

How We Make a Difference: The Real Impact of Research Coordination



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ITHS

Institute of Translational Health Sciences
ACCELERATING RESEARCH. IMPROVING HEALTH.

Overview

- Honoring RC Contributions
- RCs are on the Front Line of Research
- Lifetime Career as Coordinator
 - Take Advantage of Opportunities
 - Plan for Career Advancement
 - Become Indispensable

Honoring RC Contributions



RCs are on the Front Line of Research

RCs are There at the Beginning; An Essential Resource in Protocol Development and Study Initiation

- Wise logistics resource
- Point person for Nurses, IRB, CRBB, Sponsor and other Coordinators
- Local protocol expert
- PIs right hand for organization, administration, orchestration and coordination of a complex research plan

RCs are on the Front Line of Research

RCs are Gatekeepers for the First and Foremost Responsibilities of Enrollment, Consent and Quality Data

- Inclusion/Exclusion criteria
- Quality informed consent process
- Data must be correct, relevant and an accurate evaluation of outcomes

Lifetime Career as Coordinator

First, a word about job satisfaction



“Job happiness isn’t about feeling cheerful every day or avoiding challenges. Work can be difficult and demanding, but if employees are given the opportunity to progress, grow their skill sets and get the training they need, then they tend to be happy and do better work as a result.”

Nic Marks, Happiness Work



“Job happiness isn’t about feeling cheerful every day or avoiding challenges. Work can be difficult and demanding, but if employees TAKE the opportunity to progress, grow their skill sets and get the training they need, then they tend to be happy and do better work as a result.”

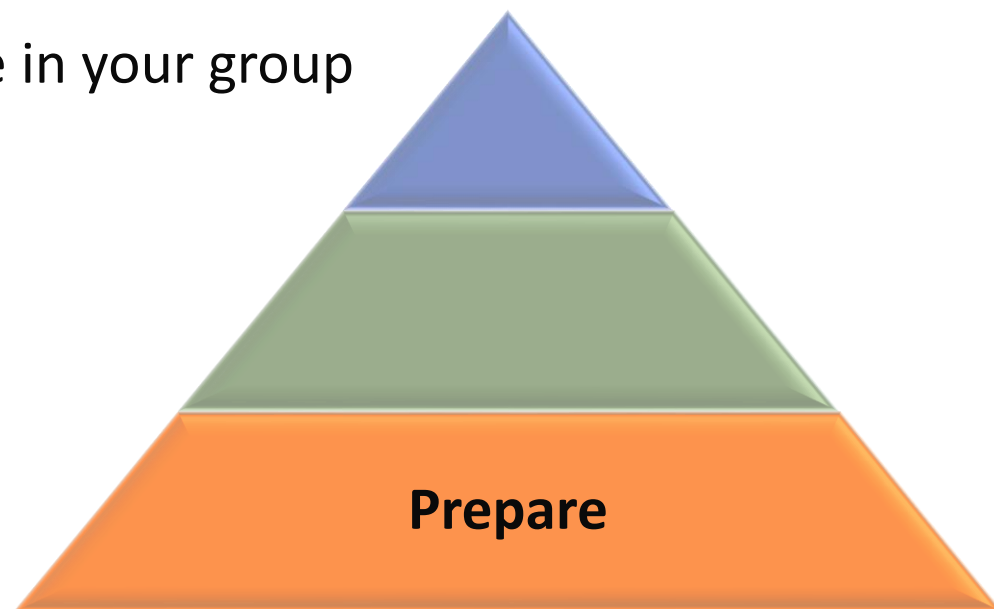
Nic Marks, Happiness Work



Lifetime Career as Coordinator

Prepare—Get your oar in the water

- Take responsibility for developing/enhancing unique skills
- Learn the science, protocol justifications
- Read your PIs publications
- Discover a needed niche in your group



Lifetime Career as Coordinator

Participate

- Join a (NIH, sponsor) study committee
- Offer to take notes for study/departmental meetings
- Attend seminars
- Join professional groups
- Join ITHS Journal Club



Lifetime Career as Coordinator

Contribute

- Write an SOP/MOP
- Contribute to progress reports
- Participate in grant applications
- Write a manuscript for publication
- Share tips/tricks/experiences



Honoring Research Coordinator Contribution

The purpose of research is to inform actions of high quality to produce knowledge that is applicable outside of the research setting—a highly principled and honorable goal.

***Research Coordinators are a kingpin
in that principled and honorable
process.***

Discussion

- What are the best parts of your job?
- What makes you proud to be Research Coordinator?
- What barriers are there for career advancement?
- Where can find/have you found mentors?