Yale-Medtronic Experience

Richard Kuntz, MD MSc Chief Scientific, Clinical and Regulatory Officer Medtronic

Medtronic INFUSE (rhBMP-2) Evidence and Reporting Challenge Background (1)

- INFUSE approved by the FDA in July, 2002
 - rhBMP-2 is used to accelerate bone growth
 - Indicated for 1-level anterolateral lumbar interbody fusion (ALIF)
- Base of evidence for FDA approval (MDT-sponsored ALIF indication)
 - ALIF indication dossier: 1 Pilot RCT, 2 Pivotal RCTs
- Peer-reviewed publications (MDT sponsored)
 - Most published after 2002 (last 2011)
 - ALIF indication: 3 Pilot RCTs, 4 Pivotal RCTs
 - Non-ALIF indications: 2 Pilot RCTs, 3 Pivotal RCTs
- June 2011: Major challenge was made regarding the validity of all published evidence for INFUSE, and unreported harms
 - Principal focus was on the results presented in the peer-reviewed literature (compared to the FDA data on file from the 2002 INFUSE dossier tables), and on general study designs and endpoint concerns
 - Challenge published in medical journal: dedicated issue with >10 articles

Medtronic INFUSE (rhBMP-2) Evidence and Reporting Challenge Background (2)

- June 2011:
 - MDT announces decision to contract with Yale as the independent review coordinator
- August 2011
 - Yale announces its plan to establish an independent steering committee and contract 2 systematic review organizations
 - MDT agrees to supply Yale with:
 - all de-identified rhBMP2 data (patient level data), including non-label studies
 - all FDA correspondence and adverse event reports

 MDT agrees to allow Yale to establish a public transparency policy and process for the entire INFUSE patient level dataset
 Fall-Winter 2012

Systematic Review reports to be finalized, summary manuscripts prepared and submitted for publication in Annals of Internal Medicine

Yale University Open Data Access Project

A Model for Dissemination and Independent Analysis of Clinical Trial Program Data



Yale University Center for Outcomes Research and Evaluation

Funded by a contract with Medtronic, Inc

Project Leadership

- Harlan Krumholz, MD, SM
 Principal Investigator
 Yale University
- Cary Gross, MD
 Co-Investigator
 Yale University
- Joseph Ross, MD, MHS
 Co-Investigator
 Yale University

 Kevin J. Bozic, MD, MBA
 Associate Professor and Vice Chair
 University of California, San Francisco

 Ezekiel J. Emanuel, MD, PhD
 Vice Provost and Levy University Professor
 University of Pennsylvania



Rationale

- A substantial number of clinical trials are conducted, but never published
- Even among published clinical trials, a limited portion of the collected data is reported on

- Particularly relevant for safety information

 Thus, patients and physicians frequently make treatment decisions with access to only a fraction of clinical research data



Focus on Industry

- Issues relevant to clinical trials conducted both publicly and privately, but are particularly important among industry trials
 - Industry funds majority of clinical trial research about drugs, devices and other products, both pre-market and post-market
 - Industry research is proprietary, no requirement for publication or dissemination
 - Public perception: industry has a financial interest in promoting "supportive" research, not publishing rest



Public Health Need

- Steps must be taken to align the interests of industry and the public, particularly when concerns arise about safety or effectiveness
- The public has a compelling interest in having the entirety of the data available for independent analysis
- Industry has legitimate concerns



Objective of the YODA Project

- The project's goal is to promote clinical trial program data access more widely, increasing transparency, protecting against industry influence, and accelerating the generation of new knowledge
- Patients, providers, and industry will be better informed
 - They will be able to facilitate the independent assessment and dissemination of data relevant to the benefits and harms of industry products
- Physicians and patients can base their decisions on the most comprehensive and contemporary evidence available



YODA Project Model

- Designed to facilitate the release of data, ensure high quality reviews of the evidence, and provide the public with the scrutiny of independent review
- Begins with company release of data to coordinating organization, which is overseen by steering committee



Formal Independent Analysis

- Coordinating organization contracts with two research groups that independently systematically review and synthesize clinical trial data
 - Industry and non-industry research
 - Uses individual-level data, in addition to trial summary-level data
- Advantages:
 - Distance between company and reviewers
 - Reproducibility and validity via two reviews





Data Dissemination

- Coordinating organization makes industry's individual-level data available to other external researchers
 - Via a Web site, requiring a registration process, commitment to results reporting
- Advantages:
 - Complete transparency





Why Should Industry Participate?

- Allows for fair and objective assessment of product research data, as opposed to speculative analysis based on incomplete data
- Promotes transparency
- Supports scientific competition, not marketing
- Untenable to withhold information about product effectiveness and safety



2011 YODA Project Accomplishments

- Contract signed with Medtronic, Inc (Aug)
- Request for Proposals (RFP) drafted & released (Sept)
- Steering and Clinical Committees selected (Sept-Oct)
- Commentary: "A Model for Dissemination and Independent Analysis of Industry Data" published in *JAMA* (Oct)
- Applications received, scored and Centers selected (Sept-Nov)
- Manuscript: "Promoting Transparency in Pharmaceutical Industry-Sponsored Research" published in AJPH (Nov)
- Data received from Medtronic, Inc and distributed to Centers (Dec)
- Centers commenced independent analyses (Dec)
- Process established for fielding questions from Centers (Dec)



2012 YODA Project Accomplishments

- Manuscript: "Open Science and Data Sharing in Clinical Research: Basing Informed Decisions on the Totality of the Evidence" published in *Circulation: Cardiovascular Quality and Outcomes* (March)
- Manuscript: "The Importance of Clinical Trial Data Sharing: Toward More Open Science" published in *Circulation: Cardiovascular Quality and Outcomes* (March)
- Data sharing conference held at Yale (June)
- Final reports received from research Centers (Aug)
- Peer review of reports (Aug-Sept)



A Look Ahead

• Fall 2012/ Winter 2013

- Manuscripts submitted to Annals for simultaneous publication
- Centers' reports locked
- Public release of data



Yale Review Project

Medtronic Principles & Processes

Communication Principles

- The primary tenets of the project are
- Transparency
- Independence
- To maintain both, we need:
- Formal documentation of Yale-to-MDT questions & MDT-to-Yale responses
- Clarity around what types of discussions we can & cannot have

Communication logistics & boundaries



Team CAN communicate re:

- Study conduct
- Data clarity
- Data content
- Study report

Team CANNOT communicate re:

- Review contractors
- Evaluation methods
- Evaluation criteria

Query Management Process



Yale Review De-Identification Process

- Overview of de-identification process
 - Guiding principles
 - Documents
 - Datasets
 - MDRs
 - Certification

De-Identification Guiding Principles

- Not all 18 HIPAA identifiers were removed – dates of care were deemed significant for data interpretation
- Because dates were being maintained, an added level of protection was added by re-assigning the patient numbers to a randomly generated key known only to MDT

De-Identification Guiding Principles

- Statistical de-identification provision of HIPAA privacy rule was utilized.
 - A qualified statistician with appropriate knowledge of, and experience with, generally accepted statistical and scientific principles and methods for rendering information not individually identifiable:
 - Has applied such principles and methods, and determined that the risk is minimal that the information that could be used, alone or in combination with other reasonably available information, by a recipient of the information to identify the person whose information is being used; and
 - Has documented the methods and results of the analysis that
 justify such determination

De-Identification Process - Documents



De-Identification Process - Datasets



De-Identification Process - Certification



De-Identification Process - MDRs

- MDR de-identification followed the same principles as the clinical documents & datasets
- MDR summaries and associated forms were reviewed for fields containing PHI
- Fields containing PHI (and MDT employee names & signatures) were electronically redacted
- MDRs did not contain patient numbers therefore reassignment was not applicable

De-Identification Statistical Expert

• Daniel C. Barth-Jones, M.P.H, Ph.D.

President, dEpid/dt Consulting, Inc. d.barth-jones@depiddt.com and Assistant Professor of Clinical Epidemiology db2431@columbia.edu Department of Epidemiology Mailman School of Public Health Columbia University

- Full de-identification certification provided to Yale File name: Medtronic_rhBMP-2_I_Stat_De-ident_Determination_9_12_11_Updated 10_10_2011.pdf
- Curriculum Vitae for Dr. Barth-Jones included as Appendix D, pg 397-417
- As a condition of de-identification certification, an addendum to the contract between MDT and Yale was executed on 12Sept2011 to ensure
 - 1. Yale complies with conditions of de-identification set by Dr. Barth-Jones
 - 2. Yale maintains statistical de-identification if they add any info or links to the data
 - 3. Users of the data would not attempt to re-identify the patients
 - 4. Yale will implement & maintain data security

Transparency Concerns: From Medtronic (1)

- Query
 - Who is asking the question and why?
 - Is there interest in the truth?
 - What is the question?
 - Does it serve the public, or perverse special interest?
 - Should query be limited to 1 question?
 - Should the methods pre-specified?
- Access
 - Should there be an initial time zone of propriety (academic & industry)
 - What level and portion of data is requested?
 - Should there be a time limit or license for data access?
 - Who controls data distribution?
- Methods
 - Are there *a priori* questions and hypotheses to be tested?
 - Is there interest in data exploration?
 - How to control multiplicity (Type I error)?

Transparency Concerns: From Medtronic (2)

- Analysis
 - Is the requester competent to do analysis?
 - Should a trusted 3rd party analytic center be contracted
 - Should the analytic methods used be transparent to the public?
- Secondary Data Sharing
 - May the requester share the data?
 - Should data be licensed?
- Dissemination of the Results
 - Should there be controls on results dissemination?
 - Unfettered dissemination
 - Dissemination only after peer-review publication
 - Full methodological review by dispassionate competent reviewer, contracted with data center, before dissemination
 - Attest to historical record of analyses performed?

Clinical Research Roles and Responsibilities Medtronic Concerns

- Industry Role:
 - Regulatory compliance
 - Ethical and competent contracting or execution of required clinical studies
 - Competent and timely filing of the data and results dossier
 - If approved, limited on-label promotion
 - Post-market studies and surveillance when required
 - Academic publications: methods/results, methodology
- Academia, Principal and Co-Investigators
 - Protocol oversight, lead steering committee and DSMB
 - Writing and peer-review publication
 - Free to discuss any results if not sponsored by industry
- Cross-roles and responsibilities
 - Peer-reviewed literature