
Strategy: Capitalize on the large, diverse clinical caseload to support excellence in translational and clinical research (3.3).

Date: Semiannual Report – June 2013

Summary of Activities: Several actions have been implemented since the last review.

The most important one is the creation of the Veterinary Center for Clinical Trials (VCCT; http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/clinicaltrials). The VCCT is run by Chrissy Kapelewski, PhD, as clinical trials analyst and Dr. Erik Wisner as interim director. The mission of the center is to accelerate identification and development of diagnostics and therapeutics for the benefit of veterinary and human patients. The center serves as point of contact for investigators and sponsors interested in conducting in a clinical trial. The center also facilitates all aspects of a veterinary clinical trial, maintains a database of institutional expertise and resources and forms alliances with other campus units and outside collaborators. The VCCT is located within the Veterinary Medicine II Building, adjacent to the William R. Pritchard Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital at the University of California, Davis (Room 0106). This center works closely with other campus institutions including the School of Veterinary Medicine's academic departments, School of Medicine, the Clinical and Translational Science Center, Center for Companion Animal Health, and Center for Equine Health. Clinical investigators have active trials aimed at advancing medical care for their veterinary patients in a variety of disciplines. For clinical investigators, this center represents a great advancement and will facilitated all organizational aspects of a clinical trial, i.e. one-stop-shop for clinical trial needs (negotiations of contracts, grants, service agreements, material transfers, and intellectual property, alliances with other campus units and outside collaborators, IACUC/CTRB protocol approval, regulatory issues, Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) compliance, data collection, record keeping, progress reports, marketing and advertisement). At the present time, the VCCT manages close to 40 clinical trials in companion animals, focusing on anesthesia & pain management, oncology, genetics, cardiology, ophthalmology, internal medicine, neurology and neurosurgery, dentistry and oral surgery and soft tissue surgery.

Very recently, the VMTH has established a Clinical Trial Review Board composed of a chair and seven members. The CTRB is an administrative body established to protect the welfare of client-owned VMTH animals recruited into clinical trials and research activities. The CTRB provides assistance in the design and execution of clinical trials and clinical research involving client owned animals, and through its efforts serves to enhance the ability of all at the School of Veterinary Medicine to successfully undertake clinical investigations in the veterinary patient population. The CTRB functions in an advisory fashion to the UC Davis Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) and will pre-review all protocols involving VMTH patients.

The Clinical Laboratories at the VMTH are in the process of acquiring GLP certification. Danielle Carrade, PhD, is the research and development manager in charge of overseeing the daily operations of Central Laboratory Receiving. She manages research accounts for the VMTH Clinical Laboratories, performs outreach marketing and GLP development.

Resource Materials/Data Analysis:
Veterinary Center for Clinical Trials: http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/clinicaltrials
Clinical Trial Review Board: http://safetyservices.ucdavis.edu/ps/a/IACUC:

Upcoming Activities/Initiatives:
Promote VCCT by generating advertisement material for sponsors and donors.
Establish an internal and external advisory board for VCCT.
Facilities planning for a new hospital with incorporation of support facilities for a clinical trials center.
Generate database of SVM faculty with their research fields.
Promote research seminars for faculty and residents (HOSD).

Accomplishments:
Established VCCT and CTRB to facilitate clinical trials.
Promote clinical research for students (STAR program), residents (resident research awards) and faculty.
Continuous research support via intramural grants (CCAH, CEH).