1st ELN Workshop on International Investigator Initiated Clinical Trials

Organised by WP2
European Leukemia Information Center

in collaboration with
WPs 1, 4-9 and 14
Transfer into national legislation

ICH-GCP Guidelines
(Initiative of regulatory authorities / pharm. industry from EU / Japan / USA, 1996)

Clinical Trials Directive 2001/20/EG

Germany
AMG Novelle 6.8.04

Other Countries
Deadline: 2004

Major consequence for academic research:
Therapy optimisation trials (TOPs) and Investigator Initiated Trials (IITs) have to follow the same rules as registration studies of pharmaceutical industry
European Leukemia Net 2004: Major Aim to Foster International Academic IITs in Leukemias

**Major field**
- Rare diseases, as leukemias
- Treatment and research done in parallel (only way for progress in rare diseases)
- Questions without commercial interest

**Low Budget**
(public funding, university budget, partly supported by industry)

**High potential costs**
- Multicenter, many hospitals (Health Care Standard!)
- Long-term observation
- High patient numbers

**IITs in Leukemias:**
Conduct under the new legislation severely hampered:
(1) responsibility (2) bureaucracy (3) costs
### Current Situation of Leukemia IITs: Europe

#### Realisation of the EU Clinical Trials Directive in Different European Countries – EWALL GROUP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Germany</th>
<th>UK</th>
<th>Spain</th>
<th>Italy</th>
<th>France</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Central IRB</strong></td>
<td>Yes, IRB of PI but all IRBs in parallel (hotline)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monitoring</strong></td>
<td>„Research Project“ for adapted monitoring (rumours..)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>We try…</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Safety</strong></td>
<td>SUSAR 5-10d to IRBs, Authorities, all investigators</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sponsor Role</strong></td>
<td>Universities partly, delegation contracts</td>
<td>Institutions reluctantly</td>
<td>Various incl. Study Groups</td>
<td>PI</td>
<td>Institutions Coop. groups Research inst.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Patient Insurance for IITs (registered drugs)</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- No harmonisation
- Different interpretation, realisation of laws
- Different attitude of authorities
- Excess of bureaucracy all over Europe
Current Situation of Leukemia IITs: Germany

- Amendments of ongoing trials
  (to prolong studies initiated before new legislation)
- Attempts to get prepared
  (for studies according to new legislation)
- Few / No new national IITS
  (at least those without industry support)
- No / few international IITs

One of the major goals of the leukemia net is endangered!
Method: Eight specialised UK Clinical Trials Unit (CTUs) were interviewed

Topic: Consequences of CTD on information flow, start, conduct, finalisation and cost of clinical trials

Results:

- Doubling of the cost of running non-commercial cancer clinical trials
- Delay to the start of trials in the order of 6 to 10 months
- Reduction / stop of international trials
- Lack of central guidance
- Lack of clarity regarding the interpretation of the guidance notes
- Increase in essential documentation and paperwork

- Staff is working beyond capacity and demoralised
- Even experienced staff anxious about correct interpretation of CTD
What can we do?

- **Public Relations:**
  Role of TOP for general health care and clinical science in Germany and Europe

- **Political Activities**

- **Continuing education**

- **Networking of trial staff**

- **Cooperations**
  - Large multicenter study groups national – international
  - Competence networks
ELIC (WP2): Web-based Services for IITs
January 28, 2008; 16.00 – 19.30 p.m.

Part I: General Overview
Chair: N. Gökbuget, J. Apperley

- Introduction
- How can ECRIN support investigators for the initiation and conduct of international academic trials
- EORTC experience in activating international clinical trials
- Successful initiation of international pediatric trials
- Promoting pan-European prospective clinical trials:
  The EBMT perspective

Part II: Experience and problems with international trials in the ELN:
Short reports from WPs
Chair: E. Hellström-Lindberg, B. Simonsson

- CML: European collaboration in clinical trials for CML
- AML: Expansion of the AML Intergroup Networking Study to further European trial groups
- ALL: Initiation of an international trial with Dasatinib for Ph+ ALL
- CLL: International trials of the GCLLSG: Regulatory requirements and corrective actions
- MDS: Lenalidomide in high-risk MDS and AML with del5q or monosomi 5
- CMPD: From ECLAP to ELN clinical trials
- SCT: Conducting academic trials under EU law, the EBMT experience
- Registries: An alternative for clinical trials?
- ELIC: Internet support for ELN trials
- Closure

N. Gökbuget, ELN
C. Kubiak, ECRIN
F. Lambert, EORTC
C. Mauz-Körholz, KPOH
J. Apperley, EBMT
B. Simonsson, WP4
T. Büchner, WP5
P. Rousselot, WP 6
A. Westermann, WP7
E. Hellström-Lindberg, WP8
T. Barbui, WP 9
Z. Doran, EBMT
J. Hasford, WP 17
K. Ihrig, WP 2
N. Gökbuget, ELN