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1. From the ANZCTR Manager

Welcome to the sixth 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 2010.

Lisa Askie

2. Trial registration milestones in 2010

There were several important milestones that occurred during 2010. The Australian Cancer Trials website was launched in November after over two years of collaboration with the Registry, the ANZCTR website underwent an extensive aesthetic overhaul and WHO ICTRP minimum standards were finalised and endorsed.

- **Australian Cancer Trials collaboration**

Australian Cancer Trials is a consumer friendly website containing information about cancer trials in Australia. It was developed in collaboration with the ANZCTR, the University of Sydney, Cancer Australia, Cancer Voices and other group and was officially launched on 11th November. See: <http://www.australiancancertrials.gov.au>. The data included on the website is sourced from both the ANZCTR and Clinicaltrials.gov.

- **ANZCTR website redesign**

In response to consumer feedback, the ANZCTR website underwent a revamp in design mid-year to make it more user-friendly. The changes included re-positioning key sections of the site, inclusion of additional help text for the registration process, and the updating and addition of useful links and other content.

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 2010 as a Primary Registry in the WHO Registry Network.

- **Data provider for the ICTRP Search Portal**

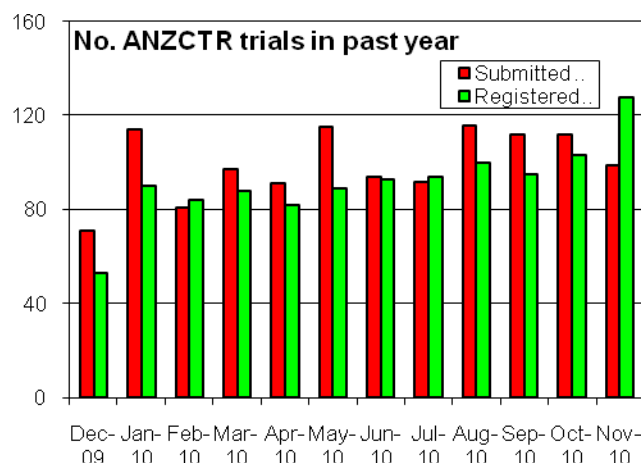
The ANZCTR provides an updated version of the registry's data to the [WHO's ICTRP](#) each week so that when the [ICTRP portal](#) is searched, up-to-date information is available. The ICTRP Search Portal now lists data from [11 Primary Registries around the world](#).

- **Updated WHO ICTRP Minimum Standards**

In November, the WHO ICTRP finalised and endorsed a set of international minimum standards for trial registries. The ANZCTR conducted a review of its existing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to ensure compliance with these new international requirements. Some minor changes to our procedures and systems will be implemented in early 2011 to ensure full compliance with these standards.

4. Current statistics

The past year has seen an increase in the number of new trials submitted for registration with an average of 102 new trials being submitted each month - an increase from the 2009 average of 90 per month. The total number of registered studies has now reached 4772.



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

5. New staff

2010 has seen the return of Henry Ko to the ANZCTR team. Henry is assisting the ANZCTR Manager with various organisational aspects such as preparation of reports and papers for publication. Henry has extensive experience in performing systematic reviews and health technology assessments, working previously with the Cochrane Collaboration and the Centre for Clinical Effectiveness in Melbourne. He is a very welcome addition to the team.

6. ANZCTR plans for 2011

Major ANZCTR plans for 2011 include:

- taking 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);

- establishing increased links and data transfer procedures with several partner registries;
- the regular maintenance and upgrading of the Registry's IT infrastructure, as well as ongoing continuous improvements to our administrative processes and operating procedures.

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:

Phone: +61 2 9562 5333

Fax: +61 2 9565 1863

Website: www.anzctr.org.au

Lastly and once again

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our stakeholders, funders and collaborators for your continued support during 2010 and wish you all a very happy holiday season & all the best for the New Year.



Lisa Askie
Manager



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Executive Officer



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Project Officer



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The ANZCTR Team