Biostat conference call, 31 January 2006

Present on call: Danielle, Qian, John, Sarah, Brandon.

Danielle reported that Cliff's RO1 has been submitted for the Feb 1 deadline. The MR conference calls have focused on the data transmission issues between LONI, ADCS, and Mayo. Paul Crane's RO1 is also being submitted (today) for the Feb 1 deadline. Laurel had received an email about a week ago from a group at Penn interested in writing a proposal using the biomarker data. We may be asked to assist in the writing of the analytic plan, although Danielle wasn't sure if any more information had come in about the project.

John reported that the voxel-based group will have a call next week. He is still playing around with various techniques, familiarizing himself with the different methods. He's been playing around with coregistration. He's also been looking into whether SPM or FSL (based on C code rather than linked to Matlab) should be used. Before the next voxel-based call, he plans to outline some ideas for simulations to assess the impact of SNR and CNR on VBM and TBM methods.

Sarah reported that the link between LONI and ADCS is in its final stages of development/testing. They are waiting for a sample of the QC files from Mayo. There may also need to be some testing on LONI's end once the QC tables are set up. So far, the link that has been established between LONI and ADCS is so that LONI can access the QC data that Mayo sends to determine which images should be released from quarantine. There have been some discussions about a joint query tool for LONI and ADCS, but no real development has gone into that. Sarah also reported that the QC data should be viewable with the images, so that people accessing the data can see the ratings of the MPRAGEs (in the event that both images pass QC, the preferred image will have the higher rating and should be the one used for analyses, although both will be available).

Brandon said that the industry folks are looking forward to accessing the data. He said when he logs into LONI, he can view filenames, but can't access the images (Sarah said this was most likely a list of the images that are still in quarantine).

We will talk again in two weeks.