A key determinant of the success of a clinical trial is the recruitment of a study population of an adequate size. Participant recruitment is considered by many to be the most difficult aspect of the research process. Low rates of recruitment result in:

- Longer durations
- Increased costs
- Less statistical power
- Questionable validity of the results
- Possible termination of the trial

In 2003 when HIPAA laws were enacted to protect human subjects’ health information, it became necessary for researchers working within clinical settings to develop a HIPAA compliant process to screen and potentially recruit participants for clinical trials. At Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital we collected data on CVA admission and the ability to get authorization to contact for research purposes from 2004 to 2010. We were successful in this endeavor as indicated in Table 1. below. This one time authorization did not allow us to track participants across a period of recovery and had limited information regarding diagnosis, resulting in disability and functional status. This led to the development of the Brooks Active Research Registry (BARR).

**REFERENCES**

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