

International Network of VENous Thromboembolism Clinical Research Networks

Year 1 Report - July 2017

Network Structure

INVENT's Executive Committee was established through elections at the May 2016 face-to-face Council meeting in Montpellier, France. The four executive officers will serve a 2-year term. The next elections will be held at the face-to-face Council meeting in July 2018, to be held in Dublin, Ireland.

Chair	Marc Rodger (Canada)
Vice-chair	Saskia Middeldorp (The Netherlands)
Treasurer	Per Morten Sandset (Norway)
Secretary	Timothy Brighton (Australia)

Infrastructure Development

The INVENT network was Incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation (in Canada) on June 29th, 2016. The corporate name is INVENT-VTE and the corporation number is 981074-9

The Network's website has been developed and is regularly maintained: www.invent-vte.com

The INVENT member dues have provided part-time salary support for personnel:

Nicole Langlois – clinical VTE research expertise (reports, papers, grants, processes)

Sari Kline - business and financial management expertise (incorporation, financial reporting, budget, managing expenses)

Justine Davis / Caleb MacGillivray (June 2017-June 2018) - administrative assistance (website updates, communication, scheduling meetings, meeting minutes)

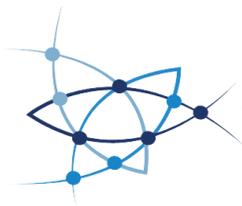
Network Activity and Growth

Executive meetings (teleconference) - December 2016, June 2017

Council meetings (teleconference) – April 2016, February 2017

The INVENT Council has held annual face-to-face meetings in conjunction with ISTH Meetings. INVENT held its third annual meeting at the recent ISTH Congress in Berlin in July 2017. Each of the member networks provided an update on their progress and demonstrated impressive development and growth at the national level. For example, the US network, now formalized and called VENUS, has recruited 52 sites since their first conference call in July 2016; the Dutch network has been inspired to develop a website to profile their investigators and research. Each national network is active in the development and start-up of new clinical studies that are relevant to INVENT.

INVENT has formalized processes (study approval process) and actively promoted the network and the approved studies at the INVENT booth in Berlin. As a result, we are in early discussions to add the UK research network to INVENT.



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Network Processes

The Council have reviewed and approved a number of documents that define how the Network operates:

- Constitution and Bylaws
- Finance Terms of Reference
- Study Approval Process
- Authorship Guidelines

INVENT Study Approval Process

The Council provided input on the Study Approval Process document via teleconference. The approved process and application form were finalized and posted to www.invent-vte.com. The first call for applications was in the Spring 2017. Applications with the following characteristics were received:

- 7 international clinical trials from 6 lead applicants
- More than 15 countries involved
- Diverse patient populations: inherited thrombophilia and recurrent miscarriage; recurrent DVT; VTE, at high risk of recurrence; pregnancy and a history of VTE; intermediate-high-risk pulmonary embolism

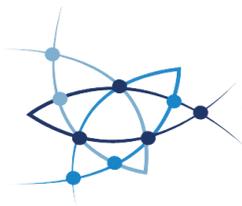
The lead investigators presented their studies at the July 2017 Council meeting, followed by questions and a Council vote. Seven studies were approved and were promoted at the INVENT booth for the duration of the ISTH conference.

1. SAVER / SPIRIT
2. COVET
3. THEIA
4. PEITHO-III
5. ALIFE2
6. Highlow
7. REMOVE

Communication

Tools

The INVENT Office has been busy working on developing tools to connect investigators from INVENT member networks. Of course, we would love to all meet regularly but this is very expensive and not realistic with our budget. We have worked on using social media tools to connect scientists. We have tried a Facebook “secret group” but didn’t get much uptake. We had several meetings with Mendeley developers but its group functionalities are currently limited (suited to sharing published articles and posting comments, like Facebook) and they don’t seem interested in investing in a product aimed at enabling true collaboration throughout the research process. We have a >3 million dollar *Ontario Research Fund – Research Excellence* grant in development with the former principals of Akira Systems to build web-based tools to support an online community of clinical research scientists and to accelerate clinical trials.



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Manuscript

We have a draft manuscript describing the birth of INVENT and our priority-setting exercise. To be submitted soon!

INVENT study promotion

We were very active on Twitter (now have 90 followers) promoting the INVENT endorsed studies. We have study summaries and investigators' contact information posted on our website. We also arranged successful booth "encounters" with INVENT study PIs. We will continue through other means (e.g. e-mail blasts) to help our studies succeed in funding sites/participants.

Summary

INVENT is born! We are very pleased with what we have accomplished in Year 1, with very little resource. Imagine what we will be able to do when fully funded!

We are well on the way to achieving our mission...

1. Be the recognized international driver and accelerator for patient-oriented, investigator-initiated VTE clinical research
2. Be endorsed and supported by the leading scientific societies and top granting agencies worldwide
3. Be the key facilitator for international collaboration among VTE clinical investigators, including networking for young investigators
4. Be the international leader in promoting the development of national VTE networks
5. Identify key unanswered VTE clinical research questions and design/conduct the studies to answer them

On to Year2!