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1. News


New functionality will include the:

- ability to use Boolean operators (AND, OR, NOT) to search within the title, condition or intervention fields
- ability to search by trial registration date and by multiple countries of recruitment
- use of a thesaurus when searching for interventions. This means that when, for example, you search for a drug, other names by which this drug is known will be automatically included in your search (if they are listed in the thesaurus)
- ability to sort search results by title, trial ID, status, date of registration
- new help screens to help you structure and format your search.

Register Profiles: Details of the location, governance and criteria of the WHO Primary Registers are now available under the heading Register Profile at http://www.who.int/ictrp/network/list_registers/en/index.html

Profiles are available for the following registers:

- Australian Clinical Trials Registry (ACTR)
- Chinese Clinical Trial Registry (ChiTR)
- Clinical Trials Registry, India
- ISRCTN

Australian New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry website and database upgrades:

From 1st November 2007, the Australian Clinical Trials Registry will be known as the Australian New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry (ANZCTR) to recognise the contribution of New Zealand trials to the Registry and funding from the NZ Health Research Council. The new website address is: www.anzctr.org.au. The ANZCTR has also recently implemented some major upgrades which enable Registrants to update their trial information at any time and more advanced search functionality. A trial’s current data is displayed by default but trials that have had substantive updates will be “flagged” and the tracked history of those changes can be viewed as well as the original trial dataset at the time of registration. The improved search functions include the ability to search coded fields and refine, sort and print searches of the Registry.

Registration of Clinical Trials in Latin America and the Caribbean: A meeting was held at the 15th Cochrane Colloquium in Sao Paulo, Brazil on Friday 26 October 2007 to discuss developments in the registration of clinical trials in Latin America and the Caribbean.
India: The Clinical Trials Registry, India, launched on the 20th July 2007 has been upgraded and recent problems with access to the site are now resolved.

The Food and Drug Administration Amendment Act 2007: In October 2007, the FDA Amendments Act of 2007 has expanded the mandate of ClinicalTrials.gov. It is now required:

- that all ongoing "applicable" drug and device trials (apart from Phase I) be registered
- that registration require completion of a mandatory data set
- that this data set be submitted no more than 21 days after the first patient is enrolled in a trial
- that the information on the results of completed trials be available through the registry and results database, beginning in stages over the next 3 years

ClinicalTrials.gov have produced a fact sheet which readers of this newsletter may find of use: http://prsinfo.clinicaltrials.gov/fdaaa-fact-sheet.pdf

2. Meetings

ICTRP Scientific Advisory Group
The 3rd meeting of this Group will take place on 28-29 November 2007 at WHO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

ICTRP Registers Working Group
The 2nd meeting of this Group will take place on 30 November 2007 at WHO Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

3. Presentations and Events

Recent

International Clinical Trials Symposium (ICTS): Improving health care in the new millennium, 23-26 September 2007, Sydney Australia
- Davina Ghersi presented the paper Trial registration: International developments as part of the session Trial Registers: present and future

15th Cochrane Colloquium: Evidence based health care for all, 23-27 October 2007, Sao Paolo Brazil
- Davina Ghersi presented the paper Reporting the Findings of Clinical Trials: what is a finding? as part of the session Mandatory reporting of the results of clinical trials: opening Pandora's box?
- Gail Higgins presented the paper Prospective Trial Registration: The Cochrane Renal Group experience as part of the session Networks and Communication
1st National Conference on Clinical Research (NCCR), 24-26 October 2007, Kuala Lumpur Malaysia

- Dr Tikki Pang presented Authorship and publication ethics: Public registration of clinical trials in the session Ethics of Clinical Research

Upcoming

Vienna Initiative to Save European Academic Research II (VISEAR II), November 12 2007, Vienna Austria

- Davina Ghersi will be chairing the session Registry of Clinical Trials

4. Contact Us

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The WHO Registry Platform e-Note is scheduled for publication on the last Friday of each month. The next e-Note is scheduled for circulation on Friday 30th November 2007. Suggestions for the next edition should be addressed to ictrpinfo@who.int with “e-Note” in the subject line.

Subscription via LISTSERV: Please send an e-mail to listserv@who.int with “subscribe ictrpnews first_name last_name” in the body of the message (without any “ “). The subject line can be left blank.

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