

ADNI Biostatistics Group call, 6 September 2011

Present on call: Laurel Beckett, Naomi Saito, Arnold Huang, Danielle Harvey, Nandini Raghavan, David Shera, Bill Billings, Niklas Sjogren, Peter Quarg, Tom Kelleher, Mike Weiner,

Danielle reported that LONI has released a new way of navigating the database and searching. She has not tried it out yet. It's a beta version, and they are looking for feedback. There is much more flexibility in selection of what subsets you want to download.

There is some imaging data submitted to ADCS but not yet posted on LONI. Updates to neuropsychological testing and to clinical data have been posted. Danielle has been encouraging the labs to submit data. UCSF has submitted data, and UCD has data ready to submit. She has not seen anything from FDG-PET; she has not yet seen the AV45 data either. It looks like what is available so far is primarily on images but they are working on searchable and merge-friendly data from the clinical as well. This would include the ability to do some simple looks at the data. They hope to release to general public sometime in next few months, also.

Mike Donohue and our group have provided some shared code. LONI does have a plan to provide links and make them more obvious, but this has not happened yet. Mike, Karen and Danielle are in discussions about this.

Laurel introduced Naomi Saito, our newest team member. She has a MS in biostatistics and prior medical experience, and has been working for the last few years with the UCD Center for

Mike Weiner reported that enrollment is slow but we had already requested a one-year no-cost extension, as we did with ADNI-1. We are now already planning a second no-cost extension year. (Same amount of money, longer time.) We need to complete enrollment by two years from now for this to work. This entails averaging 20 subjects per month, on average. We were doing this in April, May and June; we added a few more sites but went into summer doldrums. In another month though we should see enrollment pick up. We think the reasons are that a) the novelty has worn off somewhat, b) the project is more demanding (required lumbar puncture, PET, and MRI for everyone), and c) there are many more treatment trials out there, especially in the mild dementia and MCI area. We are working on incentivizing sites and increasing public relations spots.

Laurel reported that the comparison paper is about to go out. Other papers are underway: Danielle has several, the Friday Harbor groups had 4 or so and we are involved with at least two, and Dan Tancredi has a stat methods paper underway.

Bill Billings asked if people would be attending the October meetings in Washington DC. David Shera said yes, but Danielle and Laurel will not be there. Laurel will add a note on this when the minutes are posted and will ask people to let Bill know so he can coordinate a gathering if there is a critical mass.

Our next call is Tuesday, October 4, 10 AM Pacific time.