

Volume 9, Issue 10

October 2011 Newsletter



CTI Clinical Trial and Consulting Services named "Best Places to Work" in Greater Cincinnati for Second Consecutive Year

Upcoming Medical Meetings CTI will be Attending ...

CTI will have a significant presence at upcoming medical meetings over the next few months.

#### **ACG 2011**

Washington, DC October 28<sup>th</sup> – November 2<sup>nd</sup>

#### **AASLD 2011**

San Francisco, CA November 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

## **ASN 2011**

Philadelphia, PA
November 8<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>

If you are interested in scheduling a meeting with CTI at one of these events, please

## What Makes a CRO Great?

# A perspective from Clinical Trial Sites

Last week, CTI attended a dinner meeting with a number of Site Coordinators and Principal Investigators. Knowing these individuals have worked with dozens, if not hundreds, of CRO's, I asked my table "What makes a CRO great?" Every person had something to say. Each confirming the previous thoughts, then telling their own experiences as the whole table nodded in agreement. It was truly a fantastic learning experience and here is what they said:

**Consistency!** Having the same study team, throughout the course of the study, saves time and confusion. Changing the study team seriously affects the site's relationships, quality of data and productivity.

**Clinical Experience**. The ideal monitor is someone who has had experience as a site coordinator. Simply knowing how to monitor is the bare minimum. Clinical knowledge is invaluable.

**Accessibility**. Monitors travel and Medical Directors are busy but if sites have a question, waiting until the end of the week is simply not acceptable. One PI told me that she will not enroll patients into a trial when she does not feel that the Monitor and Medical Directors are accessible in the case of questions or concerns.

**Protocol Knowledge.** The ideal monitor will have a limited number of protocols and be acutely aware of the study specific details. Knowledge of a protocol is more important than proximity to a city.

At the site level, the CRO must convey enthusiasm and attention to maximize enrollment and clinical interest. The sites are where the proverbial rubber meets the road. When challenged with each criterion the sites gave, CTI consistently ranked as a Great CRO.

**Consistency!** CTI has a staff turnover rate of less than 5%. The project team that starts your study will likely be the team that

contact Nick Schatzman at 513-598-9290 or via email at nschatzman@ctifacts.com

Quick Links...

Our Website

Email

Join Our Mailing List!

completes your study.

**Clinical Experience.** CTI's philosophy is that we can teach someone how to be a good monitor. So when hiring, CTI looks for individuals with years of clinical experience that will make them great. The vast majority of our CRA's are former nurses and/or research coordinators.

**Accessibility**. All of CTI's Monitors carry blackberries and laptops with them at all times to be accessible to their sites. CTI has Medical Directors on call 24 hours a day. Additionally, our sites and Sponsors are encouraged to communicate directly with CTI's Executives, who meet daily to stay involved on the status of our trials.

**Protocol Knowledge.** CTI's Monitors carry a maximum of 2-3 protocols in order to provide focused clinical attention. Monitors for each study are selected primarily on their therapeutic experience, not geographic location.

We are interested in your thoughts on what makes a CRO great. If you have something to add, please let us know. CTI is consistently benchmarking our processes and we never stop striving to be the best CRO in the industry.

For more information contact:

Ryan Gifford
Business Development Manager
rgifford@ctifacts.com







CTI Clinical Trial and Consulting Services (CTI) is a unique drug and market development company offering a full range of services which encompass the entire lifecycle of drug development. These services include regulatory pathway design, clinical trial management, data analysis, medical writing, CME and training program development, market analysis and development and other consulting services. CTI focuses on the specific disease areas of solid organ transplant, hepatitis, infectious disease, end-stage organ disease and hematology/bone marrow transplant. With its combined expertise of clinical knowledge and market experience, CTI is uniquely positioned to incorporate both clinical and market driven endpoints and interpretations to provide extraordinary results.