

# How to Return Research Results to Patients and Families? The Children's Oncology Group Experience

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*COG Educational Track at APHON, 2020*



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## Disclosure

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- Dr. Kim Pyke-Grimm has no industry relationships.
- Off label use will not be discussed.
- Currently, I am a Postdoctoral Fellow in Palliative Care at Stanford University supported by the Stanford University School of Nursing Alumnae.

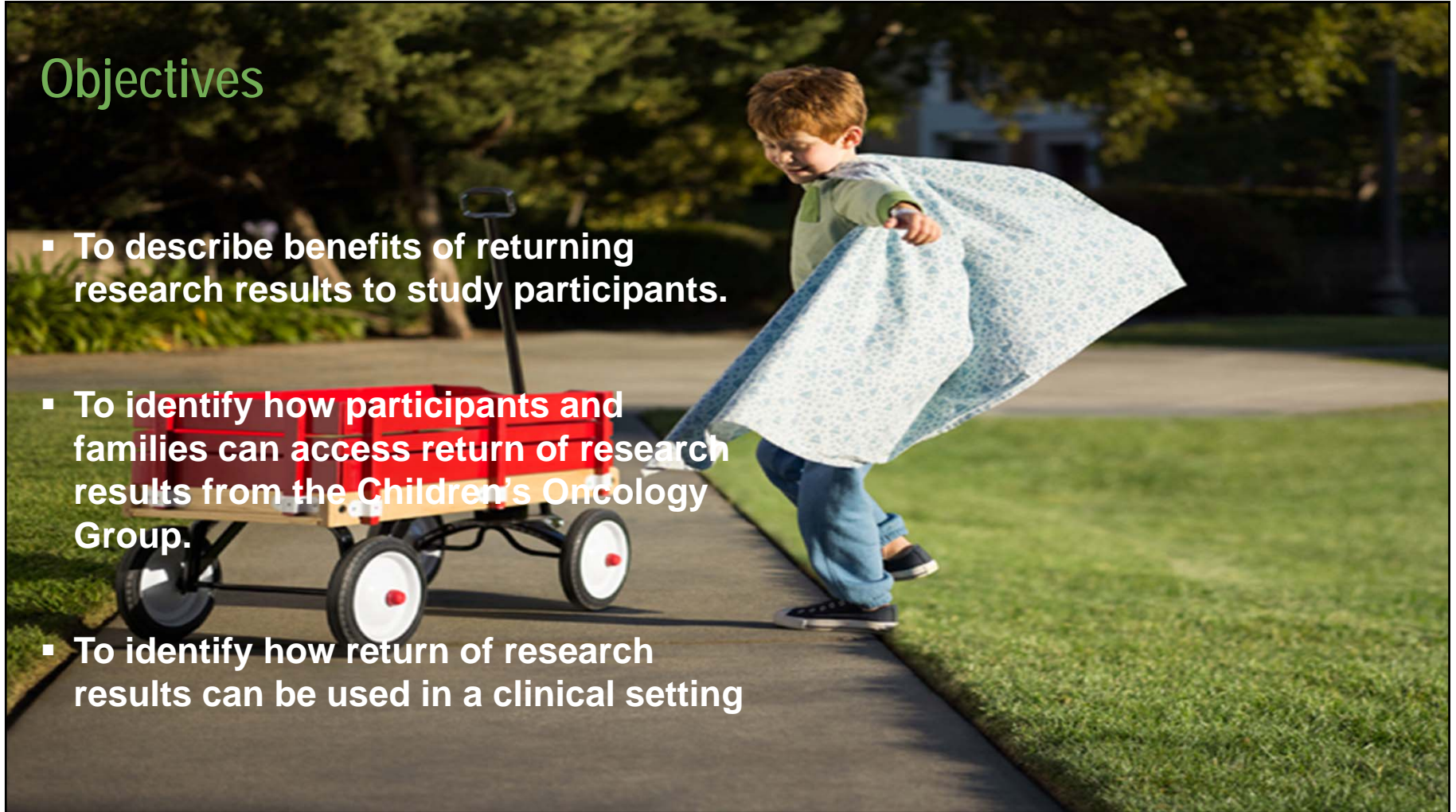
## COG Disclosure

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## Objectives

- To describe benefits of returning research results to study participants.
- To identify how participants and families can access return of research results from the Children's Oncology Group.
- To identify how return of research results can be used in a clinical setting



## Ethics & Return of Results

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Beneficence

Autonomy



Veracity

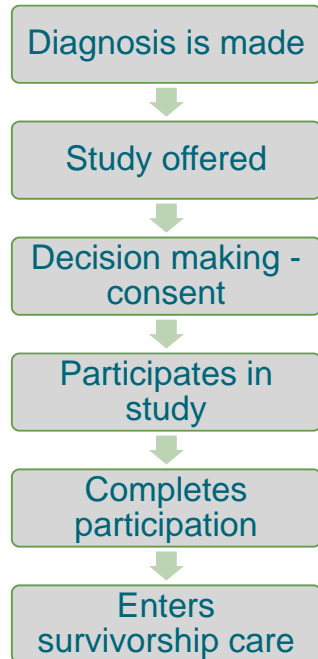
Justice



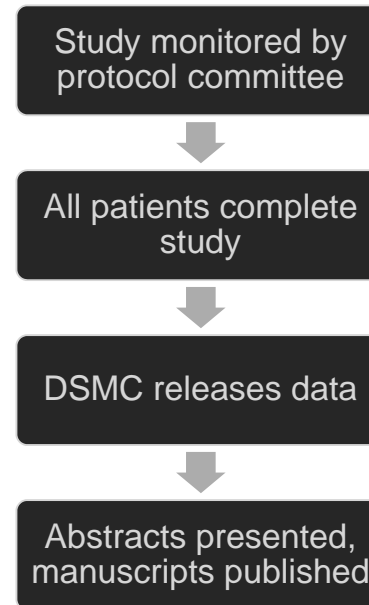
Respect  
for  
People

# The Research Experience

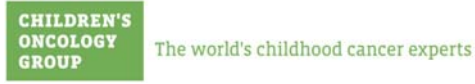
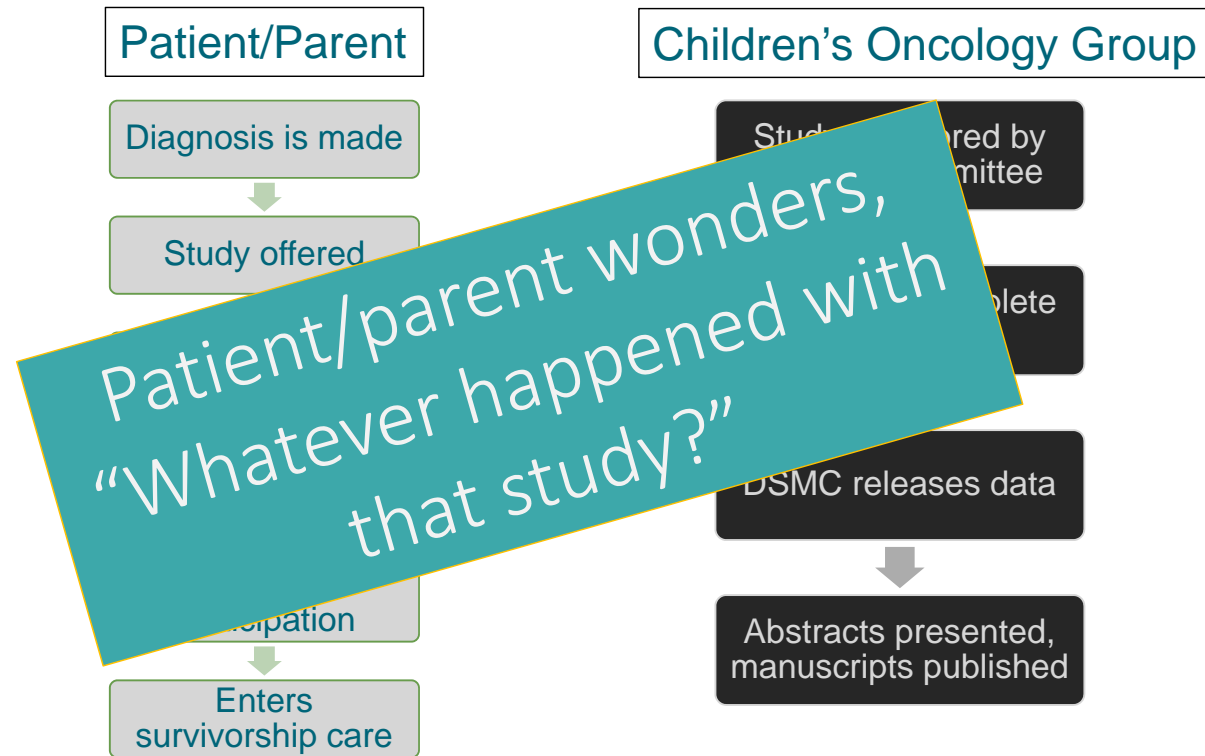
## Patient/Parent



## Children's Oncology Group



## The Research Experience



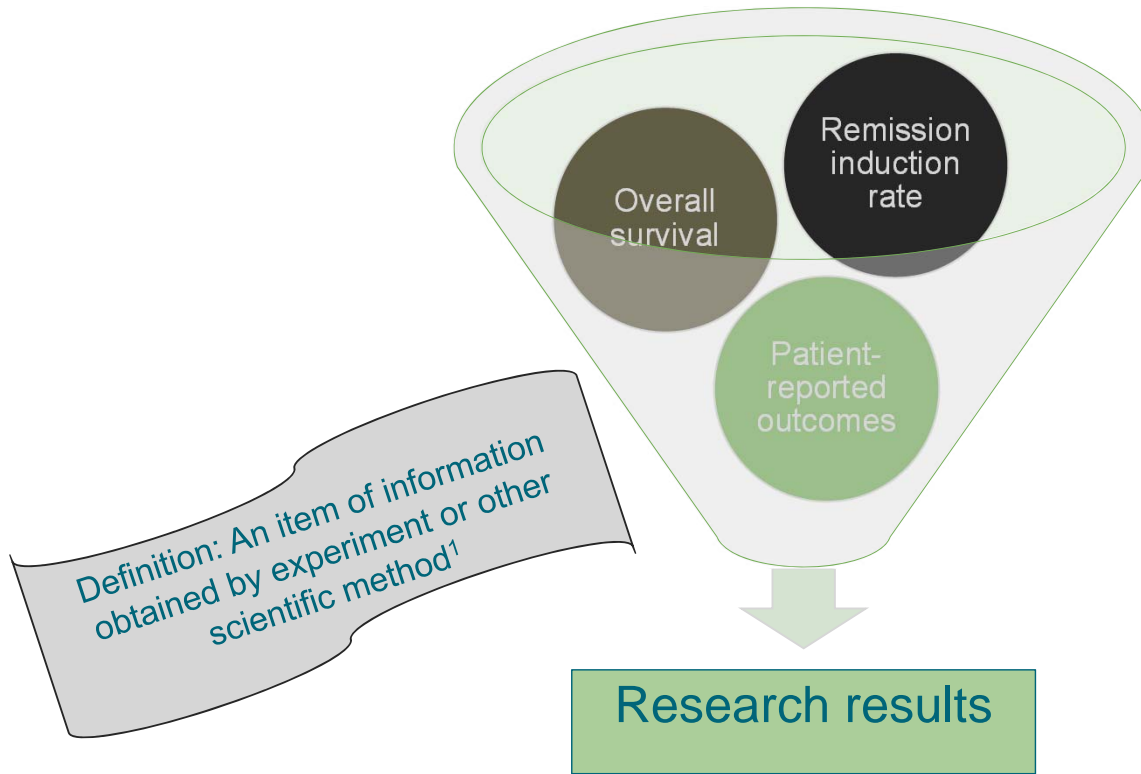
## Question

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- Have any of your patients or families asked you about the results of the clinical trial they were enrolled in?



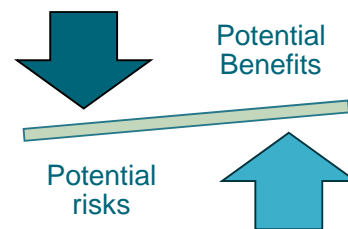
# What is a Research Result?



<sup>1</sup>Source: [http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/us/definition/american\\_english/result](http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/us/definition/american_english/result)

## Considerations in Returning Research Results

- Distress in revisiting diagnosis or death
- Misunderstanding of adverse information
- Anger or sadness about results describing unfavorable outcomes



- Participants' contribution to research recognized
- Participants feel valued and appreciated
- Results disseminated in a more accurate and nuanced way
- Information may be useful in decision-making
- Broader public understanding of social benefits of research

## Clinical Trials

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70% of all children with cancer in North America enroll in a COG clinical trial

Many RCTs compare current best-known treatment/intervention (standard arm) vs. experimental treatment/intervention

These studies include clinical trials (phases I-III)

## An Epidemiology Precedent



*"It is valuable to many parents to receive information about results of research in which they have participated. We found little evidence of strong negative effects..."*

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# COG Return of Results Task Force

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JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

SPECIAL ARTICLE

## Recommendations for the Return of Research Results to Study Participants and Guardians: A Report From the Children's Oncology Group

Conrad V. Fernandez, Kathleen Ruccione, Robert J. Wells, Jay B. Long, Wendy Pelletier, Mary C. Hooke, Rebecca D. Pentz, Robert B. Noll, Justin N. Baker, Maura O'Leary, Gregory Reaman, Peter C. Adamson, and Steven Joffe

Conrad V. Fernandez, Izaak Walton Killam Health Centre, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia; Wendy Pelletier, Alberta Children's Hospital, Calgary, Alberta, Canada; Kathleen Ruccione, Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Los Angeles; Jay B. Long, Jonathan Jacques Children's Cancer, Miller Children's Hospital Long Beach, Long Beach, CA; Robert J. Wells, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX; Mary C. Hooke, University of Minnesota School of Nursing, Minneapolis, MN; Rebecca D. Pentz, Emory University,

### A B S T R A C T

#### Purpose

The Children's Oncology Group (COG) strongly supports the widely recognized principle that research participants should be offered a summary of study results. The mechanism by which to do so in a cooperative research group setting has not been previously described.

#### Methods

On the basis of a review of the available empirical and theoretic literature and on iterative, multidisciplinary discussion, a COG Return of Results Task Force (BRTF) offered detailed

**Conclusion:** These recommendations provide a framework for the offering and returning of results to participants. They can be used by individual investigators, multi-investigator research collaboratives, and large cooperative groups.

Medical School, Boston, MA.  
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Supported by Chair Grant No. U10

participants. They can be used by individual investigators, multi-investigator research collaboratives, and large cooperative groups.

*J Clin Oncol* 30:4573-4579. © 2012 by American Society of Clinical Oncology

## Application of Recommendations

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Topic	Recommendation
Which research results?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Results of <b>primary aims</b> of COG Phase I, II, III studies</li><li>• Primary aims of <b>phase I, II and III</b> studies initial priority (beginning with Data Safety Monitoring Committee (DSMC) release)</li></ul>

## Application of Recommendations

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Topic	Recommendation
When (in scientific process) to offer results?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Primary analyses:</b> One year from DSMC release</li> <li>• Release with publication of primary findings manuscript</li> </ul>

## Application of Recommendations

Topic	Recommendation
Who should be offered return of results (ROR)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lay summary is offered to <b>all participants</b></li><li>• Summary <b>openly accessible</b> on COG website</li></ul>
When and how should participants <u>first</u> be offered ROR?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Informed consent</b> document</li><li>• <b>COG letter</b> given at participant's study completion and/or in the LTFU clinic</li><li>• At <b>re-consent</b> for minors reaching age of majority</li></ul>



## Application of Recommendations

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Topic	Recommendation
How to disseminate lay summary?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Register</b> on COG public website for email notification (participant responsible for keeping contact info current)</li><li>• In “accessible level” of English (local translation as needed) using a <b>consistent template</b></li></ul>

## Application of Recommendations

Topic	Recommendation
How to handle results anticipated to cause distress?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participants should have access to a clinician at their <b>home institution</b></li></ul>
How to address questions that arise from receiving results?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participants should be directed to clinicians at their <b>home institution</b> to ask questions about results</li></ul>

## Application of Recommendations

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Topic	Recommendation
What about legal and regulatory issues?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Education</b> of COG members and others about their roles and responsibilities r/t ROR</li></ul>
What follow-up research should be done?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Evaluation</b> of use and impact of the COG website in returning results to participants</li></ul>

## What are my Rights as a Participant?

Included under *“what are my rights as a participant?”* in studies

- ROR paragraph explains how to receive results
- Advises that peds oncology team can give more information about how to do this
- Reminds that the summary of results may not be available until several years because treatment for all enrolled patients must be completed first

Remember – the consent is signed when they enroll. This might not be remembered when the treatment is completed.

## Language Embedded in Consents

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### What are my rights as a participant?

During your follow-up visits after treatment, you may ask to be given a summary of the study results, which will only be available after the study is fully completed. *A summary of the study results will also be posted on the Children's Oncology Group website (* ). To receive the results, you may either (1) go to the COG website to check if results are available or (2) register your information with the COG on its web site and have an email sent to you when the results are available. Your pediatric oncology team from your hospital can give you additional instructions on how to do this. Please note, that the summary of results may not be available until several years after treatment for all people on the study is completed, and not only when you complete treatment.

## Consents

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- Do you think that patients or families remember what they read in a consent?
- Do they keep a copy?
- Do they ask questions triggered by the consent form such as return of results?
- OR... is this just forgotten?



## Case Study

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Lawrence is an 8 year-old male who was diagnosed with Wilms tumor at 20 months of age. He was treated on AREN0532. He is being seen in long term follow-up clinic today and his parents ask, “what did the study show?”

You are his clinic nurse. What would you do?



# Return of Results Website

- Do you know where the public COG website is?
- Do you know how to navigate to the Return of Results Webpage?



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Search ...

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[MEMBER LOGIN](#)  
[Forgot Password?](#)

**Important:** COVID-19 INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH CANCER.  
 Download here: [COVID-19 \(English\)](#) [COVID-19 \(Spanish\)](#) [COVID-19 \(French\)](#)

COVID-19 information for childhood cancer survivors is available at [www.survivorshipguidelines.org](http://www.survivorshipguidelines.org)

More than 90% of 14,000 children and adolescents diagnosed with cancer each year in the United States are cared for at Children's Oncology Group member institutions.

[Learn More >](#)

*Photo courtesy of University of Mississippi Medical Center*

**For Patients and Families**  
 The Children's Oncology Group provides important information for children and their families from the time of diagnosis, through treatment and following cure. Our experts in childhood cancer are available throughout the United States, Canada and a number of international sites. Find a Children's Oncology Group location near you, learn more about specific Children's Oncology Group clinical trials, and download our Family Handbook for more information.

**Project:EveryChild**  
 Children's Oncology Group's Project:EveryChild is our ambitious initiative to find better cures for every type of childhood cancer, no matter how rare. All children with cancer cared for at COG's more than 200 pediatric cancer programs will be able to participate in Project:EveryChild. [Learn more about Project:EveryChild](#) and how you can help lead the way.

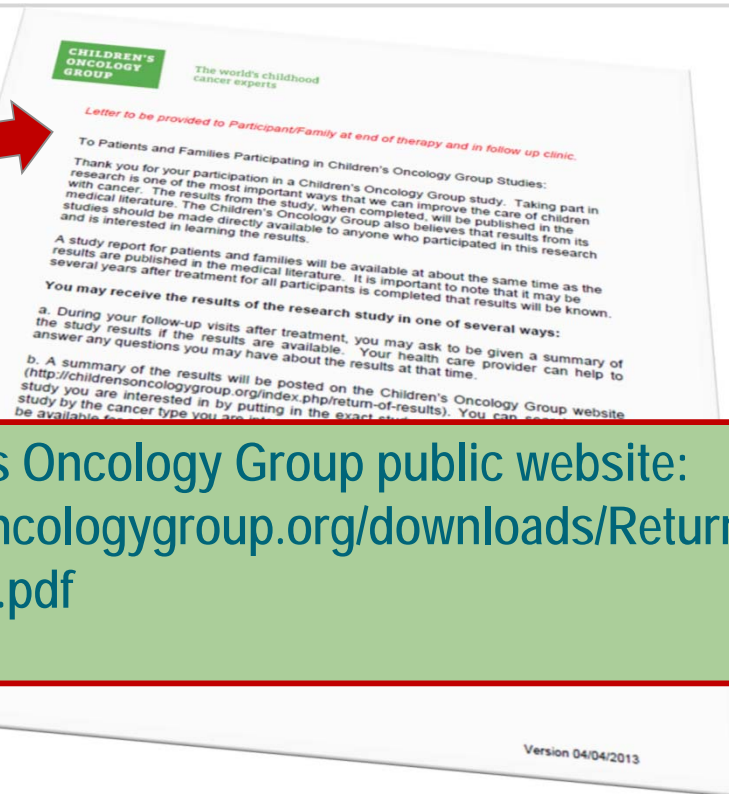
**Supporting Us**  
 The Children's Oncology Group is dedicated to improving the outcome for all children with cancer. Our global research team needs your help to turn today's discoveries into tomorrow's cures. With more than 90% of children with cancer cared for at COG sites, learn how you can help be part of the cure.

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## Letter to Participant/Family

At end of therapy  
in follow-up clinic



Available on Children's Oncology Group public website:  
[http://www.childrensoncologygroup.org/downloads/Return-of-Results\\_Access\\_letter.pdf](http://www.childrensoncologygroup.org/downloads/Return-of-Results_Access_letter.pdf)

## Website Registration for RORs

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Step 1

- The patient/family or interested member of the public registers their email associated with a particular study.

Step 2

- Registrant is notified that they are responsible for keeping email contact up to date.

Step 3

- Once a new lay summary is posted to the website, an automatic notification email is sent to all those who register.

## Email Sent to Registrants

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*“COG is committed to returning a summary of results to participants. You are receiving this email as you registered to receive a notification once a summary of study results is posted. Recall that this may be several years from when you registered to allow the study data to mature.*

*You can access these results by clicking on the embedded link which will take you to the COG website.*


*<https://childrensoncologygroup.org/return-of-result>*

*This page has links to the results as well as to Frequently Asked Questions. Please note that we recommend discussing these results with your clinical team, if you have questions. This email is not monitored for return questions.*

*We thank you for your interest.”*

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The Children's Oncology Group (COG), a National Cancer Institute supported clinical trials group, is the world's largest organization devoted exclusively to pediatric cancer research.





Photo Courtesy of Palmetto Health Richland

Learn More >



**For Patients and Families**

The Children's Oncology Group provides important information for children and their families from the time of diagnosis, through treatment and following cure. Our experts in childhood cancer are available throughout the United States, Canada and a number of international sites. [Find a Children's Oncology Group location](#) near you and download our [Family Handbook](#) for more information.

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**Supporting Us**

The Children's Oncology Group is dedicated to improving the outcome for all children with cancer. Our global research team needs your help to turn today's discoveries into tomorrow's cures. With more than 90% of children with cancer cared for at COG sites, learn how you can help be part of the cure.

**Research Collaborations**

The Children's Oncology Group partners with research scientists from around the world in our efforts to understand the causes of cancer and find more effective treatments for the children we care for. [Learn how to become a member](#) of the Children's Oncology Group.

**Industry Partnership**

Partner with the Children's Oncology Group from laboratory discovery to all phases of clinic trials. Our well-established clinical research infrastructure is dedicated to efficiently delivering results to help develop new treatments and provide the data necessary for filings with global regulatory agencies.

**Phase 1 Consortium**

The Children's Oncology Group (COG) is the most experienced organization in the world in clinical development of new therapeutics for children and adolescents with cancer. The COG Phase 1 & Pilot Consortium is a limited institution consortium, comprised of 21 premier pediatric oncology programs in the country.

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Return of Results - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.childrensoncologygroup.org/index.php/return-of-results

Home About Us Patients & Families Industry Partners Research Collaborations **Return of Results** COG Member Login

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RETURN OF RESULTS

Frequently Asked Questions

Return of Results Access Letter

WHEN WILL THE RESULTS BE AVAILABLE?

Research studies may take a long time (many years) to finish. Even after the last patient has been enrolled, it can take a year for the results to be released. During that time, work is being done to ensure that the results are accurate and that they can answer the main question of the study.

Note that sometimes further results will be available with time. When you go to the link for the results of the study you are

**Results of Completed COG Studies**

You may find the study that you are interested in one of several ways:

- Enter a key word related to the study of interest into the Key word box below
- Click on a disease type to open a list of all the studies related to this disease
- If you know the 8 character study code number enter this in the study box (eg AREN0533)
- You may modify your search to look at only studies that are Open or Closed
- You may narrow your search by looking in the Status Column at the Year the study was Open or Closed.

Cancer Type

- Bone Marrow Transplant: Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant
- Bone Marrow Transplant: Stem Cell Transplant
- CNS/Brain Tumor: Anaplastic
- CNS/Brain Tumor: Anaplastic Glioma
- CNS/Brain Tumor: Astrocytoma
- CNS/Brain Tumor: Ataxia
- CNS/Brain Tumor: Brain Stem Glioma
- CNS/Brain Tumor: Central Nervous System Tumor (CNS Tumor)
- CNS/Brain Tumor: CNS/Brain Tumor
- CNS/Brain Tumor: Craniopharyngioma

Participation Year

Study Status

Active

Closed

Search Terms

Search

Display All

Type of Study

[Click here for more information about study types.](#)

Phase I (e.g., PK/PD)

Phase II (therapeutic exploratory)




Done, but with errors on page.

Internet | Protected Mode: On

125%

## ROR Website Search Options

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-  Search by study number
-  Search by cancer type
-  Search in cancer type  
(identified by name,  
number, or years open)

# Searching for AREN0532

## Results of Completed COG Studies

You may find the study that you are interested in one of several ways:

- Enter a key word related to the study of interest into the Key word box below.
- Click on a disease type to open a list of all the studies related to this disease.
- If you know the 8 character study code number enter this in the study box (eg AREN0533)
- You may modify your search to look at only studies that are Open or Closed
- You may narrow your search by looking in the Status Column at the Year the study was Open or Closed.

### Cancer Type

- Bone Cancer: Ewing Sarcoma
- Bone Cancer: Osteosarcoma
- Bone Cancer: Sarcoma
- Bone Marrow Transplant: Allogeneic Bone Marrow Transplantation
- Bone Marrow Transplant: Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplantation
- Bone Marrow Transplant: Autologous Bone Marrow Transplantation
- Bone Marrow Transplant: Autologous Stem Cell Transplantation
- Bone Marrow Transplant: Bone Marrow Transplant
- Bone Marrow Transplant: Cord Blood Transplant
- Bone Marrow Transplant: Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant
- Bone Marrow Transplant: Stem Cell Transplant
- CNS/Brain Tumor: Anaplastic
- CNS/Brain Tumor: Anaplastic Glioma
- CNS/Brain Tumor: Astrocytoma
- CNS/Brain Tumor: Ataxia
- CNS/Brain Tumor: Brain Stem Glioma
- CNS/Brain Tumor: Central Nervous System Tumor (CNS Tumor)
- CNS/Brain Tumor: CNS/Brain Tumor
- CNS/Brain Tumor: Craniopharyngioma
- CNS/Brain Tumor: Diffuse Intrinsic Brain Stem Glioma

### Type of Study

[Click here](#) for more information about study types.

- Phase I (e.g., PK/PD)
- Phase II (therapeutic)
- Bone Marrow Transplant
- Developmental

### Open Year (Select One)

### Closed Year (Select One)

### Study Status

- Active
- Closed

### Search Terms

Search

Display All

Clear Form



# Searching for AREN0532

The screenshot shows the 'Return of Results' portal for the Children's Oncology Group. The main heading is 'Results of Completed COG Studies'. A search bar is present with the text 'Protocol Search:'. Below the search bar, a table lists study results. The table has columns for Protocol ID, Protocol Title, Study Description, Study Summary, Summary of Results, Status, Phase, Opened Year, and Closed Year. The first entry is for protocol AREN0532, titled 'Treatment for Very Low and Standard Risk Favorable Histology Wilms Tumor'. A red arrow points to the 'View Results' link in the 'Summary of Results' column for this entry.

Protocol ID	Protocol Title	Study Description	Study Summary	Summary of Results	Status	Phase	Opened Year	Closed Year
AREN0532	Treatment for Very Low and Standard Risk Favorable Histology Wilms Tumor	<a href="#">AREN0532 Description</a>	<a href="#">AREN0532 Summary</a>	<a href="#">View Results</a>	Closed	3	2006	2013

Showing 1 to 1 of 1 entries

Previous 1 Next



# Summary for AREN0532



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## SUMMARY OF RESEARCH RESULTS FOR

### AREN0532 Treatment for Very Low, Low and Standard Risk Favorable Histology Wilms Tumor

#### 1. Introduction

The Children's Oncology Group (COG) is committed to offering a summary of research results to participants in its research studies. When participants or their parents/guardians consented to the study, it was stated in the consent form that we would share the study results. This summary tells about the main results of the study. There can be benefits and risks to learning study results. A benefit for some people is knowing that they contributed to the research, and that their participation is appreciated. Another benefit is that what was learned from the study may help them make decisions about health and medical care now or in the future.

For some people, a risk of getting study results is that it may make them feel distressed remembering a difficult time in life, or upset about the study results. This is especially true if being in the study did not help the child's condition.

Please talk with your/your child's cancer doctor about any questions or concerns you may have about this summary. Your doctor is in the best position to explain these results in relation to your/your child's medical issues.

COG thanks all the patients and families who have taken part in our research studies. Patients and families who have taken part in COG research have helped us learn and advance the care of children with cancer.

#### 2. Brief background - reason for the study

This study examined favorable histology Wilms tumor and had the following goals and aims:

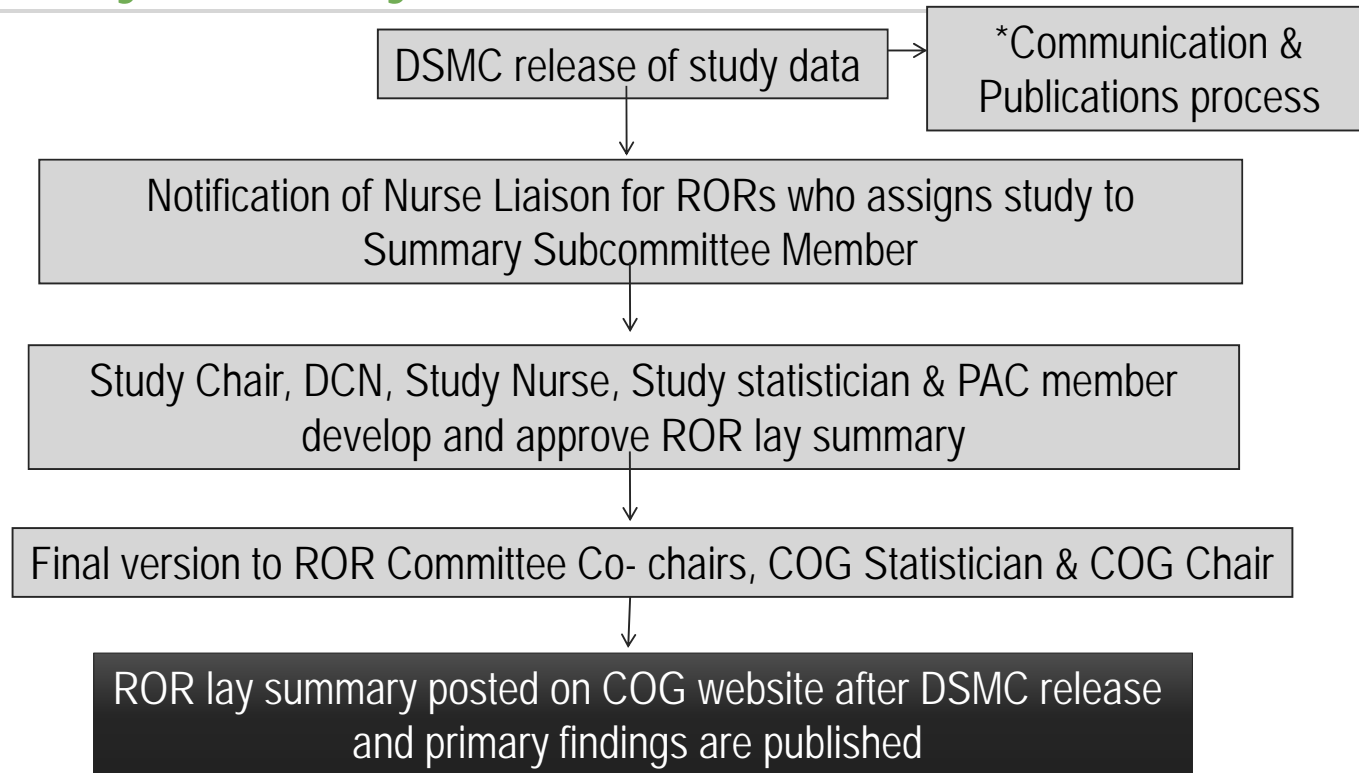
1. To find out if it was safe to treat children less than 2 years of age with small, stage I Wilms tumors with surgery alone (no chemotherapy). This group of tumors was called Very Low Risk (VLR) Wilms tumor.

We also wanted to find out in this group of children if



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## COG ROR Lay Summary Process



## Nursing Implications

Offering return of research results is an ethical imperative

- COG has a mechanism for doing this
- Parent/patient advocates in COG “carried the flag” for this program
- Nurses and other disciplines have shaped it

- Nurses should be aware of how to access ROR to provide anticipatory guidance
- Know that one “size does not fit all” – not everyone will want to receive research results



Thank you!



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