

PRE-ENROLLMENT

- Enroll sites with substantial referral populations of racial-ethnic minorities (e.g., 25-30% Hispanic and 50-60% African-Americans). Over-sample sites in cities with over 100,000 people.
- Review previous medical records for specified diagnosis to understand the prevalence at each participating site. Obtain age, gender, ethnic and relevant inclusion/exclusion information.
- Each participating site should propose a recruitment and monitoring plan to achieve the proposed population-referent study population.
- Encourage site PIs and research staff to carefully assess referral patterns to the site and consider the following issues prior to recruitment activities: a) racial/ethnic makeup, b) socioeconomic status, c) gender, language, and education/literacy levels. This may identify potential challenges and would define strategies to work through early in the outreach efforts.
- Participating sites should be encouraged to work closely with the public/community relations department of their hospital or medical center to identify patient engagement groups or community activities already underway which might be utilized for recruitment, including current advertising in the community.
- Consider consulting with a community advisory group to vet study design (often includes a fee or honorarium)
- All site PIs and their clinical research staff should receive cultural humility training, i.e. understand that attention must be given to cultural, historical, social, and political factors that may influence minority participation.

ENROLLMENT



Think about how you can minimize inconvenience and provide support



Diversify your clinical sites



Involve your local community members and organizations



Consider a multidisciplinary approach

- Provide vouchers, transit cards, and/or gift cards to cover non-medical costs, such as gas mileage, parking, and a meal.
- Designate research staff or site staff to assist in arranging transportation for those who lack any means of getting to and from the site.
- Extend clinic or site hours to accommodate working individuals or those with child care issues.
- Location and accessibility of the site should be considered to encourage compliance with follow-up appointments. Consider satellite sites that are close in proximity to communities of interest.
- Think about modes of communication for outreach and retention (follow-up phone calls, social media campaigns, text messaging, etc.). Identify what works best for the community/population.
- Provide translation services or bilingual staff for recruiting populations for which English is not the primary language.
- It should be noted that many individuals need clarification on what a clinical trial is; what type of research is being conducted; who is conducting the research; benefits to individuals and the community; place of worship's encouragement, etc.

Don't underestimate the importance of:
Friendliness
Empathy
Willingness to listen

Enrollment practices rely on:

Organization

Confidence

Teamwork

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