

# The Carolina Lupus Study Newsletter

## Number 3, October 1998

In the past year, the Carolina Lupus Study has succeeded in meeting our goals for enrollment and data collection. Analysis will not begin until 1999, but we are very pleased with our progress.

### CLU Study Progress And Participants

We have been very successful in recruiting patients (through rheumatologists and other physicians) and controls (through random sampling of driver's license registries). More than 95% of the eligible patients contacted have agreed to participate (see table below), and 87% provided a blood sample in addition to completing the hour-long interview.

	Patients	Controls
<b>Eligible</b>	200	265
<b>Enrolled</b>	196	235
<b>Interviewed</b>	189	203
<b>Blood Sample Obtained</b>	171	173

We anticipated that the randomly selected controls would be less interested in the study. Although that is true, the response has been very positive, and 75% of those that are contacted and eligible agree to participate.

The mean age of the patients is 35 years, 90% are female, and 60% are African-American (compared to 25% in the study area). This highlights the increased burden of this disease in women and minority populations.

### New Research Endeavors

**Christine Parks**, MS, is working on the analysis of occupational exposures and lupus as her dissertation research in the department of Epidemiology at UNC.

**Sue Simmons**, PhD, RN, a clinical research trainee at National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, will be studying clinical symptoms, health-related quality of life, and stress, among lupus patients. We are very pleased that these additional efforts could be undertaken as part of the CLU Study, and welcome additional proposals.

### Staff and Clinic Updates

We expanded our study area to include 7 new counties in South Carolina (Marlboro, Dillon, Marion, Florence, Williamsburg, Clarendon, Orangeburg). Interviewer **Sara Graham**'s district includes all 18 South Carolina counties and 6 counties in North Carolina. The workload in the remaining 36 counties increased to the point that we added a third part-time interview, **Gwen McKoy**. Gwen sets appointments in 11 counties in North Carolina along the I-40 corridor, while **Alesia Sanyika** continues to cover the remaining 25 North Carolina counties. In all, they have driven over 53,000 miles this past year!

We continue to be indebted to the work of the study coordinators at each of the university centers: **June Arnold** (Medical University of South Carolina), **Dana Pitely** (University of North Carolina Hospitals-Chapel Hill), **Ella Akin** (Duke University Medical Center), **Sharonda Cooper** (East Carolina University School of Medicine).

We have used 20 private and 25 state-run (South Carolina) clinics for the interviews and blood sample. The locations of these clinics range from Lumberton to Morehead City and from Durham, North Carolina to Beaufort, South Carolina. These arrangements allow us to conduct our interviews in professional settings convenient to participants' homes, and to rely on the experience and expertise of trained personnel for the blood draws. This has proven to be an important factor in making our study a success, and we very much appreciate the assistance of the staff at these clinics.

The Carolina Lupus Study would not be possible without the efforts of the rheumatologists and other physicians who have been referring patients to the study. Thanks to all of you for your help.

## Carolina Lupus Study Physicians (North Carolina)

### Private Practice Rheumatology

- H. Vann Austin
- Franc. A. Barada
- George Brothers
- Walter Chmielewski
- Duncan Fagundus David Fraser
- Stephen G. Gelfand
- Helen Harmon
- Robert A. Harrell, III
- John L. Harshbarger
- G. Wallace Kernodle, Jr.
- Elliot J. Kopp
- Kara Martin
- John L. McCain
- Gwenesta B. Melton
- G. Radford Moeller
- David W. Puett
- C. Michael Ramsdell
- A. Silvia Ross
- Gregory F. Schimizzi
- Claudia J. Svara
- Anne K. Toohey
- Randal E. White
- Suzanne J. Zorn

### Lincoln Community Health Center

- Faye Banks
- Cathleen Melton
- Byron Randolph
- Evelyn Schmidt

### Duke University Medical Center

- Nancy B. Allen
- Karen Hansen
- Thomas Lang
- Rex McCallum
- Elvia Moreta
- Bill St. Clair
- Dylan Steer
- John Sundry
- Ralph Tabib

### East Carolina University School of Medicine

- Edward L. Treadwell

### University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

- Robert G. Berger
- Philip L. Cohen
- Mary Anne Dooley
- James E. Godwin
- Nortin Hadler
- Westley Reeves
- Alfredo Rivadeneira
- John B. Winfield
- William Yount

### Other North Carolina Physicians

- William Olds
- T. Smith
- Thomas Speros

## Carolina Lupus Study Physicians (South Carolina)

### Private Practice Rheumatology

- Carlisle Barfield
- John Brittis
- Walter Bonner
- William M. Edwards
- Gary E. Fink
- Mitchell Feinman
- Frank E. Harper
- Wendy Lee
- Holly Mitchell
- Alan I. Nussbaum
- Georgia Roane
- William B. Sheldon
- Robert Turner

### Medical University of South Carolina

- Marcy Bolster
- Gary S. Gilkeson
- C. W. Legerton, III
- Jim Oates
- Richard Silver
- Edwin Smith
- McClennan Banks
- Scott Hollingsworth

### Other South Carolina Physicians

- Peter D. Hyman, Jr.