



Hinds County MS Study Location

Abstract

Hospital Engagement: Process, Challenges and Lessons Learned

*Becky Martin, BA; Sharon B. Wyatt PhD, CANP, FAAN
The National Children's Study Hinds County MS Study Location*

INTRODUCTION

The National Children's Study is charged with engaging and developing partnerships with birthing hospitals to allow biospecimen and other data collection at the time of birth. Little is known about effective hospital engagement strategies. Hinds County MS Study Location is engaging three private-corporate, two private-religious, and one academic medical center. We describe the process of engaging multiple hospital types, challenges, and lessons learned in Hinds County.

METHODS

Birth hospitals were identified through review of sampling segment-specific county birth certificate data. Detailed information about hospitals was attained through internet searches of individual websites and the Mississippi Hospital Association. Engagement strategies were standardized with variations for private or corporate-owned facilities (*Table 1*). Requests for IRB review were concurrent with contacting administrative and clinical staffs.

RESULTS

Following IRB determined the hospital was not engaged in the conduct of research, administrators were receptive to NCS collaboration. Corporate hospitals have been difficult to engage due to corporate level review requirements. Private hospitals wanted proof of consent, showed reluctance to collect samples citing staff burden, and believed an NCS presence at delivery would interfere. To date, no hospital has required reimbursement for collaboration. Time for engagement ranges from 6-12 months.

CONCLUSION

Engaging hospitals is time-intensive because of the buy-in required on all levels of the organization to execute MOUs, develop manuals of operation and train staff. Communication throughout the engagement process is crucial to maintaining partnerships with staff on each level at each hospital.

Photos of Institutes within the Hinds County MS Study Center Location targeted for engagement or engaged:



Table 1– Summary of Engagement Strategies



Table 2– Summary of Engagement Challenges

