PROMETRIKA 15
CELEBRATING FIFTEEN YEARS OF EXCELLENCE
NEWSLETTER

Message from our CEO

MIGANUSH STEPANIANS, PH.D.

Welcome to our 2018 year-end newsletter!

As I reflected on PROMETRIKA's success in this, our 15th Anniversary Year, I realized there are many highlights that I wish to share with you, our colleagues and friends. As we close 2018, PROMETRIKA boasts 113 client companies. Most of these sponsors are in the northeast, but we are privileged also to work with companies across the US and across the globe. This year, our team of 71 members have contributed to 55 studies, among which are 2 NDAs in development, 10 go-live databases, and 5 database locks. PROMETRIKA's biostatistics group also delivered SDTM and ADaM datasets or TLFs for approximately 30 studies and two NDAs (ISS and ISE). In 2018, two NDAs submitted in previous years received FDA approval.

PROMETRIKA moves forward into 2019 with two significant new offerings. We have become members of AICROS, a consortium of CROs hailing from all corners of the globe. PROMETRIKA is the first US member of AICROS and will be responsible for resourcing clinical operations for trials in the US and Canada. The consortium enables us to have an extended team of regional experts with deep regulatory expertise and unmatched knowledge of local requirements in other parts of the world. The second enhancement to PROMETRIKA's suite of services is in the area of clinical trial technologies. We are launching three new tools to streamline remote monitoring, targeted source data verification, and electronic trial master files. These offerings further enhance our global trial offering. As the year begins, we are initiating a global trial, with sites in North America, Europe, the Middle East, and the Asia-Pacific Rim. We are excited to be using a number of innovative technological tools in the management of our trials.

On behalf of the entire PROMETRIKA team, I send my best wishes for a great 2019 and for many more wonderful years of successful collaboration.

Kind regards,

Miganush

NDA & BLA Roundtable

Receives Tremendous Response

On November 8, PROMETRIKA gathered industry leaders for a morning roundtable discussion of the many considerations that go into planning an NDA or BLA submission to FDA. PROMETRIKA's experience, spanning 15 years, covers 15 such submissions for drugs and biologics researched by our clients. Judy Harris, Head of Project Management, spoke of the multiple parallel analysis and document preparation timelines that must be integrated, while considering the available resources of the sponsor and PROMETRIKA's teams. Drs. Heidy Russell and Nicole LaVallee, Directors of Biostatistics, described the analyses necessary for accurate rendition of Safety (ISS) and Efficacy (ISE) data. Sr. Manager of Medical Writing, Alex Rohall, spoke about the medical writer's role in the description and interpretation of research data. Each presentation was followed by intriguing conversation among attendees, whose expertise covered program development, biostatistics, and regulatory science. The lively conversations continued at a luncheon for our guests.

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

We hosted our 15th Anniversary Party on September 19, 2018 at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in Cambridge, MA. We were honored to celebrate this proud milestone with our valued industry partners and friends. Thank you to all who attended this event and made it a success. We look forward to celebrating many more years of rewarding partnerships and are excited to explore new opportunities in clinical development.

First Treatment Approved for Ultra-Rare Tumors

PROMETRIKA extends our **congratulations to our colleagues at Progenics Pharmaceuticals**, Inc., on the recent approval of Azedra® (iobenguane I 131). PROMETRIKA is honored and proud to have supported Progenics through the integrated safety and efficacy analyses and preparation of the NDA submission documents for the approval of Azedra. The new treatment is approved for the treatment of adult and pediatric patients 12 years and older with iobenguane scan-positive, unresectable, locally advanced or metastatic pheochromocytoma or paraganglioma who require systemic anticancer therapy. Azedra is the first treatment approved in the US for these ultra-rare tumors.

AT MEDIDATA NEXT NYC...

We were proud to return as a sponsor to the Medidata NEXT NYC on October 24 & 25, 2018. We are pleased that two of PROMETRIKA's team members were selected to present their expertise with Medidata's innovative solutions, which are making a different difference in driving clinical efficiency and improving research.

The Era of Flexible Monitoring: Centralized Data Review and TSDV
Heather Paden, MS
Head of Clinical Operations

Since June of 2017, EMA has required sponsors to implement the ICH's expanded acceptable methods for trial monitoring (ICH E6 [R2]). Heather outlined the methods of central monitoring and discussed how these are particularly suited to the study of rare diseases.

Why Rave EDC?
Amanda Rychel, PhD
Senior Project Manager

Amanda discussed how Rave EDC's features and updates have improved EDC management for data managers. With Rave EDC, PROMETRIKA has seen faster User Acceptance Testing (UAT) and efficiencies in account management.

...AT AMWA

On November 1, 2018, Alex Rohall, Senior Manger of Medical Writing, and Christine Quagan, Senior Medical Writer, presented "**From Protocol to Package Insert: A Data Journey**," at the American Medical Writers Association's annual conference in Washington, DC.

Alex Rohall
Senior Manager,
Medical Writing

Christine Quagan
Senior Medical Writer

The session, which highlighted the elements of the current package insert format and showed the derivation of its contents from precursor documents, generated insightful questions and discussion among attendees. The following day, Alex and Christine each led roundtable discussions on the topics of training regulatory writers and the utility of data standardization developments for writers.

New from Thought Leadership

A New Framework for Estimating Treatment Effects

Benny Chan, MS, Biostatistician III, in PROMETRIKA's recent Thought Leadership post, describes the intent and focus of the latest addendum (*R1: Estimands and Sensitivity Analysis in Clinical Trials*) to ICH guidance E9, *Statistical Principles for Clinical Trials*. The guidance defines estimand, the target of estimation to address the scientific question of interest posed by the trial objective, and describes the major considerations for designing a suitable estimand. In the search for greater clarity with respect to how study objectives and the treatment effect parameters of interest are connected to study design, conduct, analysis, and overall interpretation, the guidance attempts to provide a structured framework for biostatisticians.

A challenge in the identification of a suitable estimand is the consideration of intercurrent events, which occur after treatment initiation and impact estimation of the treatment effect. An example of such events may be the use of rescue medication by subjects. The guidance suggests several strategies for designing a statistical approach to handling intercurrent events. One strategy may be appropriate for one trial but not another. Ultimately, the guidance stresses the need for deeper consideration of trial endpoints and objectives, and the potential effects of intercurrent events, in a systemic and complete way at the study design and planning stage.

Read Benny's full essay, ASA-FDA 2018: ICH E9 (R1), Estimands, Intercurrent Events, and Sensitivity Analysis here.