NCI-Academic-Industry Partnerships for Cancer Therapeutics Development

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Overview

- NCI's Experimental Therapeutics (NExT) Pipeline: PPP for therapeutics development from drug discovery to phase I-II trials
- NCI Clinical Trials and PPP's by the numbers
- Exemplar: CIMAC-CIDC-PACT
- Pros and Cons of PPPs

Origin and Goals of the NExT Discovery & Development Pipeline



- NExT (NCI Experimental Therapeutics Program) builds on >60 yrs of NCI experience in cancer drug development to increase flow of early & late-stage candidates from Academia/small biotech/Pharma to the clinic
- CBC (Chemical Biology Consortium) is an integrated network of chemical biologists focusing on DRUG DISCOVERY
- DRUG DEVELOPMENT: Animal efficacy, PK, PD, Tox, & GMP scale up: Performed at FNLCR or by NCI contractors
- Not intended to replicate Pharma
- Not a grant program; provides access to drug development services
- Focus on developing therapies for underrepresented malignancies & on difficult targets; longer time horizon
- NCI committed to projects from <u>inception</u> <u>through proof-of-concept</u>, PD-driven <u>clinical trials</u>





NCI Chemical Biology Consortium: Discovery Arm of NExT



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NExT: From Application Review to Project Team Kickoff Meeting



Projects range from HTS/target validation to Phase I/II Trials: small molecules, biologics, imaging agents Special Emphasis Panel (SEP)



- Project planning; RFP issued
- Selection of CBC Centers
- NCI approval of Resources
- Subcontracts managed by Leidos/FNLCR
- Project team kickoff meeting



CBC Steering Committee Endorsement [Leidos/FNLCR Subcontracts]

- ETCTN & NCTN: Ph 1 & 2 Trials
- Early-phase Project Teams
- Investigational Drug/Disease Steering Committee
- [Grant Programs for Trials; FNLCR for PD]

NExT Program Metrics: A Diversified Portfolio



Projects enter the pipeline on a competitive basis at any stage of the pipeline Since inception in 2009 NExT has received > 1100 applications: 10-14% success rate



DCTD/CTEP Overall Clinical Trials Portfolio

- Full spectrum of Clinical Trials (Phase 0, Phase 1, Phase 2, and Phase 3)
- Currently uses 129 investigational agents supported by 184 Investigational New Drug Applications (INDs) – CTEP/DCTD is the legal sponsor
- Approx. 20,000 registered investigators at over 2,000 institutions in the US and internationally
- Over 270 actively accruing clinical treatment trials
- About 59 new treatment trials opened per year; 72% CTEP held INDs
- Approx. 17,000-20,000 patients enrolled/year on treatment trials

Every Step in Trials Development Requires Agreements

- Confidential Disclosure Agreements (CDA's)
- Material Transfer Agreements (MTA's)
- Research Collaboration Agreements (RCAS's) (basically an MTA+CDA)
- Clinical Trials Agreement (CTA's) (an RCA with a clinical component)
- Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (<u>CRADAs</u>) (special agreement for government collaborations that allow outside funding and guarantee of IP rights)

DCTD/CTEP Active Collaborators: A-J Only

AbbVie, Inc.	Biosplice Therapeutics	Faeth Therapeutics
Acrotech Biopharma, LLC	Blueprint Medicines	Genentech, Inc.
Actinium Pharma, Inc.	Boehringer Ingelheim	Gilead Sciences, Inc.
Agios, Pharmaceuticals	Bristol-Meyers Squibb	GlaxoSmithKline, LLC.
Alkermes, Inc.	Celldex	GlycoMimetics, Inc.
Amgen, Inc.	Celgene Corporation	Horizon Pharma
Aprea Therapeutics	Cleave Biosciences, Inc.	IGM Biosciences, Inc.
Ascentage Pharma Grp.	Cornerstone Pharma	Illumina, Inc.
Astellas Pharma, Inc.	Curis, Inc.	ImmunityBio
Astex Therapeutics, Ltd.	Cybrexa, Inc.	ImmunoGen, Inc.
AstraZeneca, Inc.	Eli Lilly and Co.	Ipsen Biopharma
Bayer HealthCare, Inc.	EMD Serono	Janssen R &D, LLC
Bellicum Pharma, Inc.	Epizyme, Inc.	Jazz Pharmaceuticals
Biomed Valley Disc., Inc.	Exelixis, Inc.	Johnson & Johnson, LLC

- >110 active corporate collaborators from Large Pharma, to Biotech of all sizes, & Diagnostics Co.'s including NGS providers
- 16 agreements with International **Organizations**
- **1000's of ancillary** ٠ agreements pursuant to large scale collaborations (MTAs, RCAs, CTAs)
- 153 days average time • from project approval to CRADA execution (6 mo drop dead date)
- **Evolution from one drug** one company to one umbrella trial, many companies 9

CIMAC-CIDC-PACT Network

[Cancer Immune Monitoring & Analysis Centers] [Cancer Immunologic Data Center] [Partnership for Accelerating Cancer Therapies]



- 35 IO trials
- >2000 pts
- 1000's assay samples
- Assay validation
 & harmonization
 across network
- >150
 publications
- Multiple disease and IO modalities

\$60 Million over 5 years from NCI (2017-2022)

Current PACT Partners



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PROS

- The NCI is uniquely situated to act as a neutral third party to facilitate interactions between organizations that normally have difficulty working together – e.g. NCI sponsors a large number of combination studies from 2 or more drug/diagnostic companies
- Strict timelines facilitate agreement negotiation (6 month 'drop dead')
- Agreements allow resource pooling so all parties can contribute resources to development
- Everyone knows the expectations and rights (IP, data sharing, publication) going into the negotiation

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CONS

- Rigid and non-flexible agreement terms can be challenging (terms cannot change because they must be consistent with pre-existing agreements); some partners do not want to participate under existing frameworks (government requirements)
- CRADA requirements, previously negotiated, may make interactions across NCI programs difficult
- High turnover amongst industry negotiation staff often requires 're-litigation' of 'settled' issues; and business (rather than scientific) decisions not infrequently abnegate signed agreements
- May not be possible to provide the amount of oversight a partner desires; can lead to friction with partners who are used to having a greater degree of control over a project (pursued with a contractor, for example, rather than an academic or government partner)

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LESSONS LEARNED

- Trust but verify: Degree of clarity regarding roles, responsibilities, deliverables, and metrics <u>directly proportional</u> to the odds for success of the partnership—does everyone acknowledge the "rules of the road"? This includes ALL parties: Academic, Industry, and Government
- All parties must jointly believe in the strong scientific/clinical benefit of initiating the collaboration
- Never be surprised when/if a business decision overrides scientific rationale
- Whenever possible support the consistency of negotiating personnel and scientific 'champions'
- A PPP that functions well requires a very high level of 'care and feeding'

