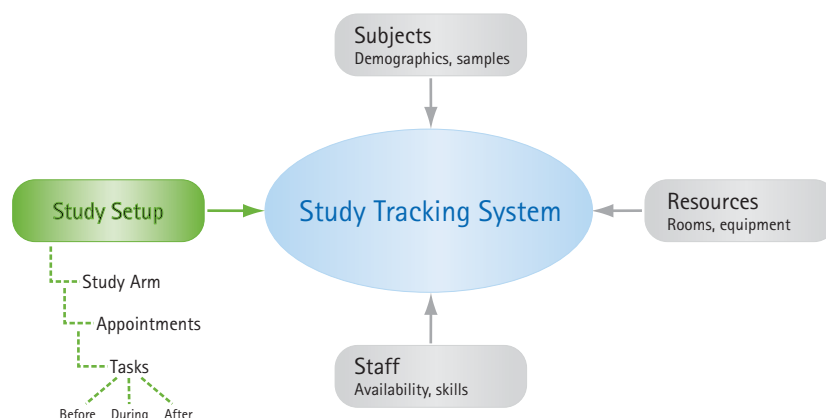


A web-based scheduling and resource management tool

To meet the increasingly complex scheduling and resource management needs of clinical studies, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center has developed the Study Tracking System. With this web-based application, investigators finally can escape the limits of spreadsheets, basic calendar tools and paper forms. From setting up required appointments and tasks to monitoring staff availability to tracking task and appointment completion, the Study Tracking System covers all key aspects of study scheduling. Sample tracking and questionnaire building modules extend the flexibility of the system.

Allocate staff and resources

With the Study Tracking System (STS), you can allocate not only personnel but also physical resources such as rooms, computers and lab kits. Each person or item is assigned to a team, and each team is assigned various appointments and tasks. As a result, when you select a date and time for a subject appointment, only qualified staff and relevant resources available during the selected time can be assigned. This saves time and prevents common problems such as double-booking.



Create road maps with multiple study arms

When you set up your study, you begin by defining one or more study arms. For each arm, you define required appointments, and for each appointment, you define tasks that must be completed before, during and after the appointment. The result is a complete “road map” of your study that all staff must follow from study start to study end.

Make scheduled and ad hoc appointments

For each subject enrolled in the study, you get an automatic list of required appointments. As these appointments and associated tasks are completed, they can be automatically “checked off” so that they are not unnecessarily repeated. At the same time, system flexibility enables you to make ad hoc appointments and tasks when special circumstances require unscheduled interaction with subjects.

Log calls and incidents

In studies where phone interviews are required, STS enables you to record call details including date, time, reason and outcome. You also can record incidents such as subject questions or complaints and prompt the system to schedule follow-up tasks as necessary.

Track appointment and task completion

When a staff member is assigned to an appointment, all tasks that must be completed before, during and after the appointment automatically appear on the individual's calendar. In addition to their own calendars, staff members can view a calendar displaying the appointments and tasks of other staff. This gives everyone a comprehensive view of the study's activities at all times.

As staff members schedule and complete appointments and tasks, the dates and times of these events are stored in the database for future reference. As study manager, you also can define escalation patterns that alert you and assigned staff when appointments and tasks have not been completed within the specified time frame.

Track, aliquot and ship samples

By using STS's biological sample tracking module, you can collect, label, aliquot and store samples quickly and effectively. For each subject, you get a list of samples collected along with details such as the date, sample type and storage location. You also can track shipments to and from external labs, as well as upload and export files containing lab results.