

**CAB Conference Call
September 22, 2016
12:00 EST
Meeting Minutes**

Participants:

Alexandria	FSTRF
Andrea	Jacobi Medical Center
Brandon	University of Florida, Jacksonville
Claire	Harvard University
D'Andra	University of Colorado, Denver
Delia	University of Miami
Ellen	Ann & Robert Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
Exzavia	Children's Diagnostic and Treatment Center
Jeanie	University of Southern California
Jennifer	University of Colorado, Denver
Juanita	Tulane University
Kimberly	Rutgers New Jersey Medical School
Kimbrae	Texas Children's Hospital
Kylie	Texas Children's Hospital
Lesley	Texas Children's Hospital
Marilyn	Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center
Megan	Westat
Raiko	University of Colorado, Denver
Russ	Tulane University
Stephanie	University of California, San Diego
Stephanie	University of Miami
Theresa	Texas Children's Hospital
Trinise	Tulane University
Veronica	University of California, San Diego
Yuri	Miami Department of Public Health

• **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the August 25, 2016 call were approved with no changes.

• **PHACS FALL 2016 NETWORK MEETING AND CAB RETREAT – Q & A**

Drs. Ellen Chadwick and **Russ Van Dyke** reviewed the CAB's questions from the PHACS Fall 2016 Network Meeting and CAB Retreat. Questions and answers included the following:

• **What does "omic" mean?**

"Omic" is a word for studying a part of biology (for example, "genomic" means to study genes).

• **Is PHACS pursuing any research regarding the placenta?**

PHACS is interested in learning about how the placenta might help researchers learn about the kind of environment the baby is exposed to in the womb. It can be complicated to collect placentas and study them. PHACS is interested in researching the placenta in the future.

Russ asked the CAB about whether mothers think there might be any problems with researchers collecting the placenta. **Kim** stated that she thinks the placenta research would be

good for mothers and babies. Mothers want to be sure that placenta research is safe. **Stephanie** talked about cord blood storage. Many mothers may support cord blood storage. This is because it would be used for research instead of being thrown away.

- **How is the placenta chip implanted?**

Placenta chips may be used in animal studies. PHACS is not looking into using placenta chips. It is not determined how placenta chips would be implanted in human women.

- **Will future PHACS studies look at cytomegalovirus (CMV) and hearing?**

PHACS researchers study hearing in many ways. Researchers are talking about possibly looking at the role of CMV in many areas including hearing.

- **Do pregnant women get tested for CMV?**

Some pregnant women are tested for CMV. CMV is very common. Additionally, people living with HIV are tested for CMV often. Some doctors may test mothers for CMV before and during pregnancy. Researchers are more concerned about women who get CMV during pregnancy.

- **CMV is often asymptomatic, but some people may experience problems with hearing and vision. What exactly are those possible problems?**

Some babies are born with HIV, but have no symptoms. Asymptomatic means that a person has no symptoms of the virus. Babies who are born with CMV and are asymptomatic may have hearing loss later in life. Babies who have CMV symptoms may have rashes, liver problems, or other problems.

- **What CMV complications can specifically occur in children? When would symptoms be detected?**

CMV complications can happen if a baby got CMV in the womb. Babies who got CMV in the womb but have no symptoms may have hearing loss. Hearing problems may be found during hearing tests. These problems are typically found at around ages 3-5.

- **Are baby root canals prevalent in HIV-exposed children? Is this something that's being studied?**

Baby root canals are not prevalent in HIV-exposed children. Typically, if a baby needs a root canal, the dentist would pull the tooth.

- **What oral health problems are being found in HIV-exposed youth?**

In PHACS, older children have more dental disease than expected for their age. Youth living with HIV may have more oral health problems than HIV-exposed but uninfected youth. Youth living with HIV may have more cavities. Researchers in PHACS are interested in studying gum disease. Gum disease can cause inflammation in the entire body. HIV can also cause inflammation. Inflammation can cause HIV complications. PHACS researchers looked at markers of inflammation in PHACS participants.

- **Could prolonged used of medication affect complications in later pregnancies (i.e. a woman who has been using ART for 10+ years pre-pregnancy)?**

PHACS researchers continue to study how antiretroviral (ARV) medications affect babies during pregnancy. Some ARVs may have an effect on a baby's size. This means that some babies exposed to ARVs may be premature or born small for their age.

- **What is the significance of the mitochondria? Why does research involving the mitochondria in relation to participants in PHACS matter? What types of**

complications or conditions are associated with mitochondrial deficiencies/problems?

Mitochondria are parts of cells. Mitochondria give cells energy. PHACS researchers are trying to learn whether ARVs have an effect on how well mitochondria work. Cells that use a lot of energy can be affected by mitochondrial problems. Symptoms of mitochondrial problems happen in the muscles, heart, brain, and other organs that use a lot of energy. PHACS researchers are trying to study mitochondria in youth living with or who were HIV-exposed but uninfected.

- **Some children who were HIV-exposed but uninfected have higher risk of anxiety – is this due to medications during pregnancy or is environmental? What has research shown so far?**

PHACS is still studying anxiety in PHACS participants. Some PHACS participants have anxiety. PHACS researchers have not seen a big difference in anxiety between youth living with HIV and youth who were HIV-exposed but uninfected. Many participants in PHACS do not have anxiety. This means that some participants are very strong and resilient. PHACS researchers are also looking to study resilience in PHACS participants.

- **How does HIV and medications affect brain chemistry?**

PHACS researchers are continuing to study the brain. Some ARV medications can cause brain-related symptoms. Most of the symptoms do not last long. The brain can be hard to study. Researchers can look at fluid in the spine to study the brain. It is hard to study spinal fluid in children. Tests that remove spinal fluid can be very painful. Studies of the brain and HIV are very important.

NOTE: The next CAB call will be on Thursday, October 27, 2016 at 12:00 pm EST.