

**AHCDC Research Committee
Report 1998-99**

Committee Members:

- [Dr. B. Ritchie](#) (Chairperson)
 - [Dr. C. Demers](#)
 - [Dr. P. McCusker](#)
 - [Dr. Jerry Teitel](#)
 - [Dr. Irwin Walker](#)
- [Dr. J. Wu \(Vancouver\)](#)

Committee Activities:

In 1998, the Research Committee was set up with the goal of rationalizing and widening the research activities of the AHCDC. Goals of the committee included: development of a trials development protocol, development of guidelines for overhead charges, enhancement of the central database for clinical research, and advertisement of the group for clinical trials of new treatments in the bleeding disorders.

Website:

At the 1999 AGM, Dr. Ritchie demonstrated the new AHCDC website, which resides on the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada server, found at <http://ahcdc.medical.org/>. This website was developed as predominantly information website and includes an introduction to the AHCDC, contact information for the head office and the members, publications, and links to hemophilia related websites. It was designed with few graphics to make the site fast and efficient for obtaining information. Dr. Michael Delorme and Ms. Andree Vogel agreed to begin updating and managing the website on a day to day basis. The first item will be the reports of the annual General Meeting.

Clinical Research Development Protocol:

One of the early goals for the committee was to develop a protocol for developing research protocols, modelled on the POG (Pediatric Oncology Group) trials development process. This has been a slow process and is not yet online yet, so as not to slow development of ongoing protocols under development.

Overhead:

Discussion of the place of overhead in AHCDC trials was raised. The development of clinical trials by the AHCDC has led to the growth of a networked infrastructure including the Canadian Hemophilia Registry of patients with bleeding disorders, the CHARMS database of blood product use and outcomes, a central office for communication, and a central lab for standardization and study of coagulation inhibitors. Clinical research is much more feasible with this infrastructure in place, but the infrastructure must be maintained. A guideline for overhead charges will be developed for future protocols.