

ISCTM Suicidal Ideation & Behavior Assessment Work Group

ISCTM Meeting
September 30, 2013

Current Co-chairs:	Adam Butler Phil Chappell
Co-Chair-Elect:	Atul Mahableshwarkar

Workshop Objectives

- Review development and implementation of a survey of sponsor experiences in implementing SIB assessments in clinical trials
 - Process followed
 - Survey questions/items and response options
 - Development of mailing list
 - Survey conduct via Survey Monkey
- Present interim results
- Discuss next steps
 - Collection & analysis of completed survey data
 - Presentation of final results at FEB 2014 ISCTM Meeting
 - Publications
 - Data based paper
 - Open question: Should the ISCTM develop a position paper in connection with the survey?

- Systematic information on sponsor practices & experiences in implementation of SIB assessments in clinical trials is lacking
- The ISCTM SIB working group created a 30 question survey to assess sponsor practices
 - Preliminary version developed, beta tested by SIB group members and final version tested by non WG members from Pharma and Biotech
- Developed a list of industry representatives from 178 companies (large and small pharma, US and ex-US) to survey
- Administered the survey globally (AUG 15 through SEP 12) utilizing online tool, “Survey Monkey”
 - Survey was sent to 1447 people at Pharma and Biotech companies
 - Not sent to staff from CROs, vendors or academia

- Survey completed by 129 staff from 50 companies, 86 of whom were involved in implementation of SIB assessment
- Preliminary analysis of results from the 86 respondents were presented and discussed at workshop
- Respondent characteristics
 - Majority were from large (51.6%) or mid-sized (34.7%) pharma
 - Had extensive experience in industry (>11 years)
 - Were directly involved in clinical trials (ie in clinical development, medical affairs, study management, project manage)
 - By training, respondents had very diverse backgrounds, including basic scientists, psychiatrists, psychologists, other physician specialties, neurologists, nurses, pharmacologists, pharmacists, and other disciplines

- The results showed SIB assessments are included in studies of a broad array of CNS and non-CNS indications
- Despite existing regulatory guidance, there is large variation in sponsor practices with regard to
 - Period of past time over which SIB is assessed at screening and baseline
 - The look-back assessment periods used in different indications
 - The way study level SIB data is summarized
 - How patients who report SIB during clinical trials are managed
- A substantial proportion (41.3%) of respondents indicated their company continued to conduct retrospective analyses while also including prospective assessments in clinical trials
- The major challenges identified by sponsors included cross-cultural differences in acceptance of SIB assessments and site difficulty in obtaining a baseline SIB history (also a top challenge identified in our previous survey of study sites)

Workshop Discussion

- Group agreed that the survey respondents were a representative sample and that additional respondents should not be sought
- Despite the limitations of the study, the group felt the survey succeeded in identifying the major ongoing issues faced by industry sponsors in implementation of SIB assessments in clinical trials.
- Some additional analyses were suggested to address the large variations in how SIB assessments are being conducted by industry sponsors.