Welcome to the Greater Kansas City Chapter of the Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP). We proudly serve Kansas City and the surrounding area to provide up-to-date information, continuing education credits, and networking for the research community. We are a comprehensive organization of clinical research professionals from a variety of backgrounds.

We have an active and exciting year planned for the Greater KC Chapter. If you have questions about ACRP meetings or events, please contact us at kcacrp@gmail.com.

I look forward to serving as president!

See you all very soon!

Best Regards,

Grant A. Gorr gragorr@aerotek.com

Greater KC Chapter President
Welcome New Members!

A big welcome and hello to our newest members. Without your interest and involvement our group could not continue to grow and flourish.

We hope you enjoy everything your local chapter has to offer and are always interested in hearing your suggestions for improvement.

Danielle Wolfe  
Children’s Mercy

Jennifer Payne  
Ehrhardt Clinical Research

Sheri Copeland  
Kansas University Medical Center

Diana Naser  
Naser and Naser consulting

Gordon Clark  
GTC Research

Know someone that could benefit from membership?

Become a Greater Kansas City Chapter member for only $20 a year.

Joining the GKC Chapter is easy through the new ACRP website. Simply log in to the ACRP website, http://acrpnet.org/. Once you have logged in, select “my profile” from the right side bar, then select “join chapter” in the right side bar. Once you locate the GKC Chapter, hit the select button to purchase your membership!
Employer Spotlight

The University of Kansas Cancer Center is transforming cancer research and clinical care by linking our innovative approach to drug discovery, delivery and development to our nationally accredited patient care program. As an NCI-designated Cancer Center, we offer the latest clinical trials available. This gives our patients more options for innovative therapy and more hope for survival.

The Clinical Trials Office (CTO), provides comprehensive, centralized support services that span the life cycle of cancer clinical trials from concept through manuscript, and assures the patient population and needed resources are in place to successfully conduct these trials. The CTO is functionally organized into four distinct groups:

1. Regulatory Affairs
2. Research Finance
3. Clinical Program Management/Coordination
4. Quality Assurance

Employee Spotlight

Jamie Meseke is a home-based Sr. Clinical Team Manager for PPD, Inc. She has 20 years of experience in the academic and pharmaceutical research industries with a strong emphasis in oncology research. Jamie is currently leading two lung cancer trials where she is responsible for clinical deliverables and monitoring oversight.

Prior to PPD, Jamie held research and project management positions with PharmaSeek, Inc., the University of Wisconsin Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Central Florida Office of Research, and US HIFU. Jamie and her family relocated to the Kansas City area in 2013. She is married and has four young children. She has a Bachelor's degree in Russian and International Studies, a Master's degree in Business Management and is pursuing a second Master's in Clinical Research Administration as well as a Ph.D. in business leadership. Jamie is a member of Association of Clinical Research Professionals and serves on the Editorial Advisory Board for the Clinical Researcher journal.
Pharmaceutical Company “Price Gouging” and the Effect on Volunteer Participation in Clinical Trials

Controversy on the high cost of medications is all over the news recently. With debate over a reasonable price for drugs like Gleevec (a cancer medication) and Sofosbuvir (a medication for Hepatitis C) everyone from presidential candidates to regular citizens have an opinion on what drives the costs.

While the true reasons most likely have basis in many different areas (such as demand, salaries, profits for investors, cost of manufacturing) some drug companies have come out blaming the high cost of research.

"Here's the reality: Most of the medicines we develop in our labs will not make their way to patients ... To make up for the risk and expense inherent in creating new medicines, the few medicines that are successful must cover the research and development costs of the many clinical failures that will never earn a single cent. It's easy to forget that profits serve an important purpose: they allow businesses to invest in the innovations of the future." (Pfizer executive, Huffington Post, http://www.huffingtonpost.com/zeke-emanuel/holding-drug-companies-ac_b_9011794.html)

This “blame the research” mentality makes it difficult for researchers (sites and CROs) to recruit volunteers since the trust of the community is degraded. With missed enrollment deadlines come higher research costs.

What the pharmaceutical industry needs is consumer trust. How the price gouging debates will affect that will be interesting to watch.

More information: click here

What’s Happening Locally?

Vince & Associates Clinical Research, an Atlasciences company, announced in February the opening of a controlled ventilation indoor smoking facility offering a human laboratory model of smoking behavior at their clinical research unit in Overland Park, KS.

This smoking facility is divided into two areas with independent ventilation systems to allow for the evaluation of smoking cessation, smoking, vaping, tobacco risk assessment and nicotine delivery. This facility is a part of Vince & Associates’ new four-story building, which is scheduled to fully open in March 2016. The indoor smoking areas allow for the controlled evaluation of pharmaceutical and tobacco products.

“Our experience with both the pharmaceutical and tobacco industries, coupled with our innovative facilities and expert staff, ensure that Vince & Associates is uniquely qualified to conduct these specialized clinical trials,” said Dr. Brad Vince, CEO and Medical Director at Vince & Associates. The new smoking facility allows for a full range of smoking assessments including those for the human laboratory model of smoking behavior. A dedicated team works with sponsors throughout all stages of their program, from study design and study conduct, to bioanalysis and clinical study report writing.

BusinessWire, 24/FEB/2016 03:47
What We Are All About!

Association of Clinical Research Professionals

Our Mission is our Passion:

To provide local leadership to promote integrity and excellence for the clinical research profession.

The Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP) Chapter of Kansas City is a regional resource for clinical research professionals in the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries, and those in hospital, academic medical centers and physician office settings.

Our mission is to address any educational and networking needs of any and all clinical research professionals in the Kansas City area.

What can ACRP do for me?

Becoming a member of ACRP connects you to the largest community of your peers.

Through participation in targeted professional development opportunities, the annual ACRP Global Conference & Exhibition, Local Chapters, the Online Community, and Interest Groups and with global members through interactive eForums and a searchable Member Directory the networking possibilities are endless.

Get Involved!

The local Kansas City Chapter offers free educational events to our chapter members 3 to 4 times per year featuring well know professional speakers. Obtaining CEUs for attending is as simple as 1, 2 and 3.

1. Sign in at the registration desk and attend the program
2. Go to http://www.acrnet.org, Log-in and purchase the contact hours: Member price FREE; Public Price $30 by going to Go My Contact Hours / Purchase Education Event / Greater KC Event
3. Go to your “My Tests, Evaluations, and Certificates” (TEC) record on the ACRP website to complete the evaluation between 1-7 days following the event and obtain the online certificate
**Additional Resources**

- Access to the Wiki-glossary and global resources
- Access to a social networking-style website (a great resource for clinical research professionals)
- **The Clinical Researcher.** A bi-monthly journal featuring peer-reviewed articles, columns, association news and more. In addition, each issue provides three CEU's of self-study, self-paced credits.
- ACRP **Wire** – A bi-weekly eNewsletter that delivers current new specific to clinical research.
- **ACRP Career Center** a free resume posting forum.
- **ACRP Interest Groups** of clinical research professionals from different disciplines and activity areas—fostering the sharing of information and experiences among ACRP Members and professional colleagues.

**CONNECT WITH ACRP GREATER KC!**

Facebook: Association of Clinical Research Professionals, Greater KC Chapter
Twitter: @ACRPGreaterKC
Linkedin: ACRP Greater Kansas City

**Call for Speakers**

Are you interested in sharing your experience or expertise with our members?

Do you know someone with interesting information to share?

Do you have a topic you would like to hear more about at one of our educational events?

We would love to hear from you! Email us or find us on Facebook to share your ideas.
On Wednesday Dec. 9, 2015, in conjunction with the great people at KU Clinical Research, ACRP Greater KC presented a CE opportunity at the Fairway campus at 4350 Shawnee Mission Pkwy, Fairway, KS. Toni Gerrity, Director of IRB Operations at Midland IRB presented “The History and Current State of the IRB in our Industry”.

During a great presentation with an informative slide deck, Gerrity gave a very interesting and in-depth history on the unregulated clinical trials and the reasons we have these guidelines today.

Gerrity then went on to explain the role of the IRB in clinical trials and how that role has expanded over the years. By exploring the inner workings of an IRB and what those tasks mean to sites, pharmaceutical companies, and volunteers Gerrity was able to offer a better understanding the IRB’s importance.

And, to keep things extra exciting, Gerrity offered prizes during presentation for correct quiz answers. It was a great evening with good information, networking, and fun.
### DID YOU KNOW?

**ACRP Certification vs. SOCRA Certification**

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<th>ACRP</th>
<th>SOCRA</th>
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<tr>
<td>Open to Members &amp; Non-Members</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accredited by Independent Body</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specific to Job Roles</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administered by Independent Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linked to Fewer Protocol Deviations</td>
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<td>Linked to More Favorable Outcomes from Regulatory Audits</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applicants must meet Eligibility requirements</td>
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<td>Exam Available Worldwide</td>
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<td>Continuing Education Required for Maintenance</td>
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<td>TransCelerate BioPharma Recognized</td>
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Sites with higher numbers of certified staff achieve a 4% higher net operating profit.

Sites with higher numbers of certified staff initiate three times as many trials as sites with fewer certified staff.