About the ACORD Protocol Development Workshop

The ACORD Protocol Development Workshop is a 1-week, intensive, interactive, problem-oriented, training program focused on the essentials of cancer clinical trials research. It is aimed at early career clinicians from the Asia Pacific. ACORD Protocol Development Workshops have been held every 2 years since 2004.

Goals

The goals of the ACORD Initiative are to train early career oncology clinicians in excellent clinical research methods and to propel the region forward in oncology research.

The goal of the ACORD Protocol Development Workshop is to help each participant turn their good idea for a study into a successful clinical cancer research protocol. A successful protocol is one that results in a reported study answering an important clinical question.

The aims of the ACORD Initiative include:

- Educating early career clinicians about the principles of good clinical trial design and conduct
- Exposing participants to the full spectrum of opportunities and challenges in clinical research
- Encouraging research across the spectrum of oncologic interventions including surgery, radiation, psychosocial interventions, supportive care, prevention, chemotherapy and targeted agents.
- Encouraging early career clinicians to participate and develop careers in clinical research
- Increasing regional capacity in clinical cancer research
- Improving the quality of clinical cancer research and patient care in the Asia-Pacific
- Fostering multidisciplinary collaboration and facilitation of clinical trials and research
- Fostering international collaboration in the Asia-Pacific

Methods

The workshop is designed to help participants develop a successful clinical research protocol:

- Internationally renowned Faculty with expertise in clinical research methods and biostatistics
- Lectures on the principles of designing and conducting high-quality clinical trials
- Daily, interactive, Protocol Development Group sessions in which participants present their proposed clinical research study and get feedback from faculty and colleagues
- Small Group Discussion sessions on specific areas of methodological interest, e.g., pharmacology, immunotherapy, patient-rated outcomes, survey methods
- One-on-one sessions with individual faculty members to provide guidance and discussion on protocol development, career development, and future opportunities.