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#### Are You an Investigator Needing Help?

About	
News & Events	
Research Resources	
Training & Education	
Grants & Funding	
Community Engagement	
Volunteer for Research	
Tools	

## Third Annual Meeting Highlights Public-Private Partnerships

The Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI) hosted its third annual meeting Monday, April 25, at the University Place Conference Center and Hotel. Approximately 350 registered guests attended the daylong event, featuring talks by scientists and life science leaders from the National Institutes of Health and prominent research universities, hospitals and laboratories across the state, as well as poster presentations and breakout sessions on translational research projects and programs supported by the Indiana CTSI.

# "Enhancing Health Care and Research Through Public-Private Partnerships"

This year's theme, "Enhancing Health Care and Research Through Public-Private Partnerships," was invoked by **Anantha Shekhar**, PhD, director of the Indiana CTSI, during his opening welcome. Since its establishment in 2009, the Indiana CTSI has forged partnerships not only among Indiana University, Purdue University and the University of Notre Dame but also public and private life science organizations across the state.

"Our public and private partners have made a great difference to our success," said Shekhar, noting that the institute's collaborations range from large pharmaceutical companies and hospitals, including Eli Lilly & Co., Cook Medical and the IU Health system, to smaller biotech startups and local hospitals such as Wishard Memorial Hospital.

"Since I came to the state of Indiana I've been very interested in the strong collaborations among hospitals, universities, and private industry," added **Jorge José**, PhD, vice president for research at Indiana University, who joined the university in August 2010. In his opening remarks, José noted "I see a tremendous amount of growth, and a commitment to combining resources so that the result is greater than any of these organizations could do alone, in its goal to improve the health of the citizens of the State of Indiana and of the country as a whole. Indiana CTSI, and the work it is facilitating, is of central strategic importance to Indiana University."

Highlighting some of the Institute's accomplishments in the past three years, Shekhar said the Indiana CTSI has impacted more than 1,800 faculty, trainees and students—either through funding, training support or other resources—founded two companies, spawned technologies for four others, help develop novel biomarkers for breast cancer and colon cancer and contributed to a project repurposing a drug for fragile X syndrome and autism spectrum disorders.



- Welcome: "Public-Private Partnerships"
- Plenary Lecture: "The Vanishing Physician-Scientist?"
- Plenary Session I: "Translational Medicine Challenges and Opportunities"
- Plenary Session II: "Research Highlights of the Year"
- Plenary Session III: "Unique Indiana Resources"
- Breakout Sessions
- Poster Abstracts
- Success Stories

#### Plenary Lecture: Andrew Schafer, MD, "The Vanishing Physician-Scientist?"



Andrew Schafer, MD, chair of medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College, provided an opening lecture focusing on the ways in which institutions such as the Indiana CTSI can help encourage a new generation of physician-scientists by integrating the research pipeline from bench-to-bedside and from bedside-to-bench. He was introduced by **David Wilkes**, MD, executive associate dean for Research Affairs at the IU School of Medicine (IUSM) and director of the Physician-Scientist Initiative (PSI), a program established in 2009 with \$60 million from the Lilly Endowment to foster the development of MD/PhDs at IUSM. Schafer also serves as an external advisor to the PSI.

Schafer presented many challenges, and potential solutions, to the decline in the numbers of physician scientists, including recommendations designed to address a new generation's need for a more robust work-life balance—such as extending the tenure and promotions clocks and permitting greater career flexibility, especially among women physician scientists.

Schafer also suggested training programs aimed at reducing the cultural differences between physicians and basic biomedical scientists, such as including the latter in medical rounds. The increasing emphasis on translational research offers a means to reduce these gaps through such practices as team mentoring and "team research" including practicing physicians as well as basic and clinical investigators, Schafer said.

"I believe that physician-scientists should be considered endangered only in their current state," said Schafer. "If institutions have the courage and the vision to adapt to current conditions, and to face the significant challenges and barriers, a new generation will develop, but in a new form."

#### SEE SLIDES FROM DR. SCHAFER'S PRESENTATION

#### Jan Lundberg, PhD, "Translational Medicine Challenges and Opportunities: Industry Perspective"

Jan Lundberg, PhD, executive vice president for science and technology and president of the Lilly Research Laboratories, reviewed the challenges and opportunities facing translational medicine from an industry perspective, including the need to develop new therapies that fit individual patients. He was introduced by David Johnson, CEO of BioCrossroads and chair of the external advisory board for the Indiana CTSI, who put a spotlight on the many resources brought to bear on the biomedical field in Indiana by asserting "there is no other state in the country where the public, private and philanthropic sector are so closely focused on this specific issue."

Among the greatest challenges to modern medicine noted by Lundberg is how many therapies do not have adequate response rates across the whole population. New technologies such as biomarkers will grow increasingly important as a way to ensure patient with poor response rates receive alternate treatments, he said, adding that tailored therapeutics have already helped Lilly create an inhibitor to the reduce overproduction of red blood cells in patients with myeloproliferative diseases.



"If you can bring together an organized focused on medicine, technology and therapeutic development," he said of the partnerships being forged by the Indiana CTSI, "then the future will be bright."

#### Barbara Alving, MD, Director, NCRR, "Translational Medicine Challenges and Opportunities"



**Barbara Alving**, MD, director of the National Center for Research Resources of the National Institutes of Health, provided an overview of the many public-private partnerships developed by the 55 institutes supported by the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) program. She was introduced by **Kenneth Cornetta**, MD, chair of medical and molecular genetics at IUSM and director of translational technologies and resources at the Indiana CTSI.

"We need design thinking," said Alving regarding the need for more strategic ways to implement the CTSA program's mission to accelerate the pipeline connecting promising research to new therapies. "We need to think about what we most want, what we most need and what our nation can afford."

The United States has a long tradition of innovation in this field, she added, pointing to inspirational examples such as the early American innovator Thomas Edison, who not only created the light bulb but founded General Electric to manufacture and market it. Technology transfer resources developed by CTSA Consortium members include a commercialization and entrepreneurship program from the University of Pennsylvania; a graduate biodesigns course that involves veteran venture capitalists as advisors at Stanford University, and a program from the Scripps Research Institute to develop a wireless device to monitor patients with chronic heart failure in partnership with Qualcomm.

Earlier in the event, Shekhar also noted that i2iConnect, an online database developed by the Indiana CTSI to match investigators with industrial partners, was recently recognized by a nomination for a Mira Award, the Indiana technology awards presented by Techpoint.

#### SEE SLIDES FROM DR. ALVING'S PRESENTATION

Lisa Harris, MD; CEO, Wishard Memorial Hospital, "Translational Medicine Challenges and Opportunities: Academic Hospital Perspective"

Lisa Harris, MD, CEO of Wishard Health Services, discussed Wishard Memorial Hospital's longtime partnerships with IUSM and the Regenstrief Institute, also key partners of the Indiana CTSI. She was introduced by **William Tierney**, MD, president and CEO of the Regenstrief Institute, chief of medicine at Wishard Hospital and an associate director of the Indiana CTSI.

Through a nearly 40-year partnership with the Regenstrief Institute, a leader in medical informatics technology, Harris said Wishard Memorial Hospital has helped pioneer the rise in electronic medical records to improve patient care, including working with physicians who published some of the earliest studies suggesting that computerized physician ordered entry results in marked reductions in hospital costs and patient length of stays. "Wishard has served as a research lab for generations of physicians, informaticians and health services researchers whose work over the years had improved every aspect of the care that we provide to the most vulnerable populations in Marion County," she said.

Harris also noted that the construction of the new Wishard Memorial Hospital is expected to contain significant space in which to conduct clinical trials. "We're investing an estimated \$40 million in construction costs alone to the academic enterprise," she said. "Our new facilities will allow Wishard to survive and thrive as we bring the power of translational medicine to care in the inner city of Indianapolis."



#### SEE SLIDES FROM DR. HARRIS' PRESENTATION

#### **Research Highlights of the Year**

This year's annual meeting also featured presentations from investigators involved in five research projects supported by the Indiana CTSI. They were introduced by Scott Denne, MD, associate director of the Indiana CTSI and co-director of the Indiana CTSI Project Development Team (PDT) program, through which several presenters received initial support for their projects.

#### SEE SLIDES FROM DR. DENNE'S PRESENTATION

SEE SLIDES FROM DR. YOKOTA'S PRESENTATION

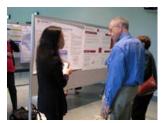
**Hiroki Yokota**, PhD, professor of biomedical engineering at IUPUI, discussed the role of the Indiana CTSI in the development of a potential new drug to promote bone healing. Using evidence produced by research supported by the Indiana CTSI Research Inventions and Scientific Commercialization (RISC) grant program, Yokota produced successful animal models demonstrating accelerated wound healing and bone thickening in subjects treated by a newly developed chemical compound. He reported that the project is now in the final approval stages on a multi-million dollar grant from the Department of Defense.



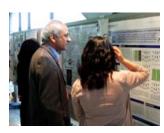
**Joshua Shrout**, PhD, assistant professor of civil engineering and geological sciences at the University of Notre Dame, outlined his investigation into *Pseudomomas aeruginosa*, an opportunistic pathogenic bacterium that commonly affects patients with cystic fibrosis, severe burns and gastroenteritis—as well as individuals who fail to properly clean their contact lenses. With Indiana CTSI support, Shrout is investigating the various ways in which *P. aeruginosa* spreads—with an eye towards more effectively preventing infections—including a spreading growth pattern observed only in environments with specific wet properties. This may link to lung or "wet skin" infections.

#### SEE SLIDES FROM DR. STROUT'S PRESENTATION

Jamie Renbarger, MD, assistant professor of pediatrics and clinical pharmacology at IUSM, outlined her research into adverse side effects caused by vincristine, an anti-cancer drug commonly used in children. Early research suggests children who naturally produce the CYP3A5 enzyme in greater quantities are less likely to experience negative symptoms. Among those largely unaffected were younger children as well as African-American youths, who only suffered adverse effects 4.5 percent of the time versus 34.8 percent in Caucasians. With support from a multi-site grant supported by IU, the University of Michigan, Children's National Medical Center and Vanderbilt University, all of which have centers supported by the CTSA program, Renbarger is now working to enroll patients in a multi-site clinical trial aimed at improving vincristine dosing recommendations in children with cancer.



#### SEE SLIDES FROM DR. RENBARGER'S PRESENTATION



**Marisol Sepulveda**, DVM, PhD, associate professor of forestry and natural resources at Purdue University, discussed developing an animal model for fetal alcohol syndrome in zebrafish through research conducted at the Bindley Bioscience Center at Purdue University. Zebrafish serve as a good animal model because exposure to ethanol can be easily conducted with embryos in vivo, especially compared to traditional mammalian models, said Sepulveda. Moreover, a great deal of similarity exists between zebrafish and human genomes. Zebrafrish also offer cost savings versus over other animal models, she said.

SEE SLIDES FROM DR. SEPULVEDA'S PRESENTATION

**Barbara Van Der Pol**, PhD, MPH, assistant professor of epidemiology at IU-Bloomington, presented research conducted by her and **David Nelson**, PhD, assistant professor of biology at IU-Bloomington, into preventing male urethral infections by conducting molecular analysis on samples from the urinary tract. Van Der Pol reported that samples collected from male patients at an STD clinic in downtown Indianapolis, as well as healthy young men, suggest that a healthy urethra contains a wide range of micro-organisms. Patients infected with an STD are all but overwhelmed by a single, aggressive bacterium. Starting with pilot funds and technical support from the Indiana CTSI PDT program, Van Der Pol and Nelson were named investigators on a \$6.1 million grant from the Human Microbiome Program of the NIH to further their investigation—with the ultimate goal being to develop behavioral guidelines that reduce infection rates. **J. Dennis Fortenberry**, MD, professor of medicine and pediatrics at IUSM, is primary investigator on the grant.



#### SEE SLIDES FROM DR. VAN DER POL'S PRESENTATION

The afternoon session featured presentations about translational sciences resources, success stories and partnerships from four prominent research organizations partnered with the Indiana CTSI, including two universities, IU Health and the recently established Indiana Institute

for Personalized Medicine.

Bob Bernhard, PhD, Vice President for Research, Notre Dame, "Translational Sciences: Notre Dame Resources"



**Robert Bernhard**, PhD, vice president for research at the University of Notre Dame, noted that Notre Dame provides the Indiana CTSI a unique pathway to non-medical faculty engaging in translational research, including investigators from biomedical engineering and psychology.

New programs aimed at fostering innovation at Notre Dame include two new one-year master's programs focusing on patents and engineering, science and technology entrepreneurship, as well as the Innovation Postdocs awards, designed to "fund the gap between the laboratory and the startup company." The university is also a participant in the Trask Venture Fund, a program encouraging entrepreneurship through small grant "angel investments," similar to the Indiana CTSI Research Inventions and Scientific Commercialization (RISC) program.

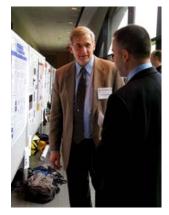
"We're very intent on growing our translational capability," said Bernhard, noting the university's recent commitment to invest \$80 million into strategic research initiatives, including translational staffing, instrumentation and research core development.

"I think we're good for the Indiana CTSI," he added. "We're a smaller community, we're lower complexity, we give you a nontraditional outlet for research—and we've certainly got enthusiasm."

#### SEE SLIDES FROM DR. BERNHARD'S PRESENTATION

#### Charles Buck, PhD.; Director, Bindley Biosciences Institute, Purdue University, "Translational Sciences: Purdue Resources"

**Charles Buck**, PhD, director of operations for the Bindley Bioscience Center, pointed out that medical research at Purdue University has traditionally focused on healthy subjects, such as diet research in the Department of Foods and Nutrition—but also noted the university's renowned veterinary and engineering programs provide many additional opportunities for projects focusing on new animal models and biomedical device development.



In fact, Buck said that Purdue maintains six to seven commercialization proof of concept projects through the Alfred Mann Institute Purdue, housed at the university's Discovery Park. Among these projects is a device developed by Jessica Huber, PhD, associate professor of speech, language and hearing sciences, which helps patients with Parkinson's suffering from hypophonia, or "soft voice," to speak louder. This project originally received support from the Indiana CTSI PDT program and a prototype device was built by the CTSI Biomedical Engineering and Nanomedicine program.

"We've solidified a commercial translation structure that has proven very successful," Buck said, adding that Purdue beat out every Big Ten university in number of technology licensing deals in 2009.

#### SEE SLIDES FROM DR. BUCK'S PRESENTATION

David Flockhart, MD, PhD; Director, Indiana Institute for Personalized Medicine, IUSM, "Translational Sciences: Personalized Medicine Resources"



**David Flockhart**, MD, PhD, Harry and Edith Gladstein Professor of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics and Medicine at IUSM, discussed the many opportunities for translational research offered by the Indiana Institute for Personalized Medicine, which he serves as director, founded on Jan. 1, 2011 with \$11.25 million from IUSM, IUPUI, the IU Simon Cancer Center and the PSI.

Indiana is uniquely positioned to take advantage of the upcoming revolution in personalized medicine, he said, pointing to decades spent learning to effectively implement, and connect clinical patient information to, electronic medical records at the Regenstrief Institute; access to world-class expertise in genomics, pharmacogenetics, informatics, imaging and modeling through programs such as the Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics and the Indiana CTSI Disease and Therapeutics Modeling Program; and many other professional training programs and strategic partnerships with physicians, pharmacists and nurses—not to mention companies focusing on subjects such as diagnostics, patents and biotechnology. Also key to the project he said will be the Indiana Biobank, a strategic partnership among the Indiana CTSI, IUSM, Wishard Hospital and IU Health aimed at amassing up to 50,000 high-quality clinical samples to be available to clinical and basic researchers across the state in the next five years.

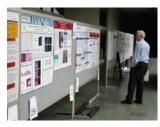
"Eighty-two percent of doctors in the US practice in environments where there's no computer in the room when they see a patient," said Flockhart. "We're doing things here that can't be done anywhere else in the country."

#### SEE SLIDES FROM DR. FLOCKHART'S PRESENTATION

Eric Williams, MD; Executive Vice President, IU Health, "Translational Sciences: IU Health Resources"

Eric Williams, MD, executive vice president at IU Health, emphasized the commitment to translational research at IU Health, including supporting development projects and operation at the

Indiana CTSI and IUSM, such as physical space for a new clinical trial unit within IU Health University Hospital. He also noted the hospital system contributes \$1.2 million annually to young investigators and educators for innovative and pilot studies through the IU Health Values Grant program, and pointed out that "innovation and research" are among the core "pillars" upon which IU Health aligns its organization and strategic goals.



"Identifying innovation and research, along with safety and quality of care, as core components of the hospital mission is somewhat unique among hospital systems," said Williams. Among the outcomes of this focus has been a greater than 14 percent increase in IRB approved studies—up to 2,770 studies with 750 investigators.

Moreover, Williams reminded the audience that IU Health, in partnerships with IUSM, declared a major, "transformational research goal" for 2014, calling upon the system to be recognized as a national leader in hosting and supporting translational research—as well as patient participants in personalized and clinical translational medicine projects. He added that shorter-term goals set to achieve these larger aims include developing a robust IT system, a systemwide IRB and a thriving biobank program. Finally, he reviewed a new IUSM-IU Health joint strategic research planning process led by Dr. Wilkes.

"This is the first time we've had this degree of enterprise-wide strategic planning in clinical and clinical-related research," said Williams.

SEE SLIDES FROM DR. WILLIAM'S PRESENTATION

#### Breakout Session: Translational Research in the Community

This session, led by **Ronald Ackermann**, MD, MPH, associate professor of medicine at IUSM and co-director of the Indiana CTSI Community Health Engagement Program (CHEP), focused on translational research in the community. Discussion focused on ways in which working towards a common goal—enhancing community health outcomes—can serve as a powerful tool for bringing together translational researchers and the community. Also noted were the tensions that may arise between researchers and the community, including a perception within the public that research studies may yield immediate results. Ackermann pointed out that CHEP helps overcome these challenges by serving as a liaison between researchers and the community, identifying key stakeholders, communicating results, and "packaging" community engagement activities for both the academics and the community by proving an effective gateway through which they may begin to interact. Additional panelists included Waldo Mikels-Carrasco, a research analyst at the Institute for Latino Studies at the University of Notre Dame, Melissa Franks, assistant professor of family studies at Purdue, and Anne Graves of the YMCA of Greater Indianapolis.

#### Breakout Session: Notre Dame Models of Global Health

This session, led by **David Severson**, PhD, professor of biological sciences, and **Katherine Taylor**, PhD, director of operations for the Eck Institute for Global Health, both of Notre Dame, provided an overview of global health activities at the university, beginning with the establishment of a mosquito biology laboratory in 1957 and culminating with the Center for Global Health and Infectious Diseases in 1997 and the Eck Institute in 2010. Severson added that 55 faculty are linked to the institute, including active collaborations with 14 different countries, working on topics such as the biology of pathogens and arthropods; population biology and epidemiology; and antibiotic, drug, vaccine, diagnostics and insecticide development.

#### Breakout Session: Purdue Models of Commercialization

Alan H. Rebar, executive director of Discovery Park and senior associate vice president for research at Purdue University, reviewed the many routes for commercialization available at the university. Resources available to investigators include the Office of Technology Transfer, the Alfred Mann Institute and the Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship. The entrepreneurship program in Discovery Park is available to all faculty and provides mentorship and support opportunities for developing business models outside of the Krannert School of Management at Purdue, he said. In addition, **Dan Raftery**, PhD, chief scientific officer and founder of Matrix-Bio and professor of analytical and physical chemistry at Purdue, discussed the formation of Matrix-Bio, a company that provides early cancer detection diagnostics through metabolite profiling, specializing in breast cancer recurrence tests. Raftery said the company was established by utilizing various commercialization resources available at Purdue through various funding sources, including strategic investments from venture capitalists and angel investors. Matrix-bio was formed in late 2005 and early 2006 and is based upon Raftery's research at Purdue.

#### Breakout Session: Personalized Medicine and Biorepository

This session, led by Dr. Flockhart, focused on the Indiana Institute for Personalized Medicine and the Indiana Biobank, a new resource that will provide clinical samples to investigators across the state. Questions focused on the concept of personalized medicine and ways in which samples currently stored in various biorepositories may be accessed. The need to aggregate all banked samples into a single location and for a system by which data on rare diseases may be captured and aggregated was also discussed. Attendees included representatives from the Regenstrief Institute, MRI Tissue Bank, METACyt Biochemical Analysis Center Research Core, and IUSM departments of neuroscience and informatics.

#### **Breakout Session: Tracking the Clinical Trial Process**

This session, led by **Marcia Gonzales**, JD, assistant vice president for research compliance IU, **Faith Pottschmidt**, JD, director of clinical trials contracting in IU Office of Research Administration (ORA) and **Sarah Faghihi**, decision support analyst at ORA, outlined the process by which the ORA Clinical Trials Contracting (CTC) office was redesigned to better capture performance metrics. As a result, CTC may now easily obtain turn-around-times and other metrics for Confidential Disclosure Agreements (CDAs), Amendments, and Clinical Trials Agreements (CTAs). Metrics may also be sorted by school, division or volume of documents currently under review. Also reviewed was a

0	Support & Feedback	
0	Citing CTSI	
0	Newsletter	
0	Grants Login	

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pilot project recently conducted by ORA to obtain a snapshot analysis of three protocols to illustrate the length of time elapsed between CDA submission and the time the first subject is consented into the study. To see slides from Dr. Gonzales' presentation, click here.

#### SEE ABSTRACTS FROM THE AFTERNOON POSTER SESSION.

#### SEE HANDOUT ON 2010 INDIANA CTSI SUCCESS STORIES.

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About
News & Events
Research Resources
Training & Education
Grants & Funding
Community Engagement
Volunteer for Research
Tools

## Indiana CTSI Supports Clinical Research Study on Drug that May Help Those with Fragile X and Autism

#### May 10, 2011

The Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute is supporting a clinical trial to further research begun in smaller, earlier clinical trials in which adults and children with autism and Fragile X syndrome showed improved communication and social behavior when treated with acamprosate, a drug currently approved by the Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of alcoholism in adults.

Craig Erickson, M.D., assistant professor of psychiatry at the Indiana University School of Medicine and clinical director of the Riley Hospital for Children Christian Sarkine Autism Treatment Center at Indiana University Health, is the inventor on a pending utility patent for the use of acamprosate as a therapeutic agent for Fragile X syndrome, the most common inherited form of intellectual disability and the most frequent single gene cause of autism.

"We have been treating small numbers of both adults and children and have observed improvements in eye contact, social interaction and speech," said Erickson. "This is very early work, but it appears promising."

Acamprosate affects chemicals in the brain by blocking certain receptors associated with mental health. The trial supported by the Indiana CTSI will explore its ability to reduce various autism symptoms, including inattention, hyperactivity, language impairment, irritability and social deficits in five-to-17-year-old children with Fragile X syndrome. Researchers will also be assessing neurobiological differences between Fragile X syndrome and autism spectrum disorders of unknown cause.

In addition to partially funding the clinical trial, the Indiana CTSI has supported this project by providing a two-year career development award to Dr. Erickson.

"We have a lot to do," said Dr. Erickson. "We need to determine appropriate doses and forms for the best drug delivery. Larger studies will be needed to determine effectiveness and tolerability, and we expect to find many interesting things along the road."

In November 2010, Erickson and colleagues reported in the *Journal* of Autism and Developmental Disorders on the first trial of acamprosate in adults with Fragile X syndrome and autism. The drug was associated with improved linguistic abilities in the three patients studied. During five months of treatment all showed unexpected marked communication improvement.

"Dr. Erickson's research and work in this area is unique. The Indiana University Research and Technology Corporation has applied for a use patent because, while we are far from definitive knowledge and treatment, as early data is acquired, we believe this drug has real potential as a therapy for both children and adults with autism," said Bradley Fravel, Ph.D., MBA, an IURTC senior technology manager.

While preliminary data on acamprosate in individuals with Fragile X syndrome appears promising, Dr. Erickson strongly cautions that large scale multi-center clinical trials of acamprosate are needed to determine if it can help those with Fragile X and autism.

Fragile X syndrome is the most common inherited form of developmental disability. Fragile X syndrome is inherited from a



Craig A. Erickson, M.D.



Zachary Hammonds, 22,

of Indianapolis, has Fragile X syndrome. He participates in an acamprosate clinical trial conducted by Craig Erickson, MD. He is pictured with his mother, Sherry VanDyke.

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0	Citing CTSI
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Indiana CTSI Supports Clinical Research Study on Drug that May Help Those with Fragile X and Autism  $\mid$  news

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Contact: info@indianactsi.org carrier parent, most frequently the mother. Up to two thirds of individuals with Fragile X syndrome display evidence of autism spectrum disorders.

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Q

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About	
News & Events	
Research Resources	
Training & Education	
Grants & Funding	
Community Engagement	
Volunteer for Research	
Tools	Ļ

Indiana CTSI award to support symposia on translational research

The Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI) is accepting proposals for providing limited funding support for scientific symposia to accelerate translational research in Indiana and beyond.

The Indiana CTSI will provide up to \$1,500 per proposal to scientific symposia for eligible events, such as face-to-face meetings focused on forging new connections and increasing communications among researchers by sharing new ideas and findings.

Proposals must include the proposed symposium evaluation form; a letter of support and a statement addressing the ways in which the proposed symposium would bring new information or establish new connections among researchers in the Indiana CTSI.

Programs funded by the Indiana CTSI are not eligible for this award. Symposium funding must comply with the institutional sponsorships and memberships policies. Awards will not be made to support refreshments or entertainment or not allowable under our funding policies.

Applications are accepted throughout the year and will be reviewed by the director of the Indiana CTSI and select institutional staff and faculty. Awards will be made based on merit and fund availability.

This award is supported by Indiana University, Purdue University and the University of Notre Dame.

For more information or an application form, visit www.indianactsi.org/grants.

Questions to ictsi@iupui.edu.

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#### Are You an Investigator Needing Help?

About
News & Events
Research Resources
Training & Education
Grants & Funding
Community Engagement
Volunteer for Research
Tools

## **Research Coordinator Certification Program to be offered this fall**

### May 10, 2011

The Indiana CTSI and IU Office of Research Administration (ORA) will offer research coordinators another opportunity to participate in the Research Coordinator Certification Program (RCCP) in Fall 2011.

The Research Coordinator Certification Program provides experienced research coordinators additional education on campusspecific aspects of conducting clinical research—as well as fosters the use of best practices in advancing the research enterprise. Topics include clinical trial contracting, research with human subjects, grants and contact services and the responsible conduct of research. Resources available to research coordinators and their principal investigators from the Indiana CTSI will also be covered.

Approximately 20 participants will be selected for participation in the fall 2011 program. Participants will be selected based upon type and length of clinical research experience and evaluation of their statement of interest. The need to ensure broad representation of divisions and departments across the program also will be considered.

RCCP emerged from the Indiana CTSI's and ORA's shared mission and commitment to transform the conduct of clinical research at IU. It is designed to not only benefit individual participants, but also their research teams, departments and school.

There is no cost to attend the program; however, applicants must have at least three years experience in clinical research and have an up-to-date certification (e.g., ACRP, SOCRA).

Course dates, application forms and deadlines are to be announced. For more information, contact reep@iu.edu.

Return to the Indiana CTSI Newsletter

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0	Support & Feedback	
0	Citing CTSI	
0	Newsletter	
0	Grants Login	

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campus-specific aspects of clinical research



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About	•
News & Events	
Research Resources	•
Training & Education	
Grants & Funding	
Community Engagement	
Volunteer for Research	
Tools	

## American Delirium Society Conference June 5-7

The Indiana CTSI is cosponsoring the inaugural conference of the American Delirium Society, "Advancing Delirium Care through Research," will be June 5-7, 2011, at the Omni Severin Hotel in Indianapolis. This conference will provide researchers, clinicians and administrators from across the country their first opportunity to share information on delirium as a threat to the health and independence of older adults, as well as discuss current and future research and therapy.

Event speakers include E. Wesley Ely, MD, professor of medicine at Vanderbilt University, and Ed Marcantonio, MD, director of research for the division of general medicine and primary care at Harvard University. Dr. Ely will deliver the keynote from noon to 1:30 p.m. June 7. He is also associate director of aging research for the VA Tennessee Valley Geriatric Research and Education Clinical Center.

"Delirium prolongs the length of a hospital stay, increases the risk of post-hospitalization transfer to a nursing home, doubles the risk of death, and increases the vulnerability to Alzheimer's disease," said Malaz Boustani, M.D., M.P.H., president-elect of the ADS and associate professor of medicine at the Indiana University School of Medicine. "We as a scientific community need to commit our research effort to protect the brains of older adults from the burden of delirium and set a goal of reducing the delirium burden by half within the next two decades."

Registration is \$500 for ADS members or \$600 for non-members. Discount registration is available to fellows at \$200. Student registration is \$100. ADS membership (one-year; June 2011-July 2012) is \$100; student membership is \$25. To reserve a room at the Omni Severin Hotel, click here.

This event is hosted by IUSM and the Regenstrief Institute. Additional sponsors include the Regenstrief Institute, Wishard Health Services and the IU Center for Aging Research.

For a complete event program, download the conference brochure. To register, visit

americandeliriumsociety.org/Conference\_Registration.html.

Questions to Robert Manns at manns@iupui.edu.

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