

May 20, 2004

Friends of Trimanos:

I am looking forward to participating in the Society for Clinical Trials (SCT) meeting in New Orleans. The group is meeting May 23 through May 26, 2004, at the Hyatt Regency which marks their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

I am pleased to be able to say that I was present at their first meeting 25 years ago in Philadelphia. The Society membership is especially interested in the design and conduct of large scale, multi-center controlled clinical trials. Their meetings offer the opportunity to share with colleagues your knowledge and experiences in participating in controlled clinical trials.

I have organized a workshop for coordinators which I have called "Challenges in Coordinating Randomized Clinical Trials (RCTs). Clinical Research Coordinators (CRCs) have a crucial role in the successful completion of randomized controlled clinical trials. This session will address challenges and pitfalls coordinators face in performing their duties. We will present a history of the role of the CRC and recognition of the position as a professional career.

Dianne Savage from Kos Pharmaceuticals will discuss the evolution of the Federal Regulations governing the development of new drugs and the **informed consent** process. This will be presented with a perspective of world events taking place at the same time. Angela Lee of the VA Cooperative Studies Program will summarize her experience of **coordinating** twenty-five centers working throughout the 180 **VA Medical Centers** nationwide and internationally.

I am pleased that we will have John Isidor, Esq., on the panel who will speak on **ethical challenges** in RCTs and the important role of the CRC in ensuring the ethical conduct of a trial. Sandra Gotzkowsky will be present as a discussant so we can present **training and certification** programs available for CRCs.

I hope to see some of my Trimanos friends in New Orleans.

Dorothy Adams Farnham  
Trimanos