FLORIDA CONSORTIUM FOR HIV/AIDS RESEARCH
19 Research Organizations
116 HIV Researchers
366 Recent and Ongoing Studies
FLORIDA CONSORTIUM FOR HIV/AIDS RESEARCH

Executive Advisory Committee

Conference Call / Webinar, December 6, 2011

Orientation and Discussion
The Executive Advisory Committee

Nine Voting Members
Dr. Neil Abell, Florida State University
Dr. Jeffrey Beal, Florida/Caribbean AETC (Chairperson)
Dr. Alexander Cole, University of Central Florida
Dr. Isa Fernandez, Nova Southeastern University
Dr. Margaret Fischl, University of Miami
Dr. Rob Malow, Florida International University
Dr. Mobeen Rathore, University of Florida-Jacksonville
Dr. Rafik-Pierre Sekaly, Vaccine and Gene Therapy Institute
Dr. John Sleasman, University of South Florida

Six Non-Voting Members
DOH, Bureau of Laboratory Services, Berry Bennett, MPH
University of Florida-Gainesville, Dr. Robert Cook
DOH, Bureau of HIV/AIDS, Surveillance, Becky Grigg, PhD
DOH, Bureau of HIV/AIDS, Prevention, Marlene LaLota, MPH
HIV/AIDS Research Coordinator, Spencer Lieb, MPH
The AIDS Institute Executive Director, Michael Ruppal
The Consortium Agenda

**Mission**: Create collaborative HIV-related research to advance a substantive decrease in statewide and local incidence, morbidity and mortality

**Goal**: Promote the design and conduct of inter-institutional studies on HIV prevention, treatment, cures and vaccines

**Objectives:**
- Identify common interest areas to lead to collaborations that will bring new research resources to FL
- Create and maintain a statewide inventory of research
- Educate staff and potential participants about clinical trials and other studies to promote appropriate referral
- Pursue ways to solve participant recruitment challenges
FCHAR Accomplishments To Date

- DOH Bureau of HIV/AIDS planned and convened the first meeting of the Consortium in Orlando, Feb. 24, 2011, with 65 HIV researchers from around Florida

- FCHAR joins The AIDS Institute, a policy research, advocacy and education nonprofit, with a national and a Florida focus

- Currently 116 researchers on mailing list, with 40 directly involved with subcommittee or advisory committee work

- Established and conducted 2 conference calls with each of 4 subcommittees to gather recommendations: Hard-to-Reach Populations, ARVs and Other Therapeutics, Research Education and Regional Networks
FCHAR Accomplishments
Continued

- Educational brochures to present patients with clinical trials options

- Survey on hard-to-reach populations and hard-to-obtain biologic specimens: challenges and solutions

- Compiled a research inventory of 400 recent or ongoing studies, and a Web-based inventory entering developmental phase

- Recruited an HIV/AIDS Research Coordinator, an Intern and an Executive Advisory Committee

- Prepared slide sets to help interpret epidemiologic data and lab reports; Webinar arrangements are being made
Executive Advisory Committee
Key Functions and Activities
To Advance the FCHAR Agenda

Prioritize the recommendations of the 4 subcommittees

Plan, organize, staff and convene periodic webinars and annual meetings

Synthesize new plans, objectives and recommendations

Provide support and implementation guidance to the HIV/AIDS Research Coordinator, the HIV research community and The AIDS Institute’s Executive Director

Monitor and evaluate progress toward the timely completion of action steps
Discussion

2nd Annual FCHAR Meeting, Orlando, January 9, 2012

ATTENDANCE SUMMARY

53 (69%) of 77 RSVP respondents have confirmed they will attend

29 have yet to respond – mass invitation was sent out Nov. 22, with a personal follow-up to non-responders on Dec. 2

In general, how to increase response rates to email requests?
Discussion (cont’d)
CONFIRMED SPEAKERS  and NEEDED PANELISTS

4th Generation and Future HIV Assays: Bennett (DOH Bureau of Laboratories)

Ethics and the IRB: Lieb (moderator) (TAI / FCHAR); Goodman (UM), Moseley (UF); Arons (formerly of DOH and IRB)

Panels on the Studies

Part I, Epi/Behavioral/Social: Metsch (moderator) (UM); Cook (UF); Lescano (USF); LaLota (DOH, Bureau of HIV/AIDS)

Part II, Clinical Trials: Fischl (moderator) (UM); Rathore (UF); Somboonwit (USF); Need One More:_________________________

Part III, Basic Science: Beal (moderator) (AETC/DOH): Sekaly (VGTI); Pahwa (?) (UM); Need to Confirm Pahwa and Need One or Two More:_________________________
Discussion (cont’d)
Immediate Tasks at Hand

Clarify the guidelines for the role of the moderators and panelists at the January 9 meeting

Need one of you to volunteer to conduct/moderate the next EAC conference call/webinar

Frequency of EAC conference calls/webinars

Identify and recruit to the EAC a person living with HIV, with a background that includes research-related activity

Discuss inviting other PLWH to become Consortium members
Discussion (cont’d)

Expand and refine roles, functions and activities of the Executive Advisory Committee

Strength in numbers

Numerous new inter-institutional HIV protocols and funding opportunities

Capacity to operate locally, regionally and statewide

Making FCHAR greater than the sum of its parts

Cooperation rather than competition

Financial support from member institutions...?
OPEN DISCUSSION

Conclusion

(This slide set is going to be emailed to each of you, along with a list of recommendations from the 8 subcommittee conference calls)