Clinical Research: Tracking Studies in the Pipeline

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Background

Prior to the development of Pre-Study Event Tracker at UAMS, there was no consistent or efficient method to track clinical trials in the pipeline. Early steps of clinical trials at our site such as execution of the CDA, Disease Oriented Committee approval, and PRMC (scientific review) approval were not tracked appropriately. Attempted methods of tracking included Word and Excel documents, handwritten notes and physical folders. Problems with these methods were inconsistency as well as an inability for the whole team to be able to access accurate information pertaining to the pre-study onboarding processes.

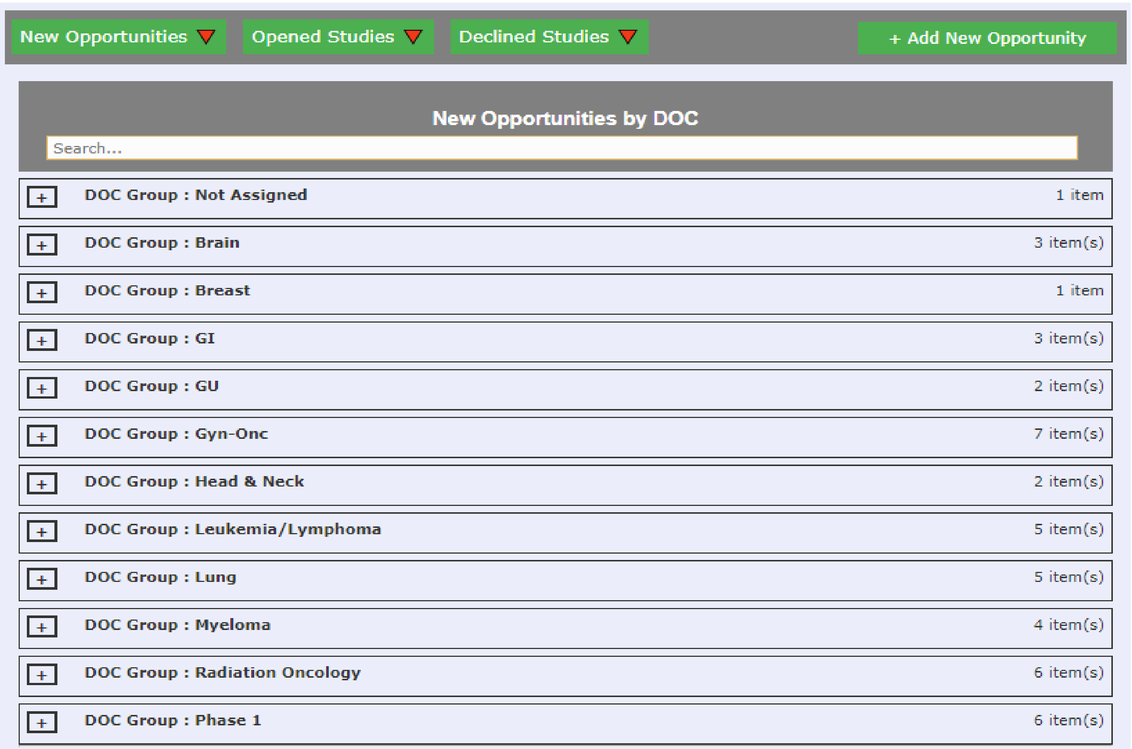
Goals and Metrics

Our goal was to create a streamlined process to track clinical trials in the onboarding pipeline. The process should be efficient and accurate allowing all members of the team to access information quickly.

Metrics used to evaluate Pre-Study Event Tracker were: new study opportunities with the ability to sort by PI, Disease Oriented Committee, or other criteria; open studies including the significant dates from the onboarding process; and, declined studies including reason the clinical trial was declined and by whom.

Methods

Our Information Technology Research Systems team, through in-depth collaboration with the Cancer Clinical Trials Office, developed Pre-Study Event Tracker with the ability to track clinical trials through the onboarding process beginning with initial interest contact through IRB number assignment. The business development team is able to enter identifying study information, contact information for sponsors and CROs, dates submitted and approved by relevant committees as well as additional notes. We can also assign priority to studies and sort the pipeline by priority assigned.



Outcomes

Since the inception of Pre-Study Event Tracker, we've been able to successfully maintain tracking of clinical trials through the onboarding process. Pre-Study Event Tracker allows the entire team to access information quickly and accurately. We have also consolidated reports for each Disease Oriented Committee into one Pipeline Report.

Future Directions

Pre-Study Event Tracker has become integral to our onboarding processes. The Clinical Trials Office uses Pre-Study Event Tracker from initial interest emails to assignment to a study team. All pipeline clinical trials are consistently tracked, easily accessed, and can be sorted by any number of variables. We can also track declined studies and their reasons for NCI accreditation.

System enhancements are made as necessary.

Contact

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