Conducting International noncommercial trials: the experience of the EORTC

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The future of cancer therapy

A world-clas	ss network	An expert HQ	Unique output
• 4,600 colla	oorators	 191 employees 	• 18 new studies opened in 2015
640 institut37 countrie		 190,000 patients in database 	 48 studies open to patient entry
21 groups & 100 collabo groups	k task-forces	 24,000 patients in follow-up 	 25 studies in protocol outline development 22 studies in protocol development
			 14 studies in regulatory activation 83,551 pts on studies
			 (2000-2015) Working on ≈ 190 studies



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The changing clinical research pathway



Burock et al. Eur.J.Cancer (2013), http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ejca,2013.05.016



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Contents

- Setting the scene: National vs international—independent vs academicchanging practice trials vs exploratory trials
- Getting started: if you want to win the battle you have to know the battle field
 - Feasibility
 - Regulatory and legal, including insurance
 - Drug supplies and contracts in a multi-language setting
 - Budgeting and funding
- Conducting the study
 - QA on modern pragmatic trials: implication for those who decide
 - Pharmacovigilance
 - Risk benefit and risk based approaches
- Documentation management and filing /TMF
- Looking into the future: Adapting to the changing environment for noncommercial sponsors: embracing the regulatory triangle



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Setting the scene

- National vs International
 - Nothing compares.... (TIGER trial)
 - Nationals assume that a European expertise will come from the sum of their national expertise
 - Infrastructure/IT/CTMS/solutions: needs vs deliverables
- Academic/non commercial/IITs/Pragmatic trials/Public health trials
- Trusted body: data control and quality, publication
 - Regulatory level type of quality control?



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A Randomized phase III trial comparing conventional-dose chemotherapy with high dose chemotherapy as first salvage treatment in relapsed or refractory germ cell tumors

Schema



Treatment is to continue until disease progression, unacceptable toxicity, or completion of all protocol treatment, whichever comes first.



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A Global Collaboration

Participating Countries

- North America
 - USA and Canada (via US cooperative groups)
- Europe via EORTC:
 - United Kingdom (ICR)
 - Italy
 - France (Unicancer)
 - Germany (KKS)
 - Belgium
 - Denmark
 - Netherlands
 - Switzerland
 - Spain
 - Ireland (ICORG)
- Australia, and New Zealand likely to join via ANZUP

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Getting started...

Feasibility: exportability of the concept

- Control arm
- Acceptability: i.e. LORD trial
- Operational feasibility ex Surtime
- Access to facilities/std of care: i.e. failure follow up imaging initiative in lung cancer or conflict of end-point in H&N when follow up needed is imaging and std practice is endoscopy



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The LORD trial design













Patient eligibility



Regulatory and legal

- National applications/sponsorship:
 - VHP
- Ethics:
 - Varying operations
 - Varying requirements
 - Insurance requirements



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Operational aspects

- Drug supplies:
 - IMP related costs to be compensated
 - Coordination of delivery
 - Labels in multiple languages
- PIS/ICs
 - Local/national aspects
 - Validation of translations
- Biobanking
 - Over estimation of the capacities of virtual biobanking
- Data sharing capacities and processes
- Auditable set of SOPs per international standards



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Budgeting

- Finality of the data justifies the means:
 - Professional quality and infrastructure up to the standards as they evolve
- Under estimation of:
 - Resources needed for international coordination
 - Passthrough costs: insurance, on site monitoring, ICOMs, drug supplies, etc.
 - Per patient budgeting is sub-optimal for international trials
 - 4- part budgets: fixed costs/per patient/passthroughs/ICOMs



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Funding

- European calls rarely meet the needs
- National funds remain the countries
- Challenges to fund central coordination:
 - Surcare: coordination of the national leagues
 - Rando-discontinuation melanoma: coordination of the payers
 - The sum of the national fundings do not support international efforts



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SURCARE: Framework for Integrated Quality Assurance



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Building a Surgical research platform with QA framework

Advocating Multidisciplinary research & treatment strategies

RTC

SURCARE Vision & Mission:

Improve Patient's Surgical Outcomes

Promoting Patient empowerment & involvement Developing a culture of research in surgical training

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Strengthening

International &

global collaborations

The Global Network of SURCARE



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EORTC 1639-MG: Study design

- Unresectable stage III
 or IV melanoma
- No clinically significant tumorrelated symptoms or evidence of rapidly progressive disease
- ECOG PS 0-1
- Eligible to receive or currently receiving (< 9 months) PD-1 inhibitor or combined with a CTLA4 inhibitor as 1st line, which is Health Authority approved and publically-funded

Pembrolizumab 2 mg/kg Q3W Stop OR R Nivolumab 3 mg/kg Q2W 1:1 **Pembro or Nivo** OR Ipilimumab Nivolumab 3mg/kg + until progression 3 mg/kg Nivolumab 1mg/kg Q2W x 12 Q3W x 4 9 months If disease progression in first 9 months: ineligible The future of cancer therapy 18

From R&D to real life...





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Conducting the study



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Need to align on the needs

- Quality assurances programs
- Pharmacovigilance:
 - Safety management and reporting
 - DSURs/regulatory reports
- Risk/benefits and risk based programs:
 - i.e. on-site quality control
- Reporting capacities in all required format:
 - New kid on the block: lay language summaries



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Back to the future...

- Getting ready with the triple regulations
- In many ways... back to 2004
- Inconsistencies and conflicts between the 3 regulations (CTR, IVDR and DPR) currently being addressed by EORTC
- New regulatory skills to be developed, will raise challenges for small volume international non commercial sponsors



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



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