

Clinical Trials and Translational Research Advisory Committee's (CTAC) Role and Function

James L. Abbruzzese, M.D.

March 3, 2011

CTAC Charter: Description of Duties

- The Committee makes recommendations on the NCI-supported national **clinical trials** enterprise to build a strong scientific infrastructure by bringing together a broadly developed and engaged coalition of stakeholders involved in the clinical trials process.

<http://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/ctac/ctacchr.pdf>

CTAC Charter: Description of Duties

- In addition, the Committee makes recommendations regarding the effectiveness of NCI's **translational research** management and administration program, including needs and opportunities across disease sites, patient populations, translational developmental pathways, and the range of molecular mechanisms responsible for cancer development.

Function One – as of January 2007

- Provide extramural oversight of the implementation of the CTWG/TRWG recommendations and initiatives
 - Oversight of new NCI clinical trials informatics infrastructure

Function Two – as of January 2007

- Provide strategic advice regarding NCI's entire clinical trials portfolio including resources associated with clinical trials
 - Assessment of the funding distribution for clinical trials across the NCI
 - Review of disease-specific clinical trials portfolios across the Institute

Function Three – as of January 2007

- **Advise on the use of new correlative science and quality of life funds**

Function Four – as of January 2007

- Develop recommendations for additional refinements to the NCI-supported clinical trials system based on analyses conducted as part of the implementation of the CTWG plan
 - Clinical trials operational efficiency of Cooperative Groups, Cancer Centers, and CTEP
 - Financial Analysis of phase III trial costs
 - Central IRB function

Function Five – as of January 2007

- Provide a forum for the clinical trials community to give advice directly to the NCI Director
 - Only new NCI advisory committee in more than a decade
 - Dedicated exclusively to clinical trials
 - Broadly represents all stakeholders in the clinical trials enterprise