Minutes for ADNI Biostatistics call, 3 May 2011

Present on call: Laurel Beckett, Danielle Harvey, Arnold, Mike Donohue, Nandini Raghavan, Peter Quarg, Shu Zhang, David Shera,

Laurel reported that Mike Weiner pointed out that people with an ADCS account could get access to ADNI-GO data already. Mike Donohue says access has not been granted via this route in general. Art Toga says that ADNI-GO data are now up on LONI, but Mike D has not found this yet. Danielle says there are some files now visible but they seem to be mostly patient characteristics (in "study data" section.) Mike thinks this is mostly for accessing scans from quarantine. There is not yet an ADNI-GO tab next to the ADNI-1 tab. Mike says they are working on the ADNI-2 data tables and also on making a merged table available. Individuals who were initially recruited in ADNI-1 may roll over into ADNI-GO or ADNI-2. Danielle notes that the people who were recruited in ADNI-1 but followed into ADNI-GO are getting follow-up data under their original ADNI-1 structure. Mike notes that the ADNI people are distinguishable by ID; those recruited in the original study all have ID's under 2000.

One suggestion is that we have a dual category system, with each record identified by the participant's recruitment cohort (ADNI-1, ADNI-GO, ADNI-2) and the second identifying the protocol under which the record was collected. We could put explanations on the FAQ page.

Mike says he is thinking of a merge of the three data dictionaries, with R code for any translations that are necessary. There have been some revisions to some key variables, though many are the same. Mike will keep us in the loop as he prepares this master data dictionary and mapping tables.

The database working group has not met since our in-person meeting in LA. There will be another call tomorrow. It includes PPSB members; Danielle calls in as a liaison between biostatistics and data folks. They are working on identifying major challenges from user standpoint and features or tools that people would like to have to increase user friendliness. So far, the first call was introductions, and the second was an overview of what we have done to help with confusion around clinical data. There will be more information next time.

We have postponed the next training session again; it won't take place until the new website goes live.

The presentations in April went well and the slides have been posted on the adniinfo.org web site. The in-person meeting went well.

Analyses continue with great energy and lots of challenges. Mike Donohue's paper comparing survival and longitudinal models for clinical trials outcomes has been accepted.

The next call is scheduled for June 7 but Danielle and Laurel will be at a meeting at Friday Harbor. We will try to reschedule.