboards as needed. In the future, the activation task list structure will be rolled out to all departments within the Yale School of Medicine.

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*Sample Data