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Randall Matignon: Behind the Scenes in Clinical Data Management

Published author and programmer helps ASF process study data.



Randall Matignon, clinical data management systems manager, is one of the many mathematical minds at Amgen responsible for helping to process data coming in from clinical trials.

Clinical Data Management

Clinical Data Management (CDM) enables commercialization of Amgen's product portfolio by delivering one of the company's most valued assets, the data. These data lead to scientific knowledge through statistical analysis; at every step, analysis and problem-solving rely on effective data management techniques.

SAS code, one of Randall's specialties, is used to process clinical data. Randall has more than twenty years of experience as a statistical programmer and applications developer. Shortly before joining Amgen, he published two books about SAS enterprise miner: *Data Mining Using SAS Enterprise Miner*, and *Neural Network Modeling using SAS Enterprise Miner*.

Randall also uses a programming language called Visual Basic for Applications (VBA) to create applications in Microsoft Office. Using

VBA, a programmer can customize features within a program like Excel, and enable two programs such as Word and Excel to communicate. One application of this type of programming in CDM is facilitation of Word and Excel Data Management Plans, which define how to collect, check, and clean the data.

"I write programs to make sure that no errors are happening," Randall explains. "Really there isn't a typical day. Things are always changing and we have to adjust and make sure the data is coming in and being updated and put into the right system folders."

More about Randall

Randall is a Bay Area native. He grew up in Piedmont, and attended Cal State Hayward, where he earned a MS in Statistics and a BS in Mathematics and Statistics. "I was a double major," he says. "I finished my math degree, and one of my teachers told me to get into statistics." In his leisure time, Randall walks to stay fit, often making a 10-mile hike at Lafayette Reservoir. He and his girlfriend are currently shopping for a home in the East Bay.

Randall says he appreciates the stability of the biotech industry, helping to create drugs for patients who need them. He hopes to write another book about Enterprise Miner Version 5 someday and his publisher has already indicated interest. But right now, his job keeps him fully occupied. "It gets very busy here sometimes," he says. "We provide a valuable service to other groups, so we field a lot of requests."