Outsourcing Clinical Trials Survey

Conducted: October 2013
Study Background & Purpose

In October 2013, Clinical Informatics News conducted a survey within the biotechnology and pharmaceutical sector on Outsourcing Clinical Trials. The purpose of the study was to determine which areas of clinical trials are outsourced, the challenges faced, and why companies make the decision to outsource.

With 368 respondents the study is projected to carry a margin-of-error under 2%.

Clinical Informatics News reports on innovative technologies from clinical trials to medical informatics. Technology continues to permeate all aspects of clinical trials and the patient experience, and the tools to support these efforts are maturing rapidly. ClinicalInformaticsNews.com and the Clinical Informatics News email newsletter provide authoritative news, views, and insights on the vast landscape of innovation between clinical trial management and delivery of care.

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Study Audience

Participants were from the following countries and reported the following job functions:
Overall Sample Size: 368

1. Which aspects of your clinical trials (planning and operations) do you outsource?

- Patient recruitment: 62.5%
- Site selection: 37.5%
- Trial monitoring: 50%
- Data management: 20%
- ePro: 10%
- Signal detection: 10%
- Investigator brochure: 0%

2. What aspect of clinical trials are you keeping in house?

- Patient recruitment: 0%
- Site selection: 0%
- Trial monitoring: 50%
- Data management: 40%
- ePro: 10%
- Signal detection: 10%
- Investigator brochure: 60%

3. Do you outsource the management of your clinical trials?

- Yes: 62.5%
- No: 37.5%
4. The respondents that answered yes, they do outsource the management of their clinical trials, were then asked the following questions:

a) In your outsourcing and management of global clinical trials are you focusing more on emerging regions?

- Yes: 15.4%
- No: 84.6%

b) On which emerging regions are you focusing?

- Brazil: 62.7%
- China: 50%
- India: 40%
- Russia: 10%

- 0%

- 10%
- 20%
- 30%
- 40%
- 50%
- 60%
- 70%
- 80%

- Yes
- No

c) Have you encountered any challenges managing global project teams across cultures?

- Yes: 37.3%
- No: 62.7%
5. The respondents that answered yes, they have encountered challenges managing global project teams across cultures, were then asked the following questions:

a) How are you managing global project teams across various time zones?

- My teams are all in the same time zone
- We convene conference calls at the most convenient time possible
- We rely on email and shared documents
- We travel to meet in person periodically
- Not applicable

b) Why is your organization outsourcing to emerging regions?

- Cost savings
- Don’t have the internal staff
- Need specific patient populations
- On-the-ground knowledge of the geography
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Tools Used to Outsource

6. Are you using any site comparison software?

- Yes: 61.1%
- No, we outsource site selection: 8.7%
- No, we have historic partners and we continue to work with those: 30.2%

7. If yes, which products are you using?

- CitelineSitetrove: 61.1%
- ViSResearch: 30.2%
- Adis Clinical Trial Insight: 54.5%
- BioPharm Clinical: 25.0%
- IMS Health SiteOptimizer: 20.5%

8. Is your company moving beyond outsourcing to Strategic Alliances

- Yes: 25.0%
- No: 20.5%
- We are hoping to/would like to/are planning to: 54.5%

9. If yes, what are the challenges in their implementation?

- Finding the right partners: 61.1%
- Cultural differences: 30.2%
- Language, time zones, or other logistic challenges: 54.5%
- Ensuring quality or oversight: 25.0%
- Resistance to knowledge-sharing: 20.5%
- IT incompatibility: 10.0%
10. In which research areas are your clinical trials?

- Lung Cancer
- Breast Cancer
- Pancreatic Cancer
- Pediatric Cancer
- Ovarian Cancer
- Cervical Cancer
- Colon Cancer
- Cardiovascular/Heart Failure
- CNS Diseases
- Respiratory Diseases
- Pain
- Dementia
- Alzheimer’s
- Parkinson’s
- Infectious Diseases/Vaccines
- Devices

11. How many employees are in your organization?

- Less than 50: 40.7%
- 51-150: 32.5%
- 151-250: 8.4%
- 251-500: 13.1%
- More than 500: 5.2%