#### Better Health, Brighter Future





# **Quality Imaging for Clinical Trials**

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While the following is based on publicly available data, my work experience and feedback from colleagues in the industry, the opinions expressed are my own and not official company statements.

# What do I think quality means for pharma?



- 1. In clinical trials quality typically means Reproducibility and Standardization
  - Anecdotal evidence that push for quality works both ways from clinic to clinical trial and from clinical trial to clinic
- 2. In the translational and early space we are also looking for advancement
  - Are there alternative, better ways?
    - Can we demonstrate theoretical and clinical relevance ?
    - Is it feasible/ sufficiently practical?
- 3. Pragmatic approaches are great and may be cheaper and faster,
  - > Yet, in an era of targeted therapies
    - Obligation to strive to better understand the effects of our treatments?
    - Aim for more scientific approaches to treatment decisions and drug development decisions?

### One of the drug development challenges





%20BIO,%20Biomedtracker,%20Amplion%202016.pdf

# (Semi) Quantitative Imaging Biomarker at Takeda



- Can we identify more sensitive early predictors?
- Can we identify biomarkers that help us better understand the underlying biology?



- "Standard" late phase solid tumor trial (CT/MRI arterial and portal venous phase contrast)
  - <10% of timepoints queried for slice thickness, anatomical coverage, patient positioning
  - <5% of timepoints queried for adequacy of timing and amount of contrast





PAREXEL Archives.

Commonly observed challenges in image quality



- For FDG-PET study (aiming to determine SUVs)
  - Compliance may be as low as 30% of imaging timepoints
    - Uptake time/ Wait time
    - Blood Glucose levels

# Lack of quality hurts clinical patient management





Hristova et al., Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging (2015) 42:848-857.

Illustration courtesy of K. O'Donnell

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Lack of quality hurts clinical patient management AND drug development

- For successful drug development (including or especially in targeted therapies) need to understand the biology
- 2. Low reproducibility of imaging biomarker reduces the clinical value
- 3. Low reproducibility of imaging biomarker reduces the clinical trial value and drug development value
  - Greater challenge to achieve significant differences
  - Need for larger trials
  - Greater challenge to formulate future strategy





# Thank you



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