



## **Clinical Trials Working Group**

Clinical Trials Working Group (CTWG), established by the NCI in 2004, recommended the identification of institutional barriers that prolong the time from clinical trial concept approval to accrual of the first patient as well as the development of solutions for overcoming these barriers. Over the past two years, Drs. David Dilts (Vanderbilt University) and Alan Sandler (Vanderbilt –Ingram Cancer Center Affiliates Network) have conducted a comprehensive analysis of the process for activating and opening NCI- supported clinical trials in selected Cancer Centers, Cooperative Groups, and Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program (CTEP). Their analyses have identified institutional processes that significantly prolong the activation and opening of trials for patient accrual. Dr. Dilts presented these findings to the Clinical Trials Advisory Committee (CTAC) on November 14, 2007. CTAC recommended that NCI form the Operational Efficiency Working Group to reduce the time for activation of NCI-supported clinical trials.

*Cancer Center E-News September 2008*