MTN 005 Study-Specific Training

Participant Accrual Plans
MTN 005 Sites

Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center
Bronx, New York

University of Alabama - Birmingham
Birmingham, AL

National AIDS Research Institute
Pune, India
Monthly Accrual Targets

- 102 participants (US sites), 150 participants (India site)
- ~ 51 participants per US site
- 5 months for accrual
- ~ 11 participants per month per US site
  - Scheduling around holidays/summer
  - Competitive enrollment (US sites only)
Site-Specific Accrual Plans

Some Operational Considerations

Reference SSP Section 4
Site Specific Accrual Plans

- Site-specific accrual targets
- Methods for tracking actual versus targeted accrual
- Pre-screening procedures (if any)
- Expected pre-screening to enrollment ratios
- Recruitment methods
- Methods for timely evaluation of the usefulness of recruitment methods
- Ethical and human subjects considerations
- Staff responsibilities (direct and supervisory)
- QC/QA procedures (if not specified elsewhere)
Operational Tips and Reminders

- Designate a Recruitment Coordinator who is responsible for tracking accrual rates and managing recruitment efforts over time.
- Hold weekly meetings among staff involved in accrual activities – community educators, recruiters, outreach workers, peer educators, others – to discuss current and ongoing strategies.
- Discuss accrual issues and strategies at monthly study team meetings.
- Engage community representatives on accrual issues and strategies throughout the accrual period.
Operational Tips and Reminders

- At the beginning of the study, make your best estimates of key “accrual ratios” for your site:
  - Of those contacted, how many participate in screening?
  - Of those who screen, how many are eligible?
  - Of those who are eligible, how many enroll?

- Knowing these numbers will help you understand how many people need to be recruited and/or screened each month to meet your monthly enrollment targets.

- Keep tracking these numbers and adjust efforts over time as needed.

Tracking systems are essential.
Operational Tips and Reminders

- Continue to discuss as a team, over time, the characteristics of “good candidates” for study participation:
  - Do they have stable employment or housing in the area?
  - Are they planning any vacations or trips in the next 3 months?

When in doubt proceed with caution.
Recruitment is always harder than expected!

- Plan ahead
- Re-visit your strategies often
- Make adjustments as needed
- Consult with the protocol team if there are problems
What are your questions?