Alliance Foundation Trials AFT

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AFT

 Goal: Sponsor and execute investigator initiated trials which are developed by the Alliance disease committees, but are unable to be executed through the NCTN system



Two primary models:

- Limited operations
 - Non-AFT sponsor
 - CRO partner hired and managed by PP
 - AFT limited scope, typically with site identification, feasibility, escalation, data-sharing, scientific input into study design along with appropriate academic credit



Full operations:

- AFT is the regulatory sponsor
- IND
- All study development, site activities, data collection and analysis
- Samples, banking
- Data-sharing
- Scientific development by Alliance study chair
- Open at a subset of Alliance trials
- Model of an Investigator Initiated Trial but larger scale than most studies done from an individual institution



Full operations

- Collaborations;
 - Industry partners may be possible registration trial, to hypothesis generating Phase I/II trials
 - Mayo SDC
 - Washington University Biospecimens/ Biorespository



Alliance Foundation Trials: Study Selection

Minimum Requirements

- Study leadership (PI, Steering Committee Chair) is an Alliance scientific leader
- Study is open to selected Alliance Member Institutions, under AFT management
- Study data provided to Alliance for unrestricted use after completion of the trial
- Adequate support for scientific leadership and data use



Alliance Foundation Trials: Study Selection

Alliance Disease Committee



AFT Operations Assessment led by Executive Officer, sponsored by appropriate Program Director

Funding Partners

Contracts
Portfolio Feasibility



Alliance Executive Committee



- Assignment of AFT Project Manager
- Development of budget requires significant input from study chair and statistical team to clarify assumptions early in the process
- Develop a protocol that is needed to answer a specific scientific question
- Thoughtful regarding data field collection, visit schedule and assessments –collect what is needed to answer the question
- What can be learned from prior studies



- AFT budgets will negotiate with the funding partner
- Budgets need to cover the cost of trial development, AND trial execution, management, analysis and samples
- AFT relies on a completely separate clinical trials infrastructure
- AFT is not supported by NCI grant dollars or NCI grant infrastructure



 Generation of site lists – subset of Alliance sites based on goals of project, prior accruals to similar studies and funding sources

 Site management will begin site engagement, including study specific feasibility, COI, and general study start-up

 In parallel, development of monitoring plans, safety monitoring plans, drug distribution approaches, etc



 Study Chair together with EO – develop protocol on AFT template, develop model ICF on template and with assistance of AFT staff

 Review and input re: site list, possible outreach to sites to support study start up procedures

Develop correlative plans with TRP early on in the process



Regulatory

• IND – AFT is the regulatory sponsor of all full operations AFT trials

 Central IRB – Quorum – all AFT trials are reviewed/approved by Quorum, some sites will also use Quorum, many will use institutional IRB



Ongoing

- Excellent communication with PM and Site Management at AFT
- Close collaboration with EO around study development and execution
- Escalation point for scientific challenges
- Supportive of the team working together to execute the trial in a feasible and high quality manner



AFT – a summary

- Who PM, SM, Budgets, Contracts, EOs
- Why To support the key scientific concepts which arise from the Alliance Scientific Committees but are not able to be executed through the NCTN mechanism
- Where Offices in both Boston and Chicago
- What A group of really enthusiastic and eager team members committed to clinical trials in oncology
- When When you need us!