Assessment of Academic Effort for Clinical Trials Among Oncology Faculty
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Outcomes

Time Spent on Clinical Research, n=23

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task Category</th>
<th>Mean Time (min.)</th>
<th>95% CI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regulatory</td>
<td>474</td>
<td>338-610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>224-602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>50-170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Analysis</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>98-348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translational Activities</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>81-409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60-60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL - Minutes per week</strong></td>
<td>1545</td>
<td>851-2199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL - Hours per week</strong></td>
<td>25.75</td>
<td>14.2-36.65</td>
</tr>
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Background and Goals

There is no data on how many hours academic physicians spend managing clinical trials and caring for study patients.

Hypothesis: Providing care through clinical trials requires twice as much time as standard of care.

Primary objective: To determine the actual time needed to complete all clinical trial protocol good clinical practice (GCP) requirements over 1 week.

Outcomes (cont.)

Mean number of emails addressing clinical trial questions per week per PI: 121 (95% CI: 89-153)

Mean number of hours spent on all clinical trial duties: 25 hours per week.

Lessons and Future Directions

The time required for clinical research exceeds the time devoted to such activities on faculty contracts.

- Clinical research activities occupy about a 60% FTE equivalent of the participants’ time
- Given the clinical research mission of NCI-designated cancer centers, time must be protected to ensure that progress is made in the care of cancer patients.
- Payments received for clinical trial activities are grossly underestimated.
  - A reassessment of dollars attributed to PI tasks should be done and the actual time spent on clinical trials should be paid for through budgeting and contracting.
  - This is a limited study at a single institution. We are currently expanding this pilot study to additional cancer centers to gain insight and confirm our pilot study data.

Solutions and Methods

Eligibility criteria: Practicing oncologist faculty who are PIs on >3 OSUCCC cancer clinical trials and treat >3 study patients per month

- Participants were surveyed via REDCap for 7 days
- Participants timed all clinical research activities
- Descriptive statistics were used to assess responses
  - Surveys with >50% missing data were eliminated
  - Surveys with >50% collected data, data was normalized to 7 days for regulatory, monitoring, and data analysis tasks, but not for the tasks that should only happen when research participants are seen in clinic.

Range of clinical research activities per week:
305 - 3240 minutes per week

Median of clinical research activities per week:
1500 minutes (25 hours).

- Large variations can be explained by differences of clinical research involvement.

Join the study here: go.osu.edu/CTAT

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