EARLY DRUG DEVELOPMENT
CONSULTANCY & SERVICES

CLINICAL RESEARCH SOLUTIONS
As a full service contract research organisation performing phase I to IV clinical trials across Europe and the Americas for 40 years, SGS understands the strategic importance of preclinical and early drug development phases to your success. Taking informed decisions at every step is essential to compounds development and to ensuring it reaches patients in a timely manner.

SGS supports numerous biotech companies to answer the complex requirements of health authorities and also successfully perform IND and CTA submissions.

MOVING YOUR DRUG CANDIDATE FROM NON-CLINICAL DATA TO PATIENT TRIALS

With our experience in drug development consultancy, SGS is your partner of choice to guide you through the different phases of development.

We have designed a multitude of innovative early phase clinical development plans and study designs, as well as obtained their subsequent approval by regulators and during due diligence exercises.

A dedicated multi-disciplinary team of qualified regulatory, toxicology, pharmacology and therapeutic area specialists is at your disposal to support your global development strategy, or provide consultancy and related services.

SGS SERVICES

- Early phase development strategy & tactics
  - Regulatory strategy
  - Candidate selection: early characterisation, formulation and stability testing; review of pre-clinical data/reports
  - Lead optimisation: CMC, non-clinical and clinical development plans
  - Target Product Profile (TPP)
  - Set-up and participation in Scientific Advisory Boards
  - Study design & clinical study protocol writing
  - Due diligence/opportunity assessment

- Validation of strategy with Regulators
  - Scientific Advice meetings with the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and European National Agencies
  - Pre-IND and End of Phase meetings with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
  - Support in discussions and preparation of answers to Agency questions

- Development and redaction of official health authorities’ trial documents (FDA, EMA...)
  - Writing and development of Investigational Medicinal Product Dossier (IMPD) and Investigators Brochure (IB)

- Scientific/Medical input
- Modelling & simulation
- Early phase clinical trials in healthy volunteers and patients

SGS’S UNIQUE EXPERTISE:

- Worldwide recognised expertise in early phase clinical trials
- Experience in all clinical development stages
- Full access to in-house experts working as a team and as not individual consultants
- Capability to translate strategy into tactics and solid data for dossier
- Client management policy considers each customer as the most important
SUPPORTING KEY DECISION MAKING – MANAGING RISK

Along the drug development cycle, anticipating risks and making the right decisions are crucial to ensure you secure a return on your investment. Our experts will support you by:

1. RAISING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS

   - PK/PD simulation and modelling predicts the expected results of prospective complex trials, while optimising study design to increase the probability of a successful efficacy and safety outcome.

   - Early phase clinical trials from First In human to Proof of Concepts and Patients trials, ensure your drug candidate will successfully navigate the long and expensive late phase clinical trials.

   - With many years experience, over 300 modelling and simulation projects performed, and the latest software, our modelling and simulation experts provide input that can lead to more informative studies, fewer study failures, improved investment decisions and better justified label claims.

2. BRINGING ROBUST SCIENTIFIC & REGULATORY SOLUTIONS

   - Analysis of available in vitro data
   - Analysis of animal study results
   - Analysis of Early Phase study results
   - Synthesis of all CP/PK/PD data and debrief with medical/Stat expertise
   - Has profound animal safety/PK/PD analysis been conducted?
   - Has the relevant guidance been followed and appropriately adapted to your case?
   - Do any additional investigations need to be completed before FIH trials, or in parallel?

3. FACILITATING CLINICAL TRIAL PERFORMANCE PREDICTION & SET UP

   - Analysis of available in vitro data
   - Analysis of animal study results
   - Analysis of Early Phase study results
   - Synthesis of all CP/PK/PD data and debrief with medical/Stat expertise
   - Support in CDP/STA preparation and correct CP/PK direction

   - Early phase clinical trials from First In human to Proof of Concepts and Patients trials, ensure your drug candidate will successfully navigate the long and expensive late phase clinical trials.

   - At SGS we have our own clinical unit in Belgium, including a viral challenge testing facility, and two phase I patients units based in Belgium and Hungary. We have a wealth of expertise in FIH studies, viral challenge testing, biosimilars and complex PK/PD studies with a high therapeutic focus in Infectious Diseases, Vaccines, and Respiratory.
CASE STUDY

BIOPHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY DEVELOPING NEW MOLECULES FOR THE TREATMENT OF NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASES

CONTEXT

A European company asked SGS to investigate the difficulties in the pre-clinical and FIH development process, and for support in planning the future of their bioactive molecule.

The SGS Medical, Clinical Pharmacology and Regulatory teams examined the available pre-clinical and FIH data and investigated the reasons for failure of an FIH study. Targeted in vitro and animal studies were advised in support of a new FIH study design. The points to be considered in the new FIH study design were suggested to avoid any safety, pharmacokinetic and/or regulatory problems.

Considering the particularities in the pharmacokinetic properties of the new molecule (non-linearity in PK) and the pathology, the early involvement of Modelling and Simulation (M&S) services was advised, in support of further development processes.

OUTCOME

Several scientific discussions/meetings were organised between SGS and client’s experts. The objective was met; a detailed further investigations plan was developed, supported by a M&S optimal design exercise.

SERVICES INVOLVED

Regulatory Affairs - Medical Director - Clinical Pharmacology and Pharmacokinetics Expert - SGS Exprimo M&S Service

CONTACT INFORMATION

EUROPE
+ 32 15 27 32 45
clinicalresearch@sgs.com

NORTH AMERICA
+ 1 877 677 2667
clinicalresearch@sgs.com

WWW.SGS.COM/CRO

FOLLOW US ON LINKEDIN
www.sgs.com/linkedin-life

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