

Children's Oncology Group [COG]

Aspects of COG

- It has an Operations Center and a Data/Statistics Center,
- \$31M/year in federal funds, supplemented by other grants entrepreneurial sector.
- Supports individual institutions [data management, PI].

Supporting activities

- Total data collection, bio-sample acquisition of all types [several bio-repositories, all at member institutions and geographically located for ease of use], and statistical help.
- Natural history, epidemiologic, cancer control, pharmacology and molecular studies.
- Phase I, II, and III clinical trials that are essentially population-based, and the vast majority are paid for by insurance carriers, including Medicaid.
- Led by academic investigators
- All comers accepted, great job with Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- 'Culture': everyone participates in clinical trials, and all patients are eligible for a clinical trial.
- Supplementary research projects by local investigators encouraged.
- Large numbers guarantee the ability to answer questions even in small subsets.

Correlates for ALS

- NEURO NEXT program, could facilitate such an ALS Cooperative Group.
- 6,500 newly diagnosed people with ALS yearly in the US.
- Extrapolating COG resources from NCI, NINDS costs \$10M/year.
- ACT for ALS: could cover funds??