HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NCORP ANNUAL MEETING

ECOG-ACRIN representatives joined NCORP program staff, investigators and administrators in Bethesda, Maryland in late August for the Annual Meeting of the NCI Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP). This year’s meeting highlighted the expanded geographic coverage of the program, new goals and ongoing research achievements.

Attendees welcomed principal investigators from four new NCORP sites, who talked about their plans for participating in the network: Gary Doolittle, MD, Kansas MCA Rural NCORP; Missak Haigentz, MD, Atlantic Health NCORP; Scott C. Remick, MD, MaineHealth NCORP; and Lucile Adams-Campbell, MD, National Capital Area MU NCORP. Key benefits they cited as new member sites were opportunities for new collaborations and increasing minority accruals.

In his keynote address, acting NCI Director Douglas Lowy, MD, told attendees that he really appreciates what the NCORP sites are doing: “Your dedication in conducting trials and referring patients for prevention, screening and treatment, are important and are providing high quality care for patients in the community where the vast majority of patients receive their care.”

Several ECOG-ACRIN trials were highlighted at the meeting. Dr. Lowy noted that just under 50% of patients accrued in the MATCH cancer treatment trial were from NCORP sites. Multiple presenters touched on the growing participation of NCORP sites in the TMIST screening trial. The breakout session on accrual planning and opportunities gave active sites the opportunity to share best practices for TMIST accrual. The legacy of NCORP Principal Investigator Arti Hurria, MD, who died tragically in 2018, was honored in a session on geriatric oncology. Dr. Hurria inspired and directly contributed to the development of E8’s Geriatric Oncology Working Group.

Visit the NCORP website to read a meeting summary.