TECoG Committee Update

Mara Antonoff
TECoG Update to the TSDA
April 28, 2018
Background on TECoG

- Thoracic Education Cooperative Group
  - As of 2018, TECoG has been added as an ad hoc committee of the TSDA
  - Began in 2014 as independent organization
  - Premise: Significant advances in Thoracic Surgical Education can be made by a cooperative approach to the design and conduct of studies on trainees through multi-institutional research
TECoG Goals:

• Conduct collaborative educational research in thoracic surgery
  – Enhance quality
  – Expand power
  – Utilize collaboration
Group conduct

- Bylaws finalized June 2015 and approved by membership vote
- Present structure includes executive council (positions approved by vote)
- Membership:
  - Initial invitation sent to Educate the Educators participants and TSDA members
  - 48 members—including PDs and others engaged in educational initiatives & research
  - > 30 institutions
  - Currently open to all interested in joining
Website

• Use of tecog.org is being phased out, content all migrated to tsda.org/tecog

• New site includes
  – Project proposal form
  – Bylaws
  – Governance
Protocol submission and approval

• Protocol template
• Submission
  – Discussion/feedback for improvement
• Process of approval
  – Enrollment of interested institutions
• Eventual plan: slots for specific study types

Thoracic Education Cooperative Group (TECoG)
Project Proposal Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study Design:</th>
<th>□ Prospective Non Randomized □ Prospective Randomized □ Retrospective □ Other</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of Submission:</td>
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<td>Principle Investigator(s):</td>
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<td>Co-Investigator(s):</td>
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<td>Sponsoring Institution:</td>
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<td>Other Participating Institutions:</td>
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<td>Project Title</td>
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<td>Study Duration</td>
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<td>Objective (limit 250 words)</td>
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<td>Specific Aims (limit 250 words)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Background/Significance (limit 500 words)</td>
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<td>Study Methodology (limit 500 words)</td>
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<td>Sample Size (i.e. number or residents per level of training) and Power Calculation</td>
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<td>Data Source(s)</td>
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<td>Primary Outcome Variable</td>
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<td>Statistical Analysis Plan</td>
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<td>IRB Approval</td>
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<td>Funding Source (if applicable)</td>
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<td>Plans for Submission (AATS, STS, etc.)</td>
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<td>TECoG Review/Approval Date</td>
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Successes to date:

• TECoG publications:

• Participation and support for Shari Meyerson’s Zwisch-Me protocol, with multiple presentations including SEW 2017

• Ongoing studies:
  – Multi-institutional debate style journal club
  – Computer simulator to analyze resident case volume
  – Competency assessment tools for general thoracic surgery
  – Training reinforcement app with leaderboards
Future directions/plans

• Great benefits now as a part of TSDA
  – More formal meetings/meeting spaces
  – Incorporation into governance structure
  – Validation of projects

• Eager to include more TSDA members in ongoing projects
  – Sounding board for new ideas
  – Participation in ongoing trials

• New leadership elections over the coming year
Meeting here at AATS

• Please join us! Shortly after today’s TSDA general session
  Saturday (today)
  4/28/18
  4:45-5:45 PM ET
  Hilton San Diego Bayfront
  Room Cobalt 501C

• For any questions, please contact us!
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