1. News

**WHO Search Portal:** a new version of the Advanced Search came into operation on 20th November. To access the advanced search go to:

[http://www.who.int/trialsearch/advsearch.aspx](http://www.who.int/trialsearch/advsearch.aspx)

The new advanced search features allow:
- The use of Boolean operators (AND, OR, NOT) when searching within the title, condition and intervention fields
- Searching by trial registration date
- Searching by multiple countries of recruitment
- Sorting of search results by title, trial ID, status and date of registration

A thesaurus has been added to the intervention field. This means that when, for example, you search for a particular drug, the other names by which this drug is known, will be automatically included in your search (if they are listed in the thesauri).

New help screens have been added to help you structure and format your search.

**Working Group on Best Practice for Clinical Trial Registries (BPG)**

We have recently amended the structure of the WHO Registry Network. The Registers Working Group (RWG) no longer exits. The Working Group on Best Practice for Clinical Trial Registries (BPG) has been formed to develop the document Best Practice for Clinical Trial Registers (formally known as Guidelines for Clinical Trial Registers).

2. Meetings

**ICTRP Scientific Advisory Group**

The 4th ICTRP Scientific Advisory Group meeting was held at WHO Headquarters in Geneva from 28-30th November. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss issues of relevance to the ICTRP and to seek scientific and technical advice from members of the Scientific Advisory Group.
ICTRP Registers Working Group

ICTRP 2nd Registers Working Group meeting was held at WHO Headquarters in Geneva on 30th November. The meeting provided an opportunity for members to discuss approaches to dealing with critical issues in trial registration and to implement the process of developing best practice or standard operating procedures for clinical trial registers.

3. Presentations and Events

Recent

21st Meeting of the Western Pacific Advisory Committee on Health Research; 20-21 November 2007, Manila, Philippines

- Dr Tikki Pang provided an update on the ICTRP project.

4. Contact Us

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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.