

International Clinical Trial Networks Chibuzor Uchea, PhD Wellcome Trust

Enhancing the Clinical Trial Enterprise for Antibacterial Drug Development 19 November 2019



Wellcome is a global charitable foundation, both politically and financially independent

Wellcome's Drug-Resistant Infections Programme

Four pillars of the programme **CARB-X** VALUE-Dx Wellcome is creating a global portfolio of open Working with partners, Evidence New research and data to help Wellcome is funding the for decisionguide national and global development of potential new treatments antibiotics, diagnostics and strategies for tackling drugmaking resistant infections. preventative approaches. £175m (\$225m) **Global scope** Expertise over 5 years Resources Wellcome is working with With partners around the Stronger Faster policy makers to support the world, Wellcome is building global clinical development of a global global clinical trial networks framework to coordinate. governance to innovate and standardise trials monitor and evaluate progress. protocols and make trials more efficient.

Policy and advocacy efforts support the programme in its entirety

The current model of clinical research is inefficient from both a time and cost perspective



Single use networks of 50–300 sites





High cost of building capacity and infrastructure Loss of capacity and expertise at trial completion



Difficulties with patient recruitment





Individual studies for each indication

Wellcome's proposed solutions



To use collaborative research networks and innovative trial designs to improve clinical trial efficiency

International clinical trial networks

- Improve and strengthen clinical trial capabilities in LMICs
- Provide a system to mitigate inefficiencies in the trial start-up phase and loss of experience at study conclusion
- Increased access to patients with drug-resistant infections

Platform to support continuous master protocol use

- Explore the potential for innovative trial design enabling use of a shared control group
- Creates enhanced efficiencies within a clinical trial network

Independent aspects but greater efficiencies could be realised if implemented jointly

International clinical trial networks



Creating a pilot clinical trial network anchored in SE Asia



- Flexible, scalable regional network of high quality sites
- Building on existing capacity
- Rapid access to Southeast Asian patient populations
- Interoperable with other regional networks
- Business oriented clinical research network
- Support both investigator-initiated and registrational studies
- Identified a nucleus of institutions and sites to work within initial regional network
- Network to launch with an initial trial to test and optimise network and inform scale-up

Benefits of an international clinical trial network



Sponsors

- Coordination and standardisation of sites
- Single contact entry point to network
- Facilitate parallel followon and optimisation studies
- Reduced costs of conducting trials



Investigators

- Access to a larger patient population
- Running of multiple studies simultaneously
- Reduced start-up time and costs
- Support for operational and administrative activities
- Platform to implement innovative trial designs



Patients

- Increased speed of treatment and to access drugs
- Potentially cheaper drugs due to reduced development costs

What will the pilot network look like?



Addition of new sites meeting quality criteria

Secretariat responsibilities

- Network strategy
- Pipeline management
- Regulatory engagement and MA
- Trial design and protocol development
- Site feasibility assessment
- Administration
- Trial performance
 management

What will the pilot network look like?





What will the pilot network look like?



Potential challenges of developing an ICTN



Governance structure and alignment on direction



Cross border regulatory alignment



Data management



Independence of member sites



Underuse of network between studies



Funding, finance and sustainability



Innovative trial design



Clinical Trial Networks for Antibiotic Development:

Why they're important and how they should be developed.

Written by a multi-stakeholder working group led by Anthony McDonnell and funded by the Wellcome Trust

- A continuous disease-specific master protocol offers great potential to accelerate and reduce trial costs and improve the standard of data produced
- Applicable to initial drug registration studies



Continuous master protocols

- Clinical trial networks can be used to explore and test innovation in trial design to further accelerate clinical development
- Use of common control trial design allows for multiple studies to be run with a shared control group and staggered start and enrolment periods



Feasibility of continuous master protocols

- Standing networks can explore and further test additional innovations in clinical trial design
- Master protocols are especially beneficial for large standardised regulatory science studies
- Provide key benefits for supporting adult cUTI and HAP/VAP studies and paediatric studies

Conclusions

- Recent strengthening of pipeline demands a more efficient clinical development process
- Proposed initiatives will provide scientific, financial and developmental benefits
- Access to important population of patients with drug-resistant infections
- Improves the powering of studies and quality of data produced



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