**Wake Forest NCORP Research Base Special Broadcast**

**March 18, 2020**

The distribution of this special broadcast is provided to notify members of recent updates to events, website updates, and protocol specific information.

**COVID-19 IMPACT and UPDATE**

The Wake Forest NCORP Research Base leadership team has carefully reviewed the recent NCI guidance on research activities during the COVID-19 pandemic and consulted with the Wake Forest IRB leadership. As always, patient, provider and staff safety is paramount as we navigate these challenging times. Our coordinating center staff are teleworking, and we will maintain our daily Research Base activities to the best of our abilities. We will continue to closely monitor the NCORP@wakehealth.edu mailbox and answer questions as they come in as quickly as possible. You may always call 336-716-0891 as we will be monitoring this main number as well.

We recognize that, unfortunately, it is not “business as usual” at any of our sites. We will continue to follow NCI guidance and emphasize that local leadership decision-making and guidance, as well as ongoing NCI updates, should guide each site’s research activities for the foreseeable future. Our studies currently remain open and data collection and reporting can continue if allowed and achievable at each site. Likewise, standard study deviation reporting (in RedCap for instance) can be used to document any of the expected deviations that will occur as a result of the current crisis, whenever it is safe and appropriate to do so.

We will not be activating any new studies, including 1805CD-HN-STAR, until instructed by the NCI to proceed.

Finally, our biospecimen lab currently remains open and is able to receive samples, as per standard guidelines. We will let you know if this lab needs to shut down due to staffing issues in the future.

* For WF 97116 and WF 1801, do **NOT** draw any samples for APOE genotyping as Dr. Tim Howard’s lab is closed at this time due to COVID-19.

Please be safe, socially distanced and, as always, prioritize patient, provider and staff safety as we collectively deal with weeks and months of disruption that will challenge all of our “normal” activities. As always, we appreciate your partnership.