

MWPNC Spring Meeting in Richmond

The 2016 Spring MWPNC meeting will take place on April 15th and 16th at Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center in Richmond, VA.

At the meeting, Drs. Nelson and Wyatt will provide a brief update on the recruitment status for GIGA-kids. Dr. Kiryluk is unable to attend, but is also available to discuss study progress or any related questions by phone or email.

Drew Bradbury, the lead clinical coordinator for GIGA-kids, will attend the meeting. She will be readily available during and after the sessions, so please bring any pressing questions on the study logistics with you to Virginia!

A Generous Donation Keeps our Cause Going

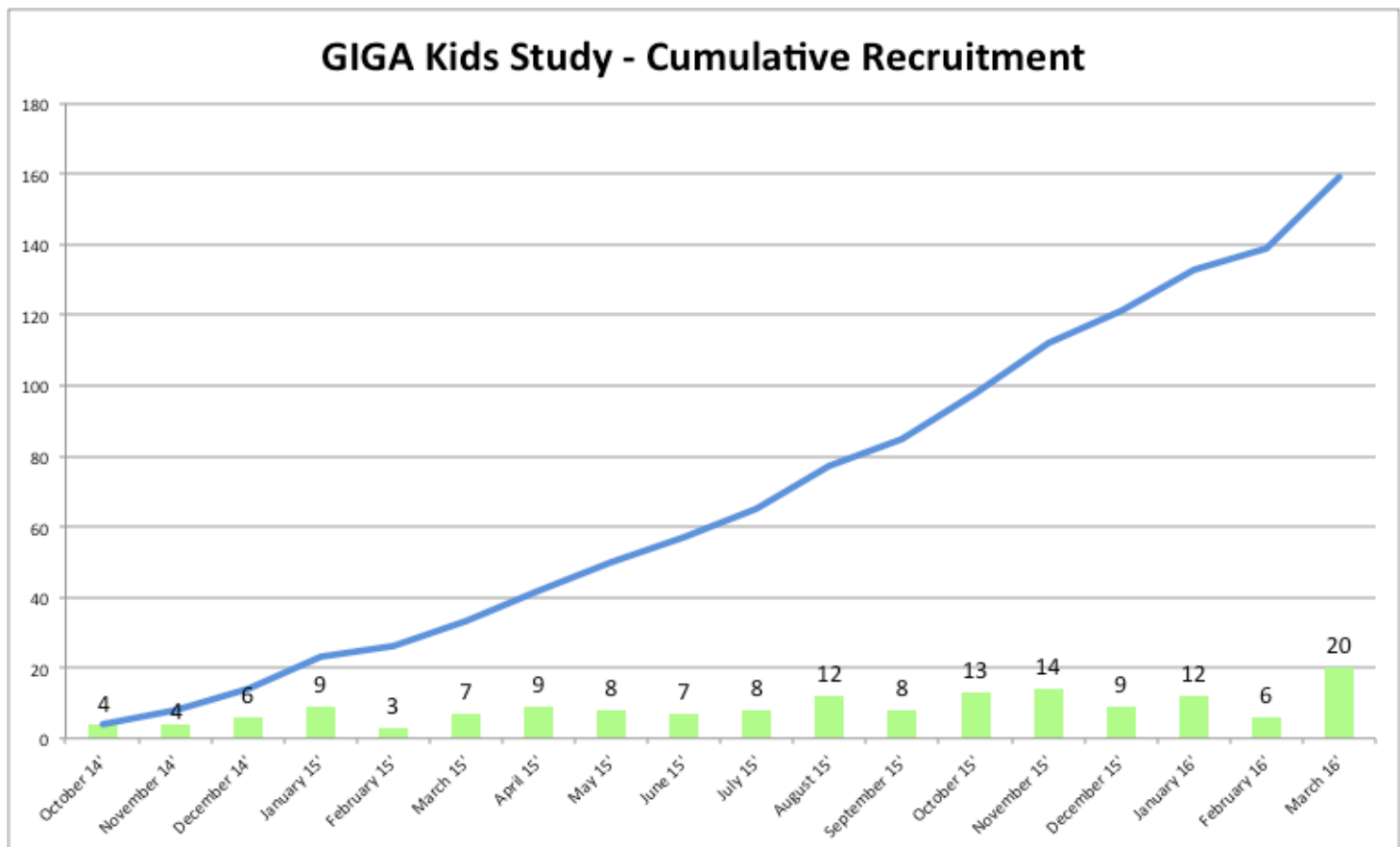
We are pleased to report that the leadership of the IgAN Foundation of America visited Columbia University on January 16th, 2016. The guests included the founder and the president of the foundation, Bonnie Schneider. The foundation has previously endorsed GIGA-kids, and expressed full commitment to promote and support the study. We met to discuss the best way to increase outside referrals and encourage patient participation. Notably, the IgAN Foundation of America has a long history of working with us on other projects, including the CureGN Study, as well as other genetic studies involving adult patients with IgA nephropathy.

The Foundation leaders were very impressed with our progress to date. As a reflection of their commitment to the study, they made **a generous donation in the amount of \$10,000 towards GIGA-kids recruitment.** These funds will be used to cover the costs of supplies for recruitment kits and shipment of blood samples.

As you know, this study would not be possible if it were not for the philanthropic activities of individuals such as Bonnie, and organizations such as the IgAN Foundation of America.

We are very grateful for the support that they have provided for this study and we look forward to working and growing with them!

Figure 1: Cumulative Recruitment – as of March 2016



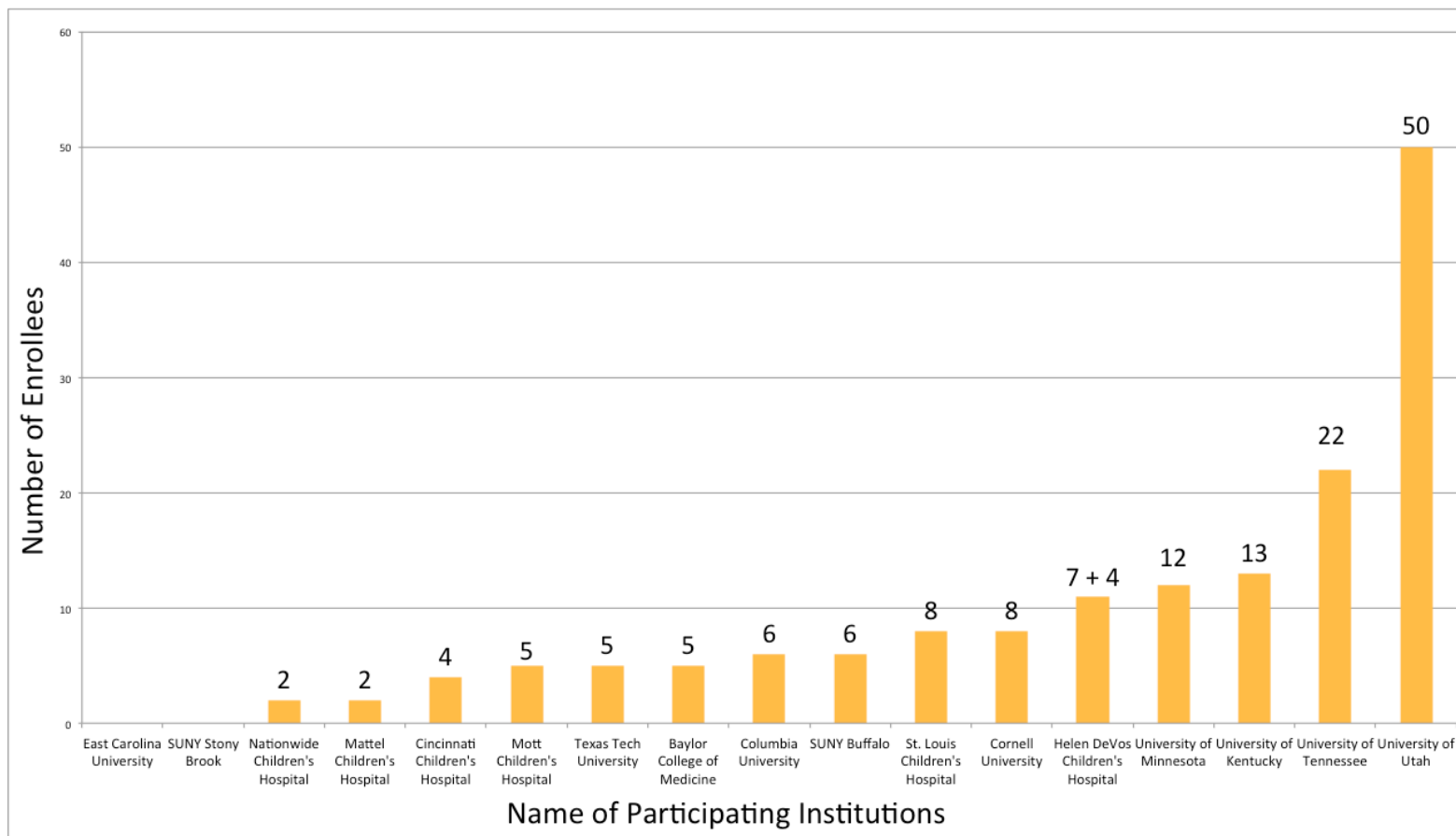


Figure 2: Recruitment per site – as of March 2016

Upcoming Fundraising Events – Jersey Shore 5K & Golfing in Long Island

There are some exciting events coming up this summer in the Tri State area. On Sunday, June 12th the IgAN Foundation will be hosting its annual 5K run/2-mile walk. Our group will be hosting a recruitment center at the event in anticipation of recruiting the friends and families of those that have been affected by kidney disease. The event starts at 9 am and you can register at www.IgAN.org. All proceeds go to the IGAN Foundation of America to find a cure for Kidney Disease.

Another event coming up is the IGAN/DDI Golf Outing on July 15 from 1:00 – 6:00pm. It's located at the Pine Ridge Golf Club in Coram, NY. For more information and for registration, please visit IgAN.org or contact John Marsala at john@igan.org or 516) 384 – 3470. Proceeds for this event will go to benefit IgAN and DDI.

The Usual News – Recruitment Numbers

We are now up to **159 enrollees into the GIGA kids Study**, including 155 pediatric cases and 4 controls. Based on *Figure 1* on page 1, you will see that March 16' has been our best month thus far. As predicted, the more sites that participate, the more that recruitment will increase. This is one of the many benefits of a multi-center study.

In Figure 2 above shows the overall recruitment per institution/site. Currently, there are 15 active recruiting sites and each contributing to our overall goal. There are also 5 sites that are in the advanced stage of their IRB application process, which would soon put us up to nearly **20 sites actively recruiting!**

There have been several sites that have already been renewed by their IRB for another year of enrollment and most sites nearly exceeding their anticipated recruitment already. We thank all of you wholeheartedly for all of your hard work and commitment to this study.

Interested in participating in the GIGA Kids Study?

Our clinical coordinator can help and support you through the IRB application process.

Contact Drew Bradbury: dab2213@cumc.columbia.edu