

Conceptual and Practical Difficulties
in the Assessment of Cognition in
Schizophrenia: Possible Implications
for the Proposed Design

Richard Keefe Ravi Anand

Issues Impacting on the Design, Conduct and Analysis of Trials Assessing Cognition and Longer Term Outcomes in Schizophrenia

- Sample Size: treatment effect vs attrition
 - Sensitivity of global functional measure
 - Enrolment: North America vs ROW
- Attrition: 20 to 70% over a 9 month period
 - Constant hazard over time
 - Stable vs “all comers”
 - Restrictions on concomitant medication
 - Intensity/frequency of testing
- Cognitive battery: MATRICS vs MATRICS domain equivalent
 - 1, 2, or 3 tests per domain?
 - Multiple variables per test; how to analyse/prioritise

Issues Impacting on the Design, Conduct and Analysis of Trials Assessing Cognition and Longer Term Outcomes in Schizophrenia

- Analysis:
 - Primary analysis in light of attrition
 - Validity of outcome with >30% attrition
 - Impact of missing data/extreme outliers
 - Will approval be contingent on significant results for cognition and functional measure or will “responder” analyses be necessary?: Impact on sample size
 - Will labeling require “maintenance of effect” analysis