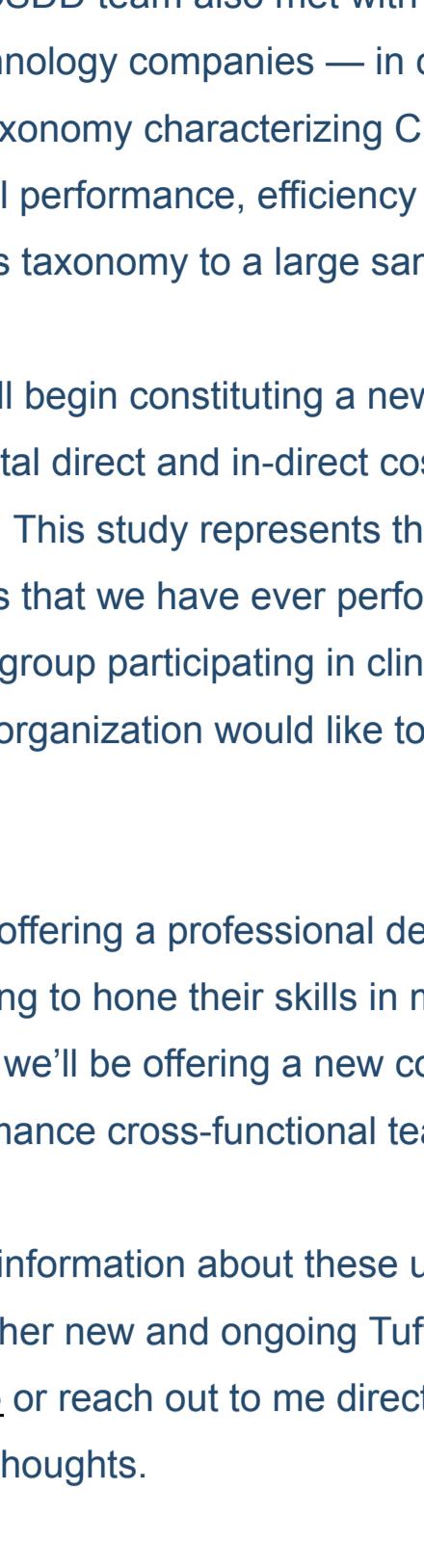


**From the Executive Director**

Dear CSDD Friends:

It was a pleasure to see many of you at onsite meetings, roundtables and conferences in the US and Europe this past month. One particularly memorable visit: I was presented with a mock Q&A session where ChatGPT was instructed to impersonate me in its response to questions about Tufts CSDD study findings and their implications. The results were both interesting and very humbling!

The Center had one of its busiest months in recent memory with new and ongoing project activity and several new staff joining our team. We held one of two senior executive roundtables examining sponsor and CRO adoption experience with risk-based monitoring (RBM) and risk-based quality management (RBQM) components. The second roundtable will be conducted in Geneva, Switzerland in late April. Please let us know if you would like to participate.

This past month the Tufts CSDD team also met with more than a dozen pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies — in collaboration with ICON — to examine a more detailed taxonomy characterizing CRO sourcing models and their relationship with clinical trial performance, efficiency and cost outcomes. Later this year we will be applying this taxonomy to a large sample of clinical trials.

This month, Tufts CSDD will begin constituting a new working group study to gather detailed financials on the total direct and in-direct costs associated with planning and executing clinical trials. This study represents the most comprehensive financial assessment on clinical trials that we have ever performed and will include costs borne by each stakeholder group participating in clinical trials including patients. Please let me know if your organization would like to learn more about participating in this study.

In April Tufts CSDD will be offering a professional development course for middle- and senior executives looking to hone their skills in managing alliances and collaborations. And in May, we'll be offering a new course for senior executives to lead and direct high performance cross-functional teams.

This *Insider* contains more information about these upcoming professional development course and other new and ongoing Tufts CSDD research activities. Please refer to our [website](#) or reach out to me directly at [Ken Getz](#) with any questions or share your thoughts.

As always, thank you for your support and collaboration,

Ken Getz
Executive Director and Professor

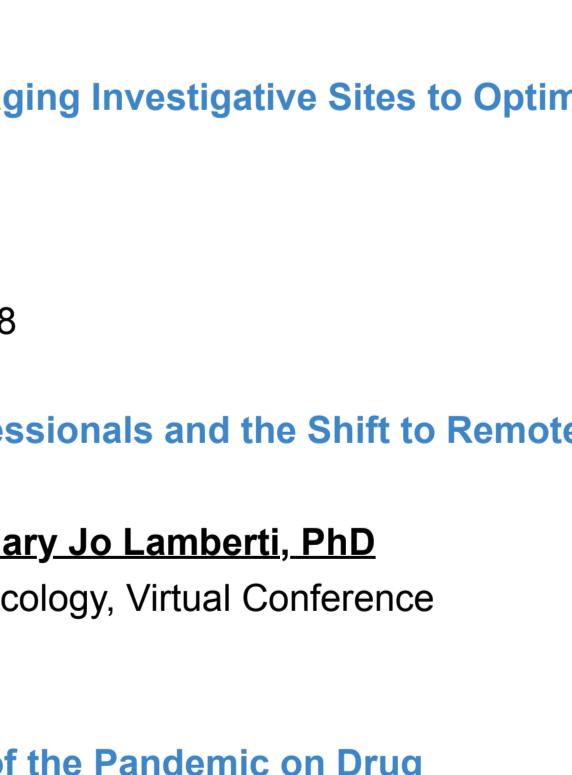
Tufts Center for the
Study of Drug Development
TUFTS UNIVERSITY

Professional Development Courses

For spring 2023, Tufts CSDD is pleased to offer the following two programs for research executives:

An interactive half-day leadership workshop on April 20th, 2023 — [Better Together: Creating a Value Driven Partnership Network](#). This program is led and moderated by Christine Carberry (MS Certified Strategic Alliance, Professional (CSAP), Carberry Consulting) and Robert Franco (Senior Fellow Tufts CSDD and President, Coe Point Associates LLC.) and teaches participants how to conceive and apply alliance management strategies to optimize drug development planning and execution. For more information and to register — [Sarah Wrobel](#) or visit the Tufts CSDD [website](#).

An intensive four-day virtual course on May 23, 2023 — [Leadership for Drug Development Teams](#). Intended for research executives looking to build and sharpen their leadership skills and improve cross-functional team performance and productivity, this internationally-recognized program is facilitated by Dr. Robert Franco with an outstanding faculty. Course enrollees will have ample opportunity to interact with faculty and colleagues. To learn more about the course, receive the course agenda, or to register — contact [Sarah Wrobel](#) or visit the Tufts CSDD [website](#).

Working Group Studies**New Working Group Study Gathering Rich Data on the Impact of DCT Deployments on Clinical Trial Outcomes**

Tufts CSDD is launching a new working group to gather, aggregate, analyze and disseminate metrics on actual experience with virtual and remote solutions supporting clinical trial execution. Participating companies will share de-identified hard data on the use of DCT solutions and their impact on performance and other clinical trial outcomes. For more information and if you would like to participate, please contact [Ken Getz](#).

New Working Group Study Gathering Benchmark Metrics on Site Activation, Patient Enrollment, and Retention Experience Since The Beginning of the Pandemic

Tufts CSDD has launched a new working group study gathering benchmark metrics on site activation, patient enrollment and retention experience since the beginning of the global pandemic. We will gather recent clinical trial performance metrics to compare with pre-pandemic benchmarks to identify impact areas and opportunities to optimize start-up, recruitment and retention effectiveness. Contact [Mary Jo Lambert](#) for more information.

Research Highlights**Our Latest Impact Report**

VOLUME 25 NUMBER 2 | March/April 2023
Tufts Center for the Study of Drug Development

IMPACT REPORT
ANALYSIS & INSIGHT INTO CRITICAL DRUG DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

Prevalence and mean number of protocol amendments increasing across all phases

Regulatory responses are the most common reason for amending a protocol

More than 75% of sites that made protocol amendments did so for the first time in Phase II

On average, the prevalence and mean number of amendments per protocol has increased across all phases

Protocol amendments are generally associated with larger and more complex clinical trials

Study assessments and design are the areas most commonly modified when protocol amendments are made

Companies that make protocol amendments are more likely to plan them to substantially increase actual start-up and close-out dates

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