

NP Core Leaders Meeting

October 5, 2007

Eileen Bigio, MD

Chair, NP Core Leaders Steering Committee

Northwestern ADC NP Core leader

Welcome

- New OHSU NP Core Leader
 - Randy Woltjer replaces Randy Nixon as OHSU NP Core Leader
- New Steering Committee member
 - Matt Frosch, Mass General NP Core Leader
- Steering Committee Chair for 2008 & 2009
 - Chuck White, UTSW ADC NP Core leader
- Steering committee rotation change, beginning 2010
 - 3 year service
 - 3rd year chair

Steering Committee

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Chair	Eileen Bigio	Chuck White	Chuck White	Matt Frosch	2008 elected
	Chuck White	Eileen Bigio	Matt Frosch	2008 elected	2009 elected
	Tom Montine	Matt Frosch	2008 elected	2009 elected	2010 elected

Agonal Survey, DLB Pathology and QA/Subcommittee Updates

Eileen Bigio

“Agonal Survey” Results Update

- Survey regarding center-specific policies
 - Agonal data
 - PMI
 - Human tissue handling training
 - Tissue testing for HIV & hepatitis
- Responses from 17 centers (one with comments only)

Agonal Data

Do you record agonal data, such as the following, from the last 2 weeks of life?:	Yes	No
Fever	4	12
Hypotension	2	14
Hypoxia	5	11
Oxygen supplementation	5	11
Agonal data other than above	5	10

BTF Brain Guidelines

Agonal data, if available, can be recorded at the discretion of the center. If recorded, it should be entered into the database.

PMI

	Yes	No
Do you record PMI from all cases?	16	0
Death to autopsy interval	9	
Death to time tissue fixed/frozen	7	
Other	1 (both)	

BTF Brain Guidelines

Postmortem interval should be recorded and entered into the database (number of hours from death until autopsy or until specimen is fixed/frozen, depending on which measurement is standard in the specific laboratory).

HIV/Hepatitis testing Human tissue training

	Yes	No
Do you test blood or brain for hepatitis and HIV?	3	13
Do you think hepatitis & HIV testing should be mandatory if funding permits?	7	9
Are lab personnel trained in handling human tissue?	16	0
Do they receive annual refresher courses?	7	8

BTF Guidelines

Hepatitis & HIV Testing

- A disclaimer should accompany all biospecimen disbursements, which PIs should sign and return to Core leaders. The disclaimer should indicate that they understand that absence of infectivity of biospecimens cannot be guaranteed, that laboratory personnel have been trained in procedures related to handling of human tissue, and that universal precautions will be observed.
- Cases with a history of hepatitis B or C or HIV infection should be excluded from brain donation unless a study specifically requires this type of tissue.
- Testing of blood for hepatitis and HIV may be performed, if desired. However, as there can be both false positives and negatives, a negative test for hepatitis or HIV does not guarantee absence of infectivity.
- Cases positive for hepatitis or HIV, blood, DNA, and frozen brain should not be distributed to investigators unless their study specifically requires this type of tissue. It may be kept and labeled as either hepatitis or HIV positive for such needs. Fixed tissue may be distributed with specific hepatitis and HIV warnings as above.

BTF Guidelines

Human Subjects Training

- Laboratory personnel
 - Should be immunized for hepatitis B
 - Must be trained in safety procedures related to handling of human tissue
 - Must observe universal precautions; all specimens must be handled as if infectious