Role of the Clinical Trial Monitor

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Special Programme for Research & Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) sponsored by UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO

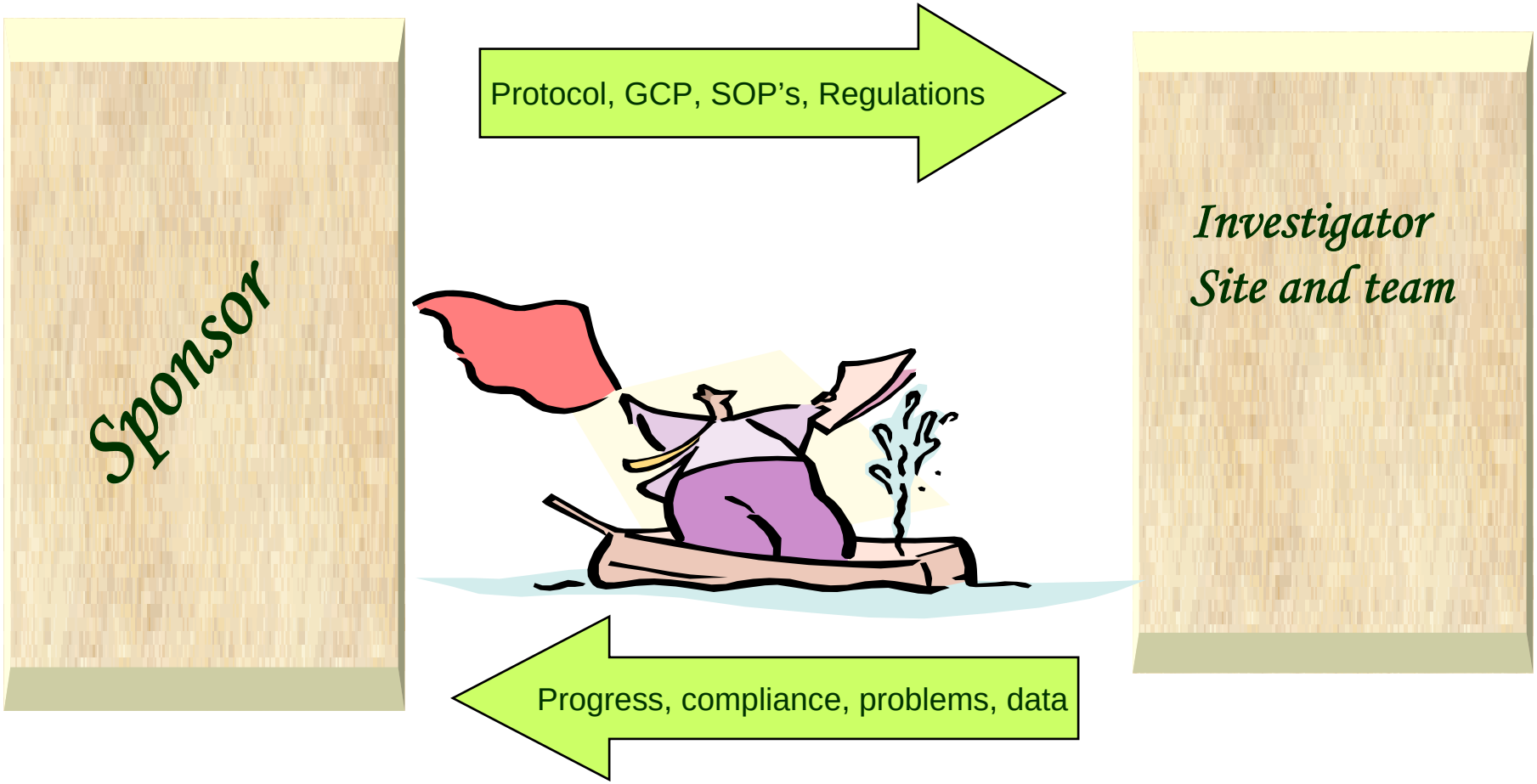
Monitoring

- The act of overseeing the progress of a clinical trial, and of ensuring that it is:
  - conducted,
  - recorded,
  - and reported

  in accordance with
    - the protocol,
    - Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs),
    - Good Clinical Practice (GCP),
    - and the applicable regulatory requirement(s).

Trial monitoring is an Integral Component of trial quality assurance process, and critical for GCP fulfilment

Role of the Clinical monitor



The Purpose

- The purposes of trial monitoring are to verify that:
  - (a) The rights and well-being of human subjects are protected.
  - (b) The reported trial data are accurate, complete, and verifiable from source documents.
  - (c) The conduct of the trial is in compliance with the currently approved protocol/amendment(s), with GCP, and with the applicable regulatory requirement(s).

Premise

Investigator and his team:

- Education
- Training
- Experience

Good for medical care

but

inadequate for GCP clinical trial

Selection and Qualifications of Monitors

- (a) Monitors are appointed by the sponsor.
- (b) Monitors must be appropriately trained, and should have the scientific and/or clinical knowledge needed to monitor the specific trial adequately.

  Monitor’s qualifications should be documented.

Extent and Nature of Monitoring

- The sponsor should ensure that the trials are adequately monitored. The sponsor should determine the appropriate extent and nature of monitoring commensurate with the level of technical detail involved.
  - the objective,
  - purpose,
  - design,
  - complexity,
  - blinding,
  - Sample size, and
  - endpoints of the trial.

Tasks *- Mandate*

- The monitor(s) should ensure that the trial
  - is conducted and
  - documented properly

- Acting as the main line of communication between the sponsor and the investigator.

MONITORING VISITS

Pre - Trial Monitoring visit :

Ensure feasibility in the centre and interest of the investigator.

Trial Initiation visit :

Deliver study material, documents, products and make sure the investigational team understands the protocol and GCP requirements.

Routine Monitoring visit :

Make sure the study is conducted according to the protocol and GCP and help the investigational team in solving problems.

Close-out visit :

Make sure the investigator file is archived properly and collect back all unused material, documents or products.

Tasks *-Resources*

- Verifying
  1. that the investigator has adequate qualifications and resources and remain adequate throughout the trial period,
  2. that facilities, including laboratories, equipment, and staff, are adequate to safely and properly conduct the trial and remain adequate throughout the trial period.

Tasks *-Laboratory*

- Verify
  - Relevant SOP
  - QC/QA process - Facility, reagents, equipment, results etc
  - Appropriate specimen storage
  - Functionality of equipment
  - Tracking subject-specimen-result-CRF

Tasks - *Supplies*

- Ensuring that the investigator receives the current Investigator's Brochure, all documents, and all trial supplies needed to conduct the trial properly and to comply with the applicable regulatory requirement's.
  - shipment process, temperature maintenance, storage of product/reagents, disposal mechanism etc

Tasks – *Investigational product*

- (i) That storage times and conditions are acceptable, and that supplies are sufficient throughout the trial.
- (ii) That the investigational product(s) are supplied only to subjects who are eligible to receive it and at the protocol specified dose(s).
- (iii) That subjects are provided with necessary instruction on properly using, handling, storing, and returning the investigational product(s).
- ((iv) That the receipt, use, and return of the investigational product(s) at the trial sites are controlled and documented adequately.
- (v) That the disposition of unused investigational product(s) at the trial sites complies with applicable regulatory requirement(s) and is in accordance with the sponsor.

Tasks –*Compliance & progress*

- Verifying
  - that the investigator and the investigator's trial staff are performing the specified trial functions, in written accordance with the protocol and any other agreement between the sponsor and the investigator / institution, and have not delegated these functions to unauthorized individuals.
  - that the investigator is enrolling only eligible subjects.
  - that written informed consent was obtained before each subject's participation in the trial
  - Verifying that source documents* and other trial records are accurate, complete, kept up-to-date and maintained.

Tasks -*CRF*

- Verify that CRF's are:
  - Correct and accurately completed
  - Consistent with corresponding SD where separate
  - Only authorized persons complete
  - Corrections made are signed, dated & backed by accurate SD
  - DRQ's accurately documented
  - Storage and/or shipment is secured

Source Data Verification

- Original documents, data, and records
  - e.g., hospital records,
  - clinical and office charts,
  - laboratory notes,
  - memoranda,
  - subjects' diaries or evaluation checklists,
  - pharmacy dispensing records,
  - recorded data from automated instruments,
- Copies or transcriptions certified after verification as being accurate
  - photographic negatives,
  - microfilm or magnetic media, x-rays,
  - subject files,
  - and records kept at the pharmacy, at the laboratories and at medico-technical departments involved in the clinical trial.

Tasks - *Reporting*

- Reporting the subject recruitment rate
- Trial progress
- Problems at site
- Needs at site
- Solicit solutions

Framework

DSMB ⇄ Sponsor

DATA management

Clinical Monitor

Ethics Committee

Investigator