FDA *Relevant* Guidance on Decentralized Clinical Trials

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Disclaimer

This talk reflects the views of the author and should not be construed to represent FDA’s views or policies.
First Things First

• FDA does not have a guidance (final or draft) on the subject. Hopefully, soon.

• Guidance is not guidance until it is guidance. Even when there is guidance, it is developing field.

• Today’s presentation
  – Whirlwind tour of current and planned relevant guidances
  – Principles that may be reflected in future guidance
  – A little emphasis in statistics principles over regulatory requirements and processes
Decentralized Clinical Trials (In one slide)

• Clinical trial where some or all of the trial-related activities occur at a location separate from the investigator’s location.

• Trial-related activities may take place at the homes of trial participants or in local health care environments.

• Goal to improve access to representative patient populations or trial efficiencies. May answer different questions.

• FDA’s regulatory requirements are the same for DCTs and site-based clinical trials
Relevant Guidances

• Conduct and statistical issues of trial under COVID-19
• Electronic source records and informed consent
• Risk-based monitoring
• Clinical decision support software
• Digital health technology (coming)
Conduct and ‘Statistical’ Guidances on Trials During COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

FDA Guidance on Conduct of Clinical Trials of Medical Products during COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

Guidance for Industry, Investigators, and Institutional Review Boards

March 2020

Updated on September 21, 2020

Comments may be submitted at any time for Agency consideration. Submit written comments to the Dockets Management Staff (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20852. Submit electronic comments to https://www.regulations.gov. All comments should be identified with the docket number listed in the notice of availability that publishes in the Federal Register.

For questions on clinical trial conduct during the COVID-19 pandemic, please email ClinicalTrials@FDA.HHS.Gov.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)
Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH)

Office of Good Clinical Practice (OGCP)

Statistical Considerations for Clinical Trials During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

Guidance for Industry

June 2020

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)
Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH)
Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM)
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• The impact of any change in endpoint definition or ascertainment, either through a change in methods or a change in timing, should be carefully evaluated in sensitivity analyses ...
A Risk-Based Approach to Monitoring of Clinical Investigations Questions and Answers Guidance for Industry

DRAFT GUIDANCE

This guidance document is being distributed for comment purposes only.

Comments and suggestions regarding this draft document should be submitted within 60 days of publication in the Federal Register of the notice announcing the availability of the draft guidance. Submit electronic comments to https://www.regulations.gov. Submit written comments to the Dockets Management Staff (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. All comments should be identified with the docket number listed in the notice of availability that publishes in the Federal Register.

For questions regarding this draft document, contact (CDER) Anabel Stewart, 240-402-6653, anabel.stewart@fda.hhs.gov; (CBER) Outreach and Development, 880-815-9789 or 240-402-8016; (CDIR) Office of the Center Director, CDIR/CenterBioDiv@fda.hhs.gov; Office of Good Clinical Practice (OGCP), CGTP-OGCP@fda.hhs.gov; Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA), ORA/ORMD/SpecDiv/PEC/ORA@fda.hhs.gov.

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March 2019
Provisional
Clinical Decision Support Software

• Software may be regulated as a device

• Clarifies when a software may be a device and subject to regulatory oversight

• Examples: feature identification in image analysis, processing accelerometer for measuring tremors
What are digital health technologies?

**Biosensors**
- Continuous glucose monitor
- Continuous ECG monitor
- Continuous blood pressure monitor
- Fall detector

**Interactive mobile applications**
- Patient reported outcome
- Smart pills
- Cellphone camera
- Actigraphy
- Coordination test in Parkinson’s
Digital Health Technologies Guidance (Coming)

• Regulatory question: Is the quality of the evidence from the DHT adequate for experts to make the right conclusions?

• Method of ascertainment v. clinical endpoint
  – Does the DHT measure what it is supposed to from a technology point of view
  – Does the DHT produce a measurement important to patients
• Remote efficacy and safety assessments
  – Validation of digital health technology and remote assessment methods
  – Variability and missing data in remote assessment
  – Retention of participants
  – Obtaining and transmitting data

• Safety monitoring
  – Identifying and managing participant safety issues
Decentralized Trials: Potential Challenges (2/2)

• Remote monitoring
  – Identification of trial conduct issues

• Regulatory
  – Sponsor, investigator, study team, and provider responsibilities
  – Handling of investigational product
  – Documentation and record keeping
Some Principles

• Discuss feasibility, design, implementation, and analysis of a DCT with the relevant FDA review division

• Employ appropriate planning, training, oversight, and up-front risk assessment and management

• Consider risk-based monitoring approaches and use of centralized monitoring

• DCT may not be suited for IPs that involve complex administration procedures, have a high-risk safety profile especially in the immediate post-administration period, or are in early stages of development
Thank you
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