MACRO (Multidisciplinary Acute Care Research Organization)

Newsletter Editor
Meghan Buck

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Barb Early, BSN, CCRC
Scott Gunn, MD
David Huang, MD, MPH
Jason Sperry, MD, MPH
Mazen Zenati, MD, MPH, PhD

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Thank you to all the clinical staff that assists with research. Your cooperation is vital to our mission of improving care for critically ill patients through scientific study. We are always available. Please call with any questions or potential candidates for a research study.

Page: (Presby In-house) 7777
Or Long-Range 412-958-0957

This January 2013, MACRO has started to screen at and enroll in a nationwide stroke study called SHINE (Stroke Hyperglycemic Index Network Effort). Drs. Lorie Shutter, Clifton Callaway, and Jon Rittenberger are the Principal Investigators and MACRO’s lead coordinator is Stacy Stull.

SHINE is a two-arm, multicenter, randomized, prospective clinical trial designed to test the safety and efficacy of tight glucose management (glu 80-130mg/dL) via continuous insulin infusion, versus control therapy (glu <180mg/dL) via subcutaneous insulin injections, in patients that present with hyperglycemia after an acute ischemic stroke. The safety and efficacy of tight glucose control is of immediate clinical relevance as dysglycemia and variability in glucose during patient stay has been observed to worsen outcomes in all ICU patients (Badawi et al. Crit Care Med 2012 Vol. 40, No. 12. Pg 3180-88), especially patients that have suffered an ischemic stroke (Williams et al. Neurology 2002 vol. 59 no. 1 67-71).

Eligible subjects must be within 12 hours of acute ischemic stroke symptom onset, type II diabetic, and glucose concentrations >110 mg/dL (for non-diabetics glucose >150 mg/dL) NIH stroke scale of 3-22, and have a pre hospital modified Rankin Scale (mRS) score of 0. The primary outcome is functional outcome at 3 months as measured by the modified Rankin Scale Score. The primary safety outcome is severe hypoglycemia defined as BG <40 mg/dL.

MEET OUR NEWEST CLINICAL RESEARCH COORDINATOR MARY KRUTH, RN, CRC

Born and raised in Pittsburgh, Mary comes from a family of ten - five boys and five girls. She is married to Dave; they have three children and four grandchildren who all reside in Pittsburgh as well. She is also an avid Steeler and Penguin fan.

Before joining the University of Pittsburgh as a Clinical Research Coordinator, Mary worked as a staff nurse and homecare nurse for eight years. Prior to attending Nursing School at West Penn School of Nursing, she worked as a medical secretary.

Mary’s hobbies include camping, boating, water tubing, swimming, and snow tubing.
Research Grows at UPMC Mercy

For several years MACRO has been working closely with Mercy to help them maintain their level 1 trauma certification in the area of research. In 2012 MACRO CRCs enrolled their first Splenic injury Prospective OuTcomes (SPOT) patient.

The first study at Mercy to use Clinical Trials Research Assistant coverage is Text Messaging to Reduce Alcohol Consumption (TRAC). The Principal Investigator is Dr. Brian Suffoletto and the Research Specialist on this study is Jeff Kristan. Patrick Coppler has assumed the CTRA leadership role at Mercy since enrollment began in December 2012. At this point, 197 patients have been enrolled with the target number of 700.

UPMC Mercy hospital administration has been very supportive of MACRO and we appreciate their help! Moving forward, areas of research will include Emergency Medicine, Neuro Trauma, and Trauma Burn.

Actively Recruiting Studies

(Studies listed by primary enrollment location*)

**6F/G**
- **SPOT** – Ascertain 180 day risk of splenectomy after non-operative management of blunt splenic injury
  - PI – Lou Alarcon (Presby)        PI – Aaron Scifres (Mercy)
- **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 – Scott Gunn

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

**Emergency Department**
- **Hypo RESUS** – A study to determine the feasibility and safety of hypotensive resuscitation for the early treatment of patients with traumatic shock compared to standard fluid resuscitation
  - PI – Samuel Tisherman
- **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
- **SHINE** – A two-arm, multicenter, randomized, prospective clinical trial designed to test the safety and efficacy of tight glucose management (glu 80-130mg/dL) via continuous infusion of insulin versus control therapy (glu <180mg/dL) via subcutaneous insulin injections in patients that present with hyperglycemia after an acute ischemic stroke.
  - PI – Lori Shutter
- **TRAC** – This is a research study to help us find out whether people 18-25 years old will make safer decisions as a result of exposure to a mobile-phone text-message-based dialog that takes place over a 12-week period
  - PI – Brian Suffoletto

**MICU/TICU/other ICUs**
- **CMV** – A study to determine whether CMV reactivation impact outcomes in critically ill patients with sepsis due to blood stream infections.
  - PI – Nina Singh
- **SNAP** – A study of best feeding practices in Acute Pancreatitis
  - PI – Stephen O’Keefe

*Most studies also enroll in all Presby/Montefiore ICUs*