

# Transitioning Data Management Systems During an Ongoing Study



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SCT 2013

# Background



- ❧ Registry data collected from 1998 – 2009 from Acute Liver Failure Study Group patients from 28 sites
- ❧ Paper CRFs collected by site and centrally data entered into Access
  - ❧ Transitioned to real-time web-based system
- ❧ Data Volume:
  - ❧ 1700 subjects X 13 CRFs X 7 Days

# Planning Stage



## ❧ Gather Background Information

- ❧ Data: who/what/how often
  - ❧ Data entry process
- ❧ Previous publications
- ❧ Previous changes to data collection
- ❧ Future goals

## ❧ Establish Timelines

- ❧ Start date of new system
- ❧ Potential system downtime

# Planning Stage



## ∞ Identify Key Personnel

- ∞ Previous data center – end date of availability
- ∞ New data center – consistency

## ∞ Discuss Documentation Procedures

- ∞ Data transfer management plan

## ∞ Acknowledge Limitations

- ∞ Loss of data points due to restructuring
- ∞ New data points – limited use

# Tasks Prior to Transfer



## ☞ Evaluate and Re-Design CRFs

- ☞ Document any data loss or additions
- ☞ Review previous data dictionary

## ☞ Mapping Data Points

- ☞ Redundant data
- ☞ Reformatting of data points
- ☞ Discuss dates vs. visits

# Tasks Prior to Transfer



## ☞ Data Cleaning

- ☞ Previous data center: clean and prepare data
- ☞ Current data center: descriptive statistics to identify missing or illogical data
- ☞ Use published analyses to check the data

## ☞ Identify Closed Sites

- ☞ Determine data cleaning/querying process
- ☞ Document official closure date

# Tasks During Data Transfer



## ∞ Test Database

- ∞ Primary programmer
- ∞ Independent validation programmer
- ∞ Documentation

## ∞ Data coding

- ∞ Medications, other text fields (i.e., cause of death)
- ∞ Missing data vs. defaults

# Tasks During Data Transfer



## Program Database Rules

- Identify starting point (subject vs. date)
- Querying/updating old data
- Skip patterns

## System transition

- Back-up system during transfer



# Tasks After Data Transfer



## ☞ Prepare data dictionary

- ☞ Document start date of new variables

## ☞ Train coordinators

- ☞ Data timeliness reports

## ☞ Analyze data points for consistency

- ☞ Compare data collected in new system to old
- ☞ Check completion of new data points

# Acknowledgements



- ☞ National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK): U01-DK58369
- ☞ Dr. Valerie Durkalski, Dr. Wenle Zhao, Tomoko Goddard, Data Coordination Unit, Medical University of South Carolina
- ☞ Dr. William Lee, Dr. Corron Sanders, Dr. Linda Hynan, Nahid Attar, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

