

Focus for the Upcoming Year

- 1) Launch MOPSE grant:
 - Video training procedures February 2004
 - Meeting of site primary investigators at the Osteopathic Collaborative Clinical Trials Initiatives Conference, March 15-16, 2004 in Colorado Springs
 - Hire project manager and data entry clerk
 - April site visits for training by Donald R. Noll, DO, FACOI, and Brian F. Degenhardt, DO, C-SPOMM
- 2) Complete two manuscripts concerning inter-examiner reliability and revision of a hassles scale and submit them by the end of March.
- 3) Complete Dr. Karen Snider's bone mineral density manuscript for submission by the end of March.
- 4) Commence Dr. Karen Snider's bone mineral density study.
- 5) Osteopathic Collaborative Clinical Trials Initiatives Conference (OCCTIC V) in March.
- 6) Clarify collaborative projects and begin the grant-writing process in anticipation of June 1, 2004 deadlines:
 - ◇ Otitis Media Multi-Center Grant (External)
 - ◇ Plagiocephaly and Manipulation (Internal)
 - ◇ Bloodmarkers (NIH)
- 7) Identify and provide support to three primary care faculty who have not yet met with the research institute staff:
 - Lary Ciesemeier, DO, Internal Medicine
 - Debra Buckler, DO, Internal Medicine
 - John Collins, DO, Family Medicine
- 8) Primary Care Research Conference.

The Research Institute, in coordination with Rita Harlow of the KCOM Continuing Medical Education (CME) office, will hold its first **Primary Care Research Conference June 18-21, 2004** in St. Louis, MO. The conference will adopt the Clinical Workshop Series structure for the first year.

Each year, the conference will specialize in various aspects of research and manuscript preparation aimed at training physicians and students to present abstracts, posters, and presentations at such osteopathic conferences as the Osteopathic Collaborative Clinical Trials Initiatives Conference (OCCTIC) or the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), as well as non-osteopathic conferences such as the the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America.

The conference will also have sessions including: how to apply for NIH grants, and how to submit manuscripts to a variety of journals. This conference is specifically aimed at research *training* (open to students, interns/residents, preceptors, and MDs/DOs).

- 9) Develop and strengthen collaborative research relationships with individuals at other institutions. Our team can provide missing links to other researchers. Additionally, our experience with the Multi-Center Osteopathic Pneumonia Study in the Elderly will give us invaluable ability to assist other institutions with multi-center trials, manuals of operations, satellite data entry establishment, communications, and quality control issues.

Recap of Research collaborations currently in development:

Washington University

The Administrative Team identified researchers at Washington University (Wash U) whose areas of expertise matched the four areas of research the institute is currently pursuing:

- 1) low back pain
- 2) bone mineral density
- 3) inter-examiner reliability
- 4) blood markers

John Heard, PhD, Vice President of Research, Grants and Information Systems and James McGovern, PhD, President of ATSU met with Larry J. Shapiro, M.D. Executive Vice Chancellor for Medical Affairs, Washington University—St. Louis Dean, Washington University School of Medicine to discuss these research possibilities.

Although the Administrative Team has decided not to pursue the NCCAM application, we are pursuing relationships at Washington University for future research collaboration.

Mayo Clinic

Brian Degenhardt, DO began discussions with Ralph Gay, MD, whose research interests including upper extremity rehabilitation, spine rehabilitation, and manual medicine, to look at collaborative research opportunities in the area of test reliability.

University of Iowa

Dr. Degenhardt reinitiated discussion with Kathleen Sluka, PhD, PT to establish research collaboration. Dr. Sluka studies the effects of manipulation on cerebral spinal fluid neurotransmitters which may be compatible with the biomarkers research being done by Brian

Degenhardt, DO, C-SPOMM, Nissar Darmani, PhD, and Lex Towns, PhD.

Osteopathic Center for Children

The Administrative Team finalized contracts with the Osteopathic Center for Children (OCC) in San Diego, and anticipates assisting the center with manuscript preparation in Spring 2004. The OCC is particularly interested in developing a research project in the area of plagiocephaly, so a literature review is underway.

Carpal Tunnel Research

The research institute has begun preliminary background research into carpal tunnel in order to support Conrad Speece, DO, and Richard Anderson, DO, osteopathic physicians in Texas, with their research developments.

- 10) To bring the physical therapy faculty at the Arizona School of Health Sciences (at the Arizona campus of the A. T. Still University of Health Sciences) under the umbrella of the research institute, as our staff has already been assisting the faculty with manuscript preparation, and they have a large student population conducting ongoing research. Our primary objective is to foster collaborative projects **consistent with osteopathic principles**.
- 11) To investigate industry funding avenues, particularly in the areas of:
 - ◇ Assistive technology for the geriatric population
 - ◇ Physical therapy modalities consistent with osteopathic principles
 - ◇ Hollister's (local plant) in the areas of wound healing and urinary and incontinence care
 - ◇ Orthotics