

## Operations Memo No. 16



VA COOPERATIVE STUDIES PROGRAM # 424

### Clinical Outcomes Utilizing Revascularization and Aggressive DruG Evaluation

Date: December 6, 1999  
From: Pamela Hartigan, PhD, Study Statistician  
Subj: Visit schedule  
To: Study Coordinators  
Thru: Trial Leadership

The beginning date for every patient in the study is his/her randomization date. All activities are keyed to that date. For example, the 1 month visit (visit 02) should occur 1 month after randomization not one month after the PCI or one month after the screening catheterization.

Windows have been provided for the visits. For the 1, 2, and 3 month visits the window is  $\pm 2$  weeks. For all other visits the window is  $\pm 1$  month.

Even if you do not use the scheduling system on the pentablot for anything else, the system can help you with the scheduling of the visits for the patients. You will need to enter the patient's name and contact information as well as the randomization date but then you can use it to print out a list of suggested dates and put them in the patient's folder or wherever it suits you best.

Please do your best to fit the patient's visits in the allotted window. If the patient gets off schedule then adjust the next visit to keep within the original window for the next visit - not a window suggested by the "off schedule" visit. For example, if the patient has his 1 year visit at 10 months his 18 month visit should not occur before 17 months and should not be scheduled at 10+6 or 16 months.

We realize that snowbirds can create a problem.