Retention Practices in the ADC System

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National Strategy for Recruitment and Participation in Alzheimer's and Related Dementias Clinical Research

The Prevention and Treatment of Missing Data in Clinical Trials







October 2018

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AD Trial Retention Rates

Trial	N	Active Completers	Placebo Completers	Overall Retention
Gamma secretase inhibitor	51	32/36 = 0.89	12/15 =0.80	0.86
Dimebon	183	78/89 =0.88	77/94 =0.82	0.85
Rosiglitazone	518	106/122 =0.87	336/389 =0.86	0.85
High dose B vitamin	409	204/240 =0.85	140/169 = 0.83	0.84
Rivastigmine patch	1195	704/893 =0.79	266/302 =0.88	0.82
Estrogen replacement	120	65/81 =0.80	32/39 =0.82	0.81
Galantamine	978	539/692 =0.78	240/286 =0.84	0.80
Rofecoxib	351	179/240 =0.74	88/111 =0.79	0.76
DHA	402	178/241 = 0.74	129/161 =0.80	0.76
Bapineuzumab	234	92/122 =0.75	87/107 =0.81	0.76
AN1792	372	223/299 =0.74	53/73 =0.73	0.74
Idebenone	536	281/407 =0.69	96/129 =0.74	0.72
Atorvastatin	640	207/314 =0.66	245/326 =0.75	0.71
Galantamine	636	266/423 =0.63	172/213 = 0.81	0.69
Tarenflurbil	1684	506/862 =0.59	540/822 =0.66	0.62

Themes of Retention Strategies

- Community involvement
- Study identity
- Study personnel
- Study description
- Contact and scheduling methods
- Reminders

- Visit characteristics
- Benefits of study
- Financial incentives
- Reimbursement
- Nonfinancial incentives
- Special tracking methods

Retention Tactics



Methods

- Survey of ADC ORE Core Leaders
 - Requesting collaboration with Clinical Cores
- Based on strategies identified by Robinson and colleagues
- Survey developed at UCI, vetted by two geographically dispersed ADCs (KU, OHSU)
- Distributed via REDCap
- Survey results compared against NACC retention data

NACC Retention Rates

- NACC data request from all centers completing the survey
 - Response rate: 25/31 (81%)
- 21 of 25 center's data used (3 recently funded with inadequate retention data; one recently stopped contributing NACC data)
 - N=14,029
 - N=5,891 newly enrolled participants in the 4-year window



Analyses

- Frequencies of survey responses
- Fit a model using center retention survey scores and center retention performance
- Multivariable model, stepwise variable selection based on AIC
- Pairwise correlations between survey strategy scores and retention rates

Model Covariates

- Overall retention strategy score
- Time since baseline visit
- Diagnostic status (normal[R], MCI, dementia)
- Race (Caucasian[R], African American, Asian, Other)
- Ethnicity (Non-Hispanic[R], Hispanic)
- Gender (male[R], female)
- Age
- Education
- Study partner type (spouse[R], adult child, other)
- Total ADRC visit length
- ADRC Neuropsychological Test Battery length

Visit Length and Neuropsychological Test Battery Length

- For multivariable models, collapsed categories*
 - Visit length
 - 0-3 hours
 - >3 hours
 - Battery length
 - 0-2 hours
 - >2 hours (range 2-4)

Total visit length	0-2 h	2-3 h	3-4 h	4-5 h	5-6 h	>6 h
Centers (n)	1	4	7	5	3	1

Battery length	0-2 h	2-3 h	3-4 h	>4 h
Centers (n)	15	5	1	0

*based on scarcity of data in some categories and statistical decision based on regression coefficients

	N=25	N=21
Strategy/tactic	ADCs, n	ADCs, n
	(%)	(%)
Study personnel	24 (96)	20 (95)
 Diverse staff 	23 (92)	19 (90)
Identify specific staff members		
who are responsible for retention		
of particular participants	20 (80)	16 (76)
 Ensure that specific staff (study 		
clinician) see participants		
consistently over time	18 (72)	14 (67)
 New staff training on retention 	14 (56)	11 (52)
Annual staff training on retention	9 (36)	6 (29)
• Other	1 (4)	1 (5)
 Twice annual staff retreat with focus on retention 		

Strategy/tactic	ADCs, n (%)	ADCs, n (%)
Contact and scheduling	25 (100)	21 (100)
 Use data capture system (e.g., REDCap) to monitor visit windows 	23 (92)	20 (95)
Use alerts to study staff to send visit reminders	17 (68)	14 (68)
 Use automated email systems to remind participants about visits 	3 (12)	3 (14)
 Use automated telephone systems to remind participants about visits 	4 (16)	2 (10)
 Use automated text messaging systems to remind participants about visits 	1 (4)	0 (0)
 Other 'personal' touch calls or emails from familiar staff 	1 (4)	0 (0)

Strategy/tactic	ADCs, n (%)	ADCs, n (%)
Special tracking methods	18 (72)	14 (67)
 Maintain phone tree of individuals to contact if the participant cannot be reached 	16 (64)	12 (57)
 Attend patient clinical visits as a means to contact them and request completion of study visits 	10 (40)	9 (43)
 Follow participants on social media and send private messages to remind of appointments or reach out if difficult to reach through traditional modes of communication 	0 (0)	0 (0)
 Other No shows triaged to more intense follow- up Letters asking for contact if phone number has changed 	2 (8)	2 (10)

Strategy/tactic	ADCs, n (%)	ADCs, n (%)
Visit characteristics	25 (100)	21 (100)
Offer breaks during visits	25 (100)	21 (100)
 Permit telephone completion of study partner activities 	25 (100)	21 (100)
 Follow participants by phone if it becomes impossible for them to attend visits due to disease severity 	25 (100)	21 (100)
Offer water and snacks during visits	23 (92)	19 (90)
 Schedule visits around participants' needs/energy level 	22 (88)	22 (88)
 Permit splitting of visits into 2 or more sessions over 2 or more days 	21 (84)	18 (86)
 Permit splitting of visits into 2 sessions in a single day 	20 (80)	16 (76)
Hold visits at convenient (off site) locations	10 (40)	8 (38)
Perform home visits	9 (36)	7 (33)
• Hold visits during non-traditional hours (evenings)	5 (20)	3 (14)
• Hold visits during non-traditional days (weekends)	4 (16)	3 (14)
 Other Nursing home visits 	1 (4)	1 (5)

Strategy/tactic	ADCs, n (%)	ADCs, n (%)
Financial incentives	19 (76)	15 (71)
 Provide annual cash payment for completing optional study procedures (e.g., lumbar puncture) 	11 (44)	9 (43)
 Provide annual cash payment for completing study visits 	9 (36)	8 (38)
 Provide annual non-cash payment (e.g., gift card) for completing study visits 	5 (20)	4 (19)
 Provide annual non-cash payment (e.g., gift card) for completing optional study procedures (e.g., lumbar puncture) 	5 (20)	5 (24)
• Other	0 (0)	0 (0)

Strategy/tactic	ADCs, n (%)	ADCs, n (%)
Non-financial incentives	22 (88)	19 (90)
 Hold participant gratitude events 	21 (84)	18 (86)
 Send seasonal holiday cards 	15 (60)	12 (57)
• Offer participants value nominal gifts such as pens, magnets, etc.	13 (52)	10 (48)
 Provide participants awards or certificates of appreciation for milestone visits (e.g., 5- or 10-year interval) 	11 (44)	9 (43)
 Send birthday cards 	9 (36)	7 (33)
Hold participant holiday celebrations	5 (20)	4 (19)
 Other ADRC-stamped chocolate bars Bereavement cards Birthday telephone calls 	4 (16)	4 (19)



Strategy/tactic	ADCs, n (%)	ADCs, n (%)
Benefits of study	25 (100)	21 (100)
 Provide feedback on annual UDS evaluation to PCP or other provider if requested by participant 	22 (88)	19 (90)
Provide diagnostic results to participants	20 (80)	17 (81)
 Provide feedback on non-UDS evaluations (lab values, evaluations, MMSE, etc) to PCP or other provider if requested by participant 	19 (76)	16 (76)
 Provide neuropsychological test results to participants 	17 (68)	14 (67)
Provide laboratory test results to participants	17 (68)	15 (71)
Offer support groups	17 (68)	14 (67)
Provide MRI biomarker results to participants	12 (48)	10 (48)
Provide amyloid PET results to participants	8 (32)	7 (33)
Provide CSF biomarker results to participants	7 (28)	7 (33)
• Provide FDG PET biomarker results to participants	7 (28)	7 (33)
Provide genetic test results to participants	3 (12)	3 (14)
 Provide free clinical care (e.g., medication prescriptions) to participants 	3 (12)	3 (14)
Other Provide access to a social worker	1 (4)	1 (5)

Survey Responses

• Mean (SD) = 42 (7) tactics (Range: 26-62)



Relationship Between Center Retention Strategies and Retention Rate



Total Strategy

Multivariable model results (n=14,029).			
Covariate	OR	95% CI	P-value
Total strategy score (x10 units)	1.21	(1.14, 1.30)	< 0.0001
Normal control	-	-	-
• MCI	0.84	(0.77, 0.92)	0.0001
Dementia	0.59	(0.53, 0.65)	<0.0001
White race	-	-	-
Asian race	0.63	(0.51, 0.78)	< 0.0001
African American race Other race	0.77	(0.69, 0.87)	< 0.0001
Other race	0.89	(0.67, 1.16)	0.38
Non-Hispanic ethnicity	-	-	-
Hispanic ethnicity	0.69	(0.59, 0.81)	<0.0001
Spouse/partner partnerAdult child partner	- 0.75	- (0.68, 0.83)	- <0.0001
 Other partner 	0.82	(0.74, 0.90)	0.0001
 Male sex 	-	(0.74, 0.00)	-
 Female sex 	0.81	(0.74, 0.87)	<0.0001
Age (years)	1.04	(1.04, 1.05)	<0.0001
Education (years)	1.05	(1.03, 1.06)	< 0.0001
Visit length		(, ,	
• 0-3 hours	-	-	-
• >3 hours	0.66	(0.59, 0.74)	<0.0001
Battery length			
• 0-2 hours	-	-	-
• >2 hours	1.26	(1.16, 1.38)	< 0.0001

Relationship Between Center Retention Strategies and Retention Rate



Multivariable model results (n=5,891 new participants).				
Covariate	OR	95% CI	P-value	
Total strategy score (x10 units)	1.27	(1.14, 1.42)	<0.00001	
Normal	-	-	-	
MCI	0.80	(0.70, 0.91)	0.001	
Dementia	0.57	(0.49, 0.67)	<0.00001	
White race	-	-	-	
Asian race	0.84	(0.63, 1.23)	0.24	
African American race	0.72	(0.61, 0.86)	0.0002	
Other race	0.82	(0.55, 1.23)	0.34	
Non-Hispanic Ethnicity	-	-	-	
Hispanic Ethnicity	0.73	(0.56, 0.95)	0.017	
Spouse/partner	-	-	-	
Adult child	0.74	(0.64, 0.86)	0.0001	
Other	0.82	(0.70, 0.95)	0.01	
• Male sex	-	-	-	
Female sex	0.76	(0.68, 0.86)	< 0.00001	
Age (years)	1.04	(1.03, 1.05)	< 0.00001	
Education (years)	1.04	(1.02, 1.06)	< 0.00001	
Time since baseline	0.83	(0.79, 0.88)	<0.00001	
Visit length				
• 0-3 hours	-		-	
 >3 hours Pattery length 	0.70	(0.59, 0.83)	<0.00001	
Battery length				
0-2 hours	- 11	-	-	
 >2 hours 	1.11	(0.97, 1.27)	0.14	

Correlations Between Strategies and Retention



Correlations Between Strategies and Retention: Diagnostic Groups



Correlations Between Strategies and Retention: Partner Groups



Correlations Between Strategies and Retention: Racial Groups



Summary and Conclusions

- Centers consistently engage in retention strategies but specific tactics vary in rates of implementation
- Retention performance is associated with the number of total retention tactics
- Specific participants (impaired, non-white, lacking spouse) may be more challenging to retain
- Specific tactics (flexible visits, non-financial incentives) may be most impactful on retention

Acknowledgements

- NIA AG016573 (UCI ADRC)
- KU and OHSU ADRCs
- Nina Silverberg
- All of you who completed the survey!!

Retention of participants in longitudinal studies of AD



Dorothy Edwards, PhD

Jennifer Lingler, PhD

Susy Stark, PhD

NIH National Institute

Josh Grill, PhD

University of Wisconsin, Madison

University of Pittsburgh

Washington University in St. Louis

University of California, Irvine

Study of longitudinal retention of participants in research studies of AD

- Identify perceived facilitators and barriers to longitudinal research participation
 - Phone survey of 440 AD participants, 240 study partners across 4 sites
 - Survey items: Perceived Research Burden
 Assessment (Lingler et al); Review of literature
 - Sub-group analyses are planned (younger, under represented minority)
- Develop, member check and pilot new guidelines to increase study retention

Status

- Participant data has been collected, is in the process of being cleaned and merged for NACC study; UC Irvine study has been funded and is underway.
- Study partner data collection is nearing completion for NACC study.
- Anticipated guideline for pilot test in 2019
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