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1. From the ANZCTR Manager

Welcome to the seventh issue of the ANZCTR newsletter. The past year has seen many events and achievements and we hope you enjoy this summary of our activities during 2011.

Lisa Askie

2. Trial registration milestones in 2011

There were several important milestones that occurred during 2011, with the total number of registered studies surpassing the 6000 mark. There were 6053 trials on the website at the time of writing.

The registry's collaboration with the Australian Cancer Trials website following its launch in November 2010 continued, and the ANZCTR website was incrementally updated with several functional improvements.

• Australian Cancer Trials collaboration

Australian Cancer Trials is a consumer friendly website containing information about cancer trials in Australia. Launched officially on 11th November 2010, the ANZCTR is pleased to continue its involvement and support of the website. See: <http://www.australiancancertrials.gov.au>. The data included on the site is sourced from both the ANZCTR and Clinicaltrials.gov, with ANZCTR staff being the main point of contact with enquiries from researchers and members of the public.

• ANZCTR website improvements

In response to consumer feedback, the ANZCTR website undertook several changes to improve its functionality. These updates have seen the addition of a:

- Prospective/Retrospective label to help better differentiate the types of registrations on the site
- new 'Any Cancer' Condition Code to help classify all-encompassing Cancer studies

- Several additional background coding improvements to aid registrants and members of the general public in their use of the website

3. WHO International Clinical Trial Registry Platform (ICTRP) - ongoing interactions

The ANZCTR continued its association with the WHO International Clinical Trials Registry Platform (ICTRP) in 2011 as a Primary Registry in the WHO Registry Network.

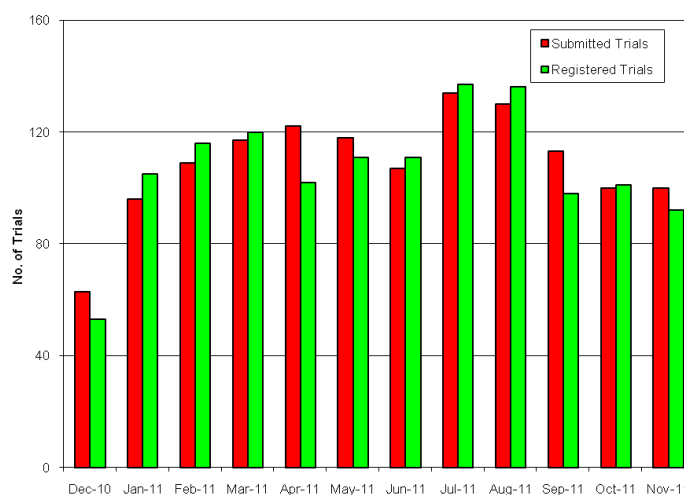
• Data provider for the ICTRP Search Portal

As in previous years, the ANZCTR continues providing an updated version of the registry's data to the [WHO's ICTRP](#) each week so that when the [ICTRP portal](#) is searched, up-to-date information is available. The ICTRP Search Portal now lists data from [15 Primary Registries around the world](#).

4. Current statistics

The past year has seen an increase in the number of new trials submitted for registration with an average of 112 new trials being submitted each month - an increase from the 2010 average of 102 per month.

No. of ANZCTR Submitted and Registered Trials



Once *submitted*, trials are checked for data quality, accuracy and duplication before being *registered*.

5. Staff Updates

2011 saw the departure of project officer Henry Ko, who had assisted the ANZCTR Manager with the preparation of meetings, reports and papers for publication. Possessing extensive experience in performing systematic reviews and health technology assessments, Henry has since departed to pastures new in Singapore, aiding the Centre for Health Services Research with Sing Health. We wish him all the best.

Meanwhile, the ANZCTR Manager, Dr Lisa Askie, has been promoted by the University of Sydney to Associate Professor. Congratulations to Assoc Prof Askie!

6. ANZCTR plans for 2012

Major ANZCTR plans for 2012 include:

- Taking further steps to decrease the proportion of trials registered after the first participant is enrolled (as such trials do not fulfil the ICMJE requirement of *prospective* trial registration);

Lastly and once again

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our stakeholders, funders and collaborators for your continued support during 2011 and wish you all a very happy holiday season & all the best for the New Year.



The ANZCTR Team (L-R: Jenny Chow [*Executive Assistant*], Lisa Askie [*Manager*], Will Ooi [*Project Officer*], Kylie Hunter [*Project Officer*], Fergus Tai [*Project Officer*], Thuyen Vu [*IT Officer*])

- Establishing increased links and data transfer procedures with several partner websites;
- A major upgrade of the Registry's IT infrastructure will occur in 2012 with funding provided by the Federal Department of Industry Innovation Science and Research. This will see major improvements to the Registry's search functionality, updating procedures and recruitment site information.

7. Contact us

We welcome your questions, comments, suggestions and contributions on any matter relating to the Australian New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry.

Please send your message to: info@actr.org.au

Alternatively, you can contact us on:

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Fax: +61 2 9565 1863

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