SPRINT
Spotlight on a New and Exciting Study

MACRO was recently asked to help facilitate an exciting new study called SPRINT (The Systolic Blood Pressure Intervention Trial). Dr. Margaret B. Conroy is the principal investigator for this study and MACRO lead coordinator is Tina Vita.

(Left to right: Tina Vita and Margaret Conroy)

As a first for MACRO, SPRINT is an outpatient study of a 2-arm, multicenter, randomized clinical trial designed to test whether a treatment program aimed at reducing systolic blood pressure (SBP) to a lower goal than currently recommended will reduce cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk.

About 9250 participants with SBP $\geq 130$ mm Hg and at least one additional CVD risk factor will be recruited at approximately 90 clinics within 5 clinical center networks (CCNs) over a 2-year period, and will be followed for 4-6 years. Approximately 4300 participants will have chronic kidney disease (CKD), and 3250 will be aged 75 or older. The primary outcome is the first occurrence of a myocardial infarction (MI), acute coronary syndrome (ACS), stroke, heart failure (HF), or CVD death. Secondary outcomes include all-cause mortality, decline in renal function or development of end stage renal disease (ESRD), dementia, decline in cognitive function, and small vessel cerebral ischemic disease.
Above: TICU Staff with Dr. Al-Khafaji and MACRO lead

TOPAZ Coordinator, Denise Scholl

**Actively Recruiting Studies**

(Studies listed by primary enrollment location)

**6F/G**
- **GSK** – An interventional study to assess activity, efficacy, and safety of an anti-inflammatory compound to prevent ARDS in trauma patients  
  PI – Scott Gunn
- **SPOT** – Ascertain 180 day risk of splenectomy after non-operative management of blunt splenic injury  
  PI – Lou Alarcon (Presby)  
  PI – Aaron Scifres (Mercy)

**CTICU**
- **RECAP** – Impact of blood storage duration on physiologic measures  
  PI – Hernando Gomez

**Emergency Department**
- **Microscan** – Endothelial dysfunction in septic shock  
  PI – Peter Simon & John Kellum
- **ProCESS** – The study objective is to improve the management of septic shock by exploring the clinical, biological and economic aspects of alternative resuscitation strategies  
  PI – Scott Gunn
- **ProGReSS** – Examines recovery of kidney function, late cardiovascular events, quality of life, and long-term mortality in patients who are enrolled in ProCESS and survive to hospital discharge  
  PI – John Kellum

**MICU/TICU/other ICUs**
- **BREVIBLOC** – A study to evaluate hemodynamic outcomes in patients with supraventricular tachycardia (SVT)  
  PI – Kees Polderman
- **CMV** – A study to determine whether CMV reactivation impact outcomes in critically ill patients with sepsis due to blood stream infections.  
  PI – Nina Singh
- **GRAIL** – A study for prevention of cytomegalovirus (CMV) in patients who have an established respiratory failure, including ALI, associated with either severe sepsis or trauma  
  PI – Matthew Woodske
- **SNAP** – A study of best feeding practices in Acute Pancreatitis  
  PI – Stephen O’Keefe

*Most studies also enroll in all Presby/Montefiore ICUs

**Spotlight on the First Site to Hit Target Enrollment: UPMC**

The **TOPAZ** study is a sample collection study to validate the Astute Medical NephroCheck Test in critically ill subjects at risk for acute kidney injury.

Dr. Ali Al-Khafaji is the UPMC principal investigator of this study. Approximately 400 subjects are expected to enroll in **TOPAZ** at 22 enrollment centers in the United States.

UPMC is the number one enroller with thirty evaluable subjects. Subjects for this study have been enrolled in all of our ICU’s; 6F/G has led with 9 evaluable, TICU 7, SICU 5, CTICU 3, NICU 3, MICU 2, and 2D 1.
Meet some of the MACRO Research Assistants (RAs)

Left Back: Ryan Begun, Andrew Abboud, and Zach Hammer
Left Front: Paula Amin, Sydney Huerbin, Erin Gilchrist, Eussra El-Magbri, and Melissa Delia

MACRO utilizes a group of exceptionally bright PITT undergraduate students to be a 24/7 presence in the hospital. These select students are available for prompt response anywhere in the hospital. Functions of our RAs include:

- screening for potential subjects
- data collection
- scheduled sample collections
- processing samples
- conducting the informed consent process with family members and patients for minimal risk studies

Employing student RAs has been a win-win formula for both the students and MACRO. Many of these students have aspirations to continue in the medical field and are getting valuable exposure to clinical and research situations. The constant presence of the RAs has enabled MACRO to conduct research requiring significant after hour attention.

You may see a MACRO (RA) student at your patient’s bedside. Please welcome them to our growing healthcare system! They are our future physicians, nurses, and researchers.