

GIGA-kids: Happy New Year & Change in Command

Note from the GIGA Coordinator:

Hi all -- Drew here.

As some of you already know, I will be leaving at the end of February to pursue my career in Washington. It has been a pleasure and honor to work with each and everyone of you. I feel incredibly blessed to have had this opportunity.

I would like to introduce **Olivia Balderes** who will be the new coordinator for the GIGA Kids study on the Columbia University end. She is very excited to begin working with you all. After my departure all questions regarding the study should be directed to her.

As we enter 2017, and what will be our third year of GIGA Kids, we are looking forward to expanding the study and continuing to work closely with all participating institutions. The MWPMC meeting this past fall afforded us the opportunity to engage with a number of potential new sites. If you are interested in getting involved with GIGA Kids, please contact Olivia Balderes, the study's new coordinator, at ob2214@columbia.edu.

Overall, our total number of study participants is presently at 261 (255 cases and 6 controls). There was a dip in recruitment numbers in January of 2017 (*Fig.*

Please let us know if there is anything we can do to better support your recruitment on our end. As you can observe from *Fig. 2*, the University of Utah has recruited an astounding 69 of the total 261 enrollees, which represents over one fourth of the study cohort! Thank you all for doing such wonderful work and an extra thank you to those co-investigators without coordinators for taking the time out of your busy schedules to contribute to the study.

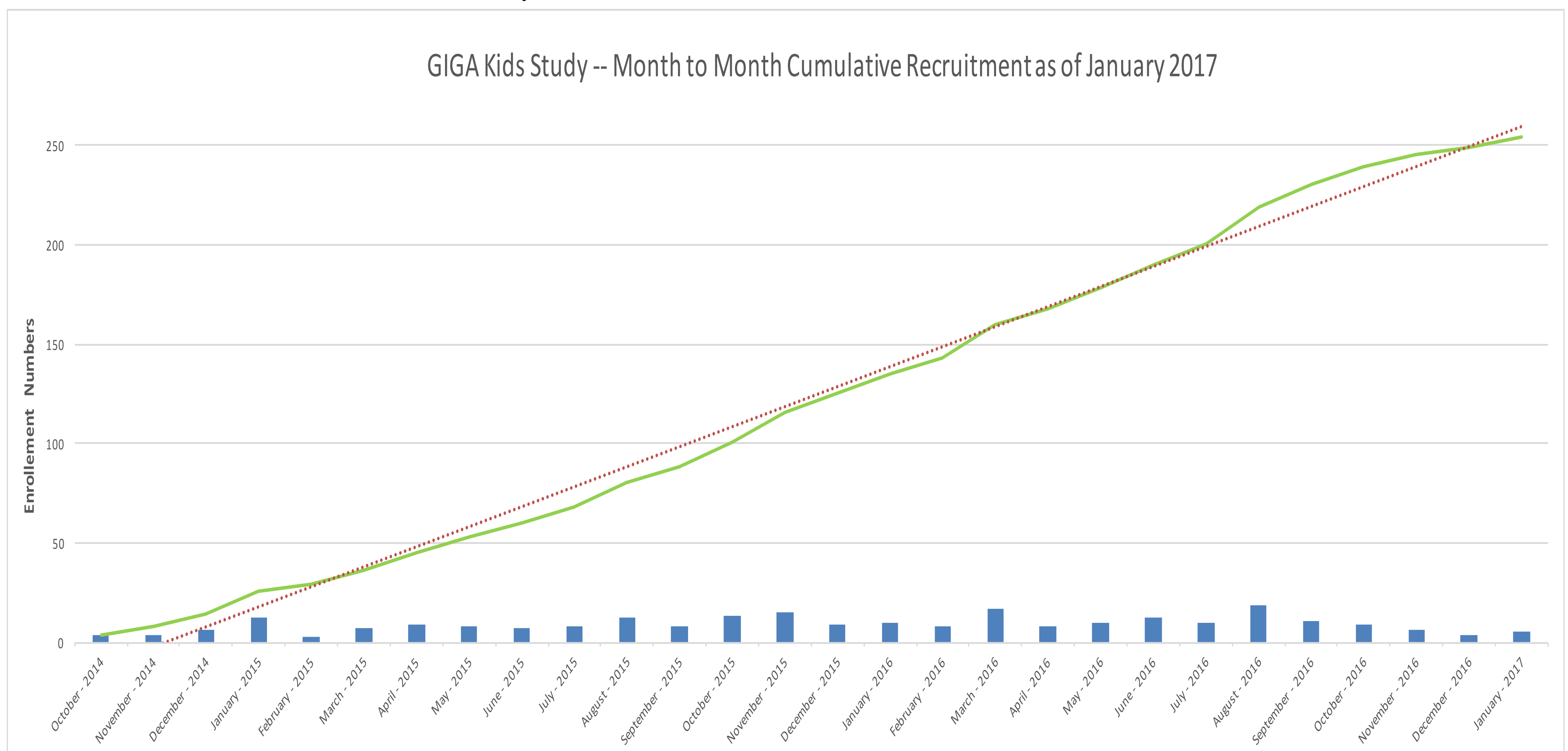


Figure 1: Cumulative Recruitment – as of September 2016

Important Contact Information:

DUA – Nationwide: Lisa Feurer
Lisa.Feurer@nationwidechildrens.org
MTA – CUMC: Melanie Foley
mf2162@cumc.columbia.edu

Interested in participating in the GIGA Kids Study?

Our new Coordinator for the GIGA Kids project, Olivia Balderes, can help and support you along the IRB application process.

Contact her at: ob2214@columbia.edu

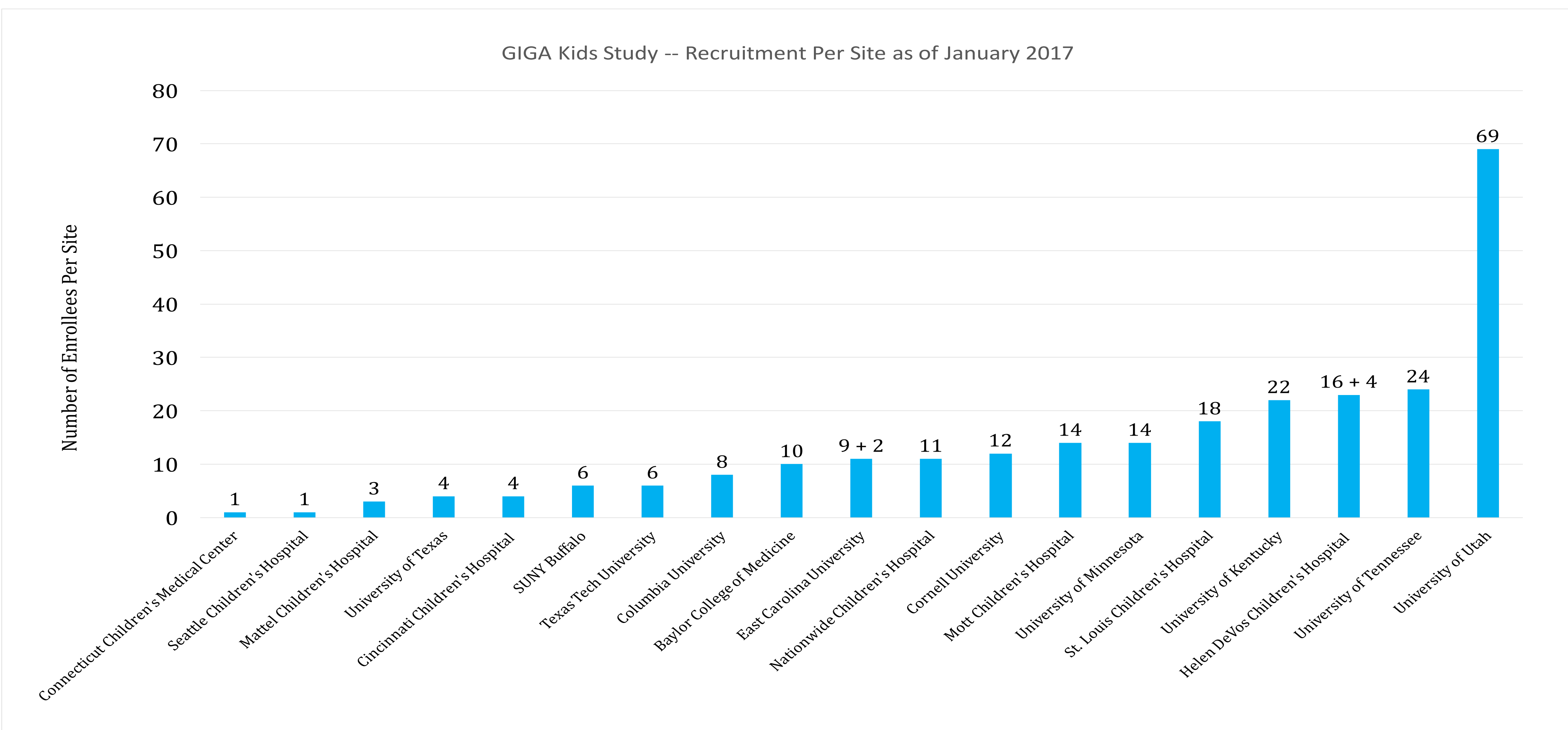


Figure 2: Recruitment per site – updated February 2017.

Bio-banking Progress and Cohort Breakdowns

We have extracted DNA from over 250 of the GIGA-kids whole blood samples received at Columbia University to date, and we sent them for genotyping with high-density SNP arrays for the purpose of preliminary GWAS analyses. The genotype data for a portion of samples is already available, and we are getting high quality results.

Both *Figure 3* and *Figure 4* show breakdowns of the current cohort based on Ethnicity & Sex in HSPN patients and Age in IgAN, HSP and HSPN patients, respectively.

OpenClinica: Site Updates and Troubleshooting

Hopefully there have been no major issues with the new OpenClinica system. The recent changes were made to streamline the data entry. Should you have any questions or concerns about the new system or if you are new to the study and need an account, please contact Lisa Fleur at Nationwide (contact information on *page 1*).

Here is the link to the log-in site: <https://edc.nationwidechildrens.org/OpenClinica>.

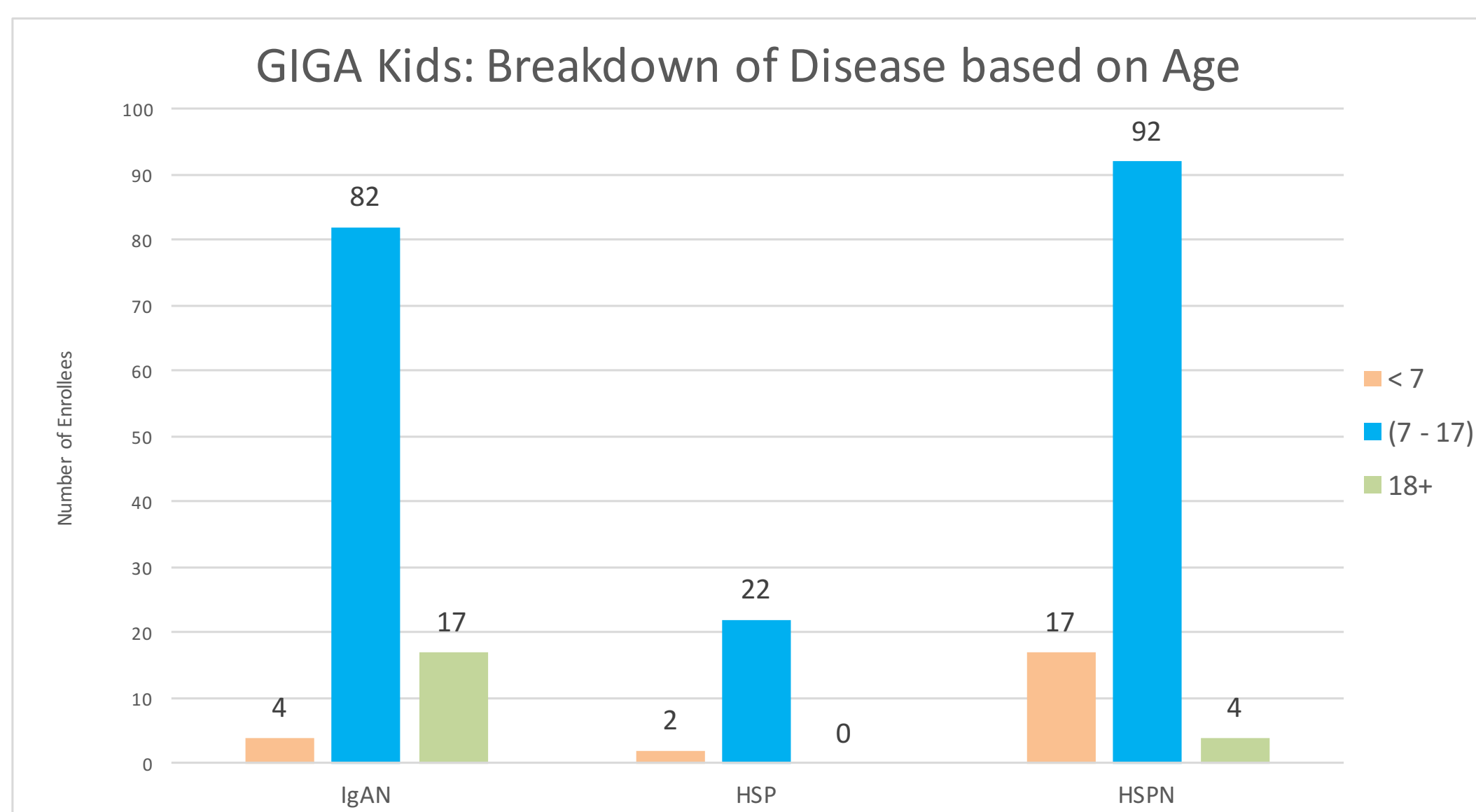


Figure 3: Disease breakdown based on age.

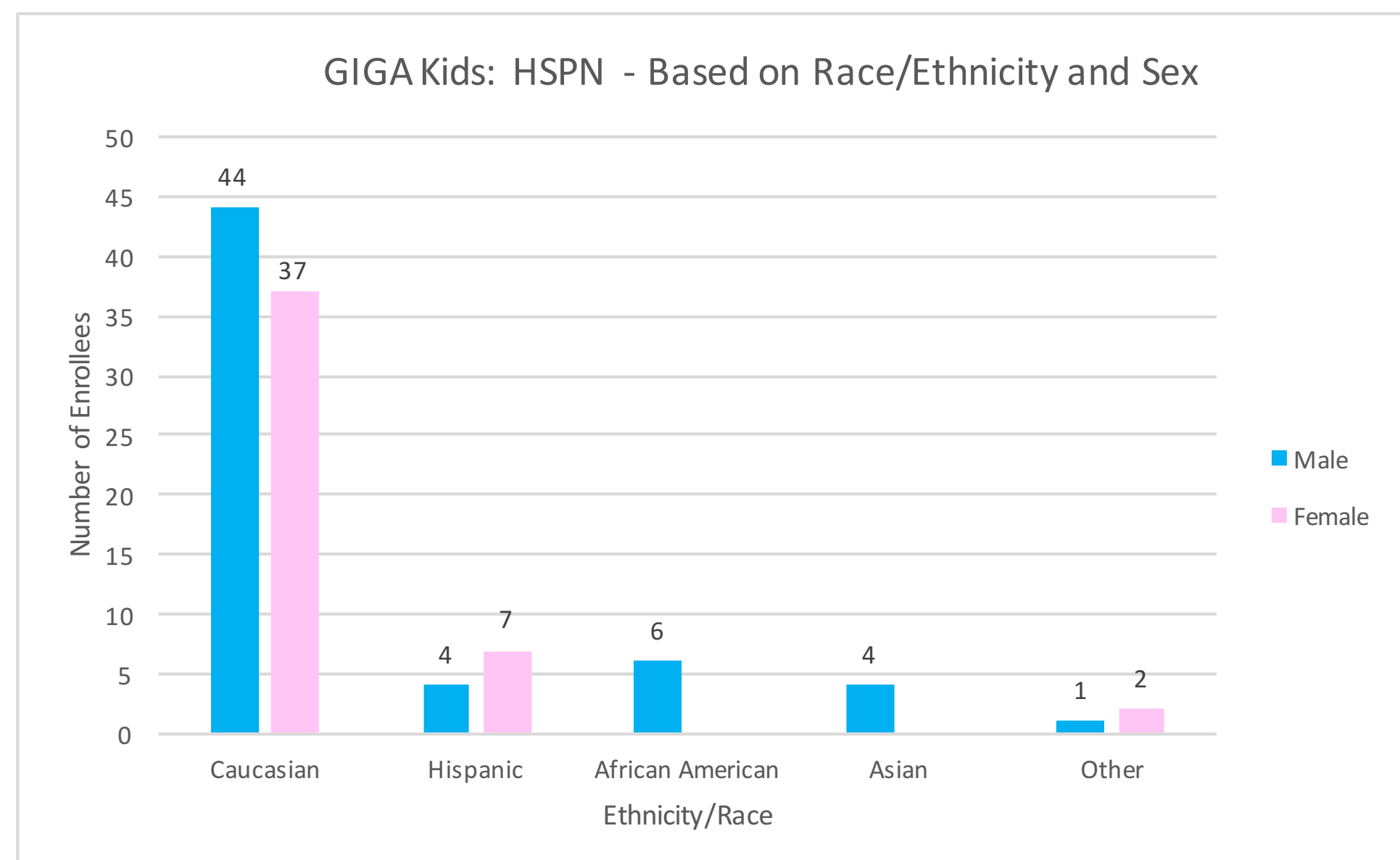


Figure 4: HSPN cohort by sex and ethnicity.