

Clinical Trials – What Opportunities in the Midland Region?

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What is Possible?

- Collaborative group trials
 - Phase II
 - Phase III
- Commercial trials
 - Phase I
 - Phase II
 - Phase III
- Local investigator-initiated research & collaborations

Collaborative Groups

- ANZBCTG/IBCSG/BIG/BCIRG
- ALTG
- TROG
- AGITG
- ALLG
- AGCTG (ANZUP)
- Non-Australasian collaborative groups

Commercial Trials

- Big Pharma
 - Multiple phase II and III trials
 - Relevant clinical/scientific question
 - Offer good opportunity to patients
 - Offered many more than we can take on

Commercial Trials

- Smaller companies
 - Drugs developed at the ACSRC (University of Auck) and on-licensed to a bio-tech company
 - Antisoma
 - AS1404/ASA404/DMXAA
 - 1x Phase 1, 2x Phase II, 1x Phase III
 - AS1409 (renal, melanoma) – Phase I
 - Proacta – PR-104
 - 3x Phase I, 1x Phase II

Collaborations

- Cancer Trials NZ (University of Auckland)
 - Prof Michael Findlay
 - Cyclox
 - Recharge
 - Phase I DMXAA hepatic impairment
- International collaborations
 - Selenium trials
 - Prostate cancer Prevention (U. of Arizona)
 - High-dose selenomethionine with chemo-RT in lung cancer and head and neck cancer (Roswell Park Cancer Institute)

Local Initiatives

- Cognitive Study – adjuvant breast cancer x 200
 - funding from WMRF & Genesis Oncology Trust
- Honey trial – adjuvant breast cancer & RT x 90
 - Nichola Naidoo; product from Comvita
- IMAGE-IT study – skin cancer screening x 200
 - Eugene Tan; funding WMRF & Molemap (technology)
- Head & neck cancer prognostic study x 150
 - Indu Gunawardena; funding from WMRF & GPF
- Cimetidine trial – colorectal cancer x 120

Local Initiatives

- Cancer Society (Waikato-Bay of Plenty Division)
 - Clinical research development grant available
 - Funds time developing a project to the point it can start with funding from elsewhere
 - To achieve specific goals, e.g.
 - Write grant application
 - Write protocol & ethics application
 - Not intended to fund a clinical trial
 - Will pay employer to release investigator for specific time components

Benefits of Research

- Patients:
 - Improve on current treatments
 - Leading edge treatment programmes
 - Access to new treatments
 - Hope
 - Altruism
 - Sense of purpose

Benefits of Research

- Department:
 - Improve on current treatments
 - Leading edge treatment programmes
 - Access to new treatments
 - Hope
 - Recruitment and retention
 - Develop and test own research ideas

Benefits of Research

- Institutional/national:
 - Higher quality health care
 - Trial-specific
 - General effect of participation
 - Health issues specific to this country
 - Economic benefits
 - \$5 benefit to economy for every \$1 invested in research
 - Recruitment & retention of health professionals and scientists

The Future

- It is possible to do this well – GO FOR IT!!
 - Ask for advice
 - Collaborate
 - Employ people keen to do research
- Support from the DHBs
 - Cost-neutral
 - Support-in-kind
- External support
 - Grant agencies
 - Commercial trial income can support unfunded trials