Research Infrastructure within Emergency Medicine: Led by Dr. Phillip Levy, Associate Chair for Research, the Department of Emergency Medicine Research Division has four core EM faculty members with dedicated research time. Additionally, there are 12 junior level researchers with varying research interests. The EM department has dedicated administrative personnel for grant development, administration, and budget management, as well as coordination of IRB and regulatory activities for research. The administrative offices of the Wayne State University’s Department of Emergency Medicine are located in the University Health Center. The office includes approximately 5,400 sq. ft. of space, with 9 offices dedicated solely to research personnel, 1 central secretarial area, 2 conference rooms, and copying area with a high capacity copier and shredder.

The EM research core is comprised of coordinators (11.0 FTE), research nurses (4.0 FTE), team leaders (8.0 FTE), assistants (5.5 FTE), hourly technicians and a cadre of volunteers. All are available to identify, consent, and enroll prospective patients in clinical trials 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for all EM studies. All study personnel has Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) certification in the utilization of electronic and in-person methods of identifying eligible patients in an IRB and HIPAA compliant manner. Success of this department is due in part to the long-established partnership with cardiology, pharmacy, the pathology core facility (blood and specimen processing and storage), blood bank, radiology, echocardiography, and critical care. Specifically, in the last 3 years, our studies have enrolled an aggregate of 1,922 subjects in cardiopulmonary, vascular, neurologic or hematologic research.

Computer
Each faculty and staff member of the research team at Wayne State University is equipped with an IBM compatible computer with minimum requirements of dual core processors, 80GB Hard Drive, and 8GB RAM, as well as access to a personal 2000GB drive that is backed up to digital tape every 24 hours. All computers have unlimited access to high-speed internet and an interoffice local area network with a shared drive that is backed up to digital tape every 24 hours. All computers have up-to-date virus protection from Symantec Antivirus® software provided by the University. The School of Medicine also
has back-up electrical generators to ward off potential power failure problems. All faculty and staff use the Windows XP or Vista operating system. The School of Medicine has available graphic design, photography, media production, and electronic repair. The Central Instrument facility has available 500 MHz NMR, MS, ESR, IR, UV, LC/MS/MS and CD spectroscopy. Wayne State University School of Medicine Information Systems department provides computer hardware and software support to all center offices and cores located on WSU medical campus. The WSU SOM-IS department has approximately 176 full-time employees and is centrally located on campus. WSU SOM system provides secure email and internet access. Faculty researchers have ready access through the WSU Software Clearinghouse to SAS and/or SPSS statistical software as well as EndNotes reference management software.

Study data will be entered into The OnCore software program. The OnCore system for registries management offers research organizations a scalable and flexible solution to satisfy the needs of multiple registry projects without losing any of the speed, agility, or control offered by traditional, single-use databases. Integrating OnCore with key hospital and laboratory systems and other research information systems allows a variety of data from different sources to be used to automatically populate registries. One platform means that data need only be entered once. A flexible and secure data sharing model encourages collaboration and data sharing. The ability to create a de-identified version of a registry, one where the Protected Health Information (PHI) has been removed, also promotes data sharing by reducing restriction to data access based on privacy concerns.

Other
Statistical support is departmentally funded and is available to all researchers regardless of funding mechanism (grant, foundation, etc.) or budget. Scott Millis, Ph.D., M.Ed. is a Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Wayne State University, and also serves as that department’s Director of Research. He has a partial appointment in the Department of Emergency Medicine, as well. Dr. Millis has worked closely with researchers in this capacity, obtaining grant funding from several funding sources, including the NIH. His biostatistical and methodological support and expertise has been substantial. Brian Reed is the department’s database manager, a position necessary to facilitate data analysis. Mr. Reed works with Dr. Millis and researchers to facilitate data access for subsequent analysis. Mr. Reed has On Core and REDCap database development expertise.

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