

**National Cancer Institute (NCI)  
Integrated Canine Data Commons (ICDC) Steering Committee (SC)**

**Teleconference  
Wednesday, February 19, 2020**

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**Participants** (\*Present)

External Committee Members

Matthew Breen\*  
Renee Chambers  
Dawn Duval\*  
Allison Heath\*  
Will Hendricks\*  
Warren Kibbe\*  
Debbie Knapp, ICDC-SC Chair\*  
Cheryl London\*  
Jeff Trent\*  
Roel Verhaak\*  
Shaying Zhao\*

Internal Committee Members (NCI, National Institutes of Health, and Frederick  
National Laboratory for Cancer Research [FNLCR])

Matthew Beyers\*  
Allen Dearry  
Toby Hecht\*  
Paula Jacobs\*  
Tony Kerlavage\*  
Erika Kim\*  
Amy LeBlanc  
Christina Mazcko  
Philip Musk\*  
Elaine Ostrander  
John Otridge  
Ralph Parchment, ICDC-SC Managing Secretary\*  
Connie Sommers\*  
Greg Tawa\*

Others

Lori Lydard  
Anju Singh\*  
Tara Whipp\*  
Mary Cerny (writer)\*

## Opening and Welcome

Drs. Knapp and Parchment opened the meeting at 11:32 a.m. ET and welcomed attendees.

## Minutes of the January Meeting

The minutes of the January 22, 2020, ICDC-SC meeting were accepted as written.

## Reports from the Working Groups (WGs)

### Data Governance Advisory Board (DGAB) Chair's Report

The DGAB continues to receive and review submissions for proposals for the ICDC. To date, one study—the glioma study submitted by Dr. Verhaak's team—is underway. Three additional studies have been submitted for review. Two are from Dr. Knapp's lab and involve bladder cancer in treated and treatment-naïve dogs. The third involves analysis of tumor and normal tissue and genes by Dr. Zhao's group. The DGAB met on February 3 and determined that these three studies meet the criteria for submission and prioritized them in the order listed during the meeting. The NCI Senior Advisory Committee, which makes the final decision regarding data and proposal prioritization, agreed with the DGAB's assessment. In a related activity, the data team is developing a set of questions and SOPs for notifying submitters directly about prioritization of their projects.

### Best Practices Subcommittee (BPS) Chair's Update

The most recent meeting of the BPS was February 18, 2020. The BPS has continued its review of the DGAB Data Submission Guidelines and has put together a list of field types and values for various studies, cases, and other parameters used for data submission. The BPS is continuing to explore how best to standardize formats for these parameters and create a framework for collecting data across three areas: clinical/pathological, genomic, and immunology.

Updates on this effort include the following:

- Doing a line-by-line review of details of studies that are aligned with the clinical trials parameters for the ICDC (e.g., date of the trial, dates of enrollment, patient characteristics). Mr. Beyers' team at NCI is working to align data for the ICDC with other groups and the BPS WGs. This preliminary effort is looking at how best to collect data for the specified fields within the BPS guidelines. Data forms have been distributed to the WGs and other groups for comments. This effort is distinct from feedback between the data team and submitters.
- BPS members also discussed how to identify the source of data sets on the ICDC specifically, whether by the name of the university/submitting organization or by ZIP code (or the first three digits of the ZIP code) of the submitting group. One suggestion was to have submitters specify their preference for using ZIP codes or names. A potential advantage of using ZIP codes would be to reduce traffic and questions back to the investigators. The impact on searching via ZIP code versus name is not clear at this point. Coding of this information for the ICDC needs to be addressed. ZIP codes would use a numeric field, while names would be entered using a text field; using a text field for ZIP codes could also be considered. The BPS will seek comments from submitters and ICDC

users and will consider whether to proceed with use of either ZIP codes or names, or both, pending further discussion and feedback.

#### *Immunology WG Update*

Further information is being sought regarding PRECINCT's development of a nanostring immunology platform to evaluate immune shifts following treatment. The group is working to standardize immunoassays to be able to characterize the immune landscape within both the tumor and periphery. This effort remains challenging, however, given the limited repertoire of antibodies, which makes it difficult to accurately identify changes in that landscape, particularly by flow cytometry and immunohistochemistry. In contrast, genomic analyses are well standardized and do not pose the same challenges. The nanostring platform provides an opportunity to overcome many of the obstacles associated with immunoassays and will allow for characterization of immune function and immune cell subsets in tumors in a much more detailed manner. One advantage of this approach is that both fresh and paraffin-embedded samples can be used. The ultimate goal is to develop a standalone platform with validated probes that is accessible to everyone and that will allow for more accurate evaluation of the immune landscape. This advance, in turn, will result in more standardized data sets being input into the ICDC.

Dr. London's team submitted supplements under the group's U01 award to do analyses for the nanostring platform and to identify shared costs to fund the project. The proposed supplements have met the initial threshold for funding.

#### *Other WG Updates*

The other WGs continue to focus on issues discussed at previous meetings. No additional updates on the other BPS WGs were provided during the current ICDC-SC teleconference.

#### **Other Issues**

None

#### **Administrative Items**

##### March ICDC-SC Meeting

The next meeting of the ICDC -SC will be held via teleconference on Wednesday, March 25, 2020, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. ET. Dr. Parchment will forward the meeting information and materials ahead of the March teleconference.

##### DGAB and BPS Meetings

Dates and times of other upcoming meetings are still to be determined. Details will be distributed to committee members as they become available.

##### Honoraria

External members were reminded to continue to forward the paperwork for their honoraria to Ms. Lydard. Anyone having problems with the form or reimbursement should contact Dr. Parchment.

## **Action Items**

- Topics for future meetings should be forwarded to Drs. Knapp and Parchment.
- Dr. Parchment will forward the logistics information and materials for the next teleconference as they become available.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m. ET.