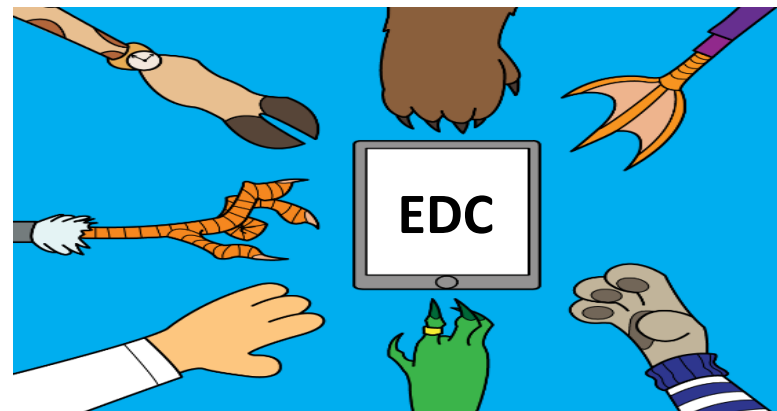


KEY CONSIDERATIONS AND CHALLENGES OF EDC IN THE IMPLEMENTATION AND STATISTICS OF CLINICAL TRIALS

Liora Bosch

Biostatistician and EDC expert,
Omrix Biopharmaceuticals, Johnson & Johnson



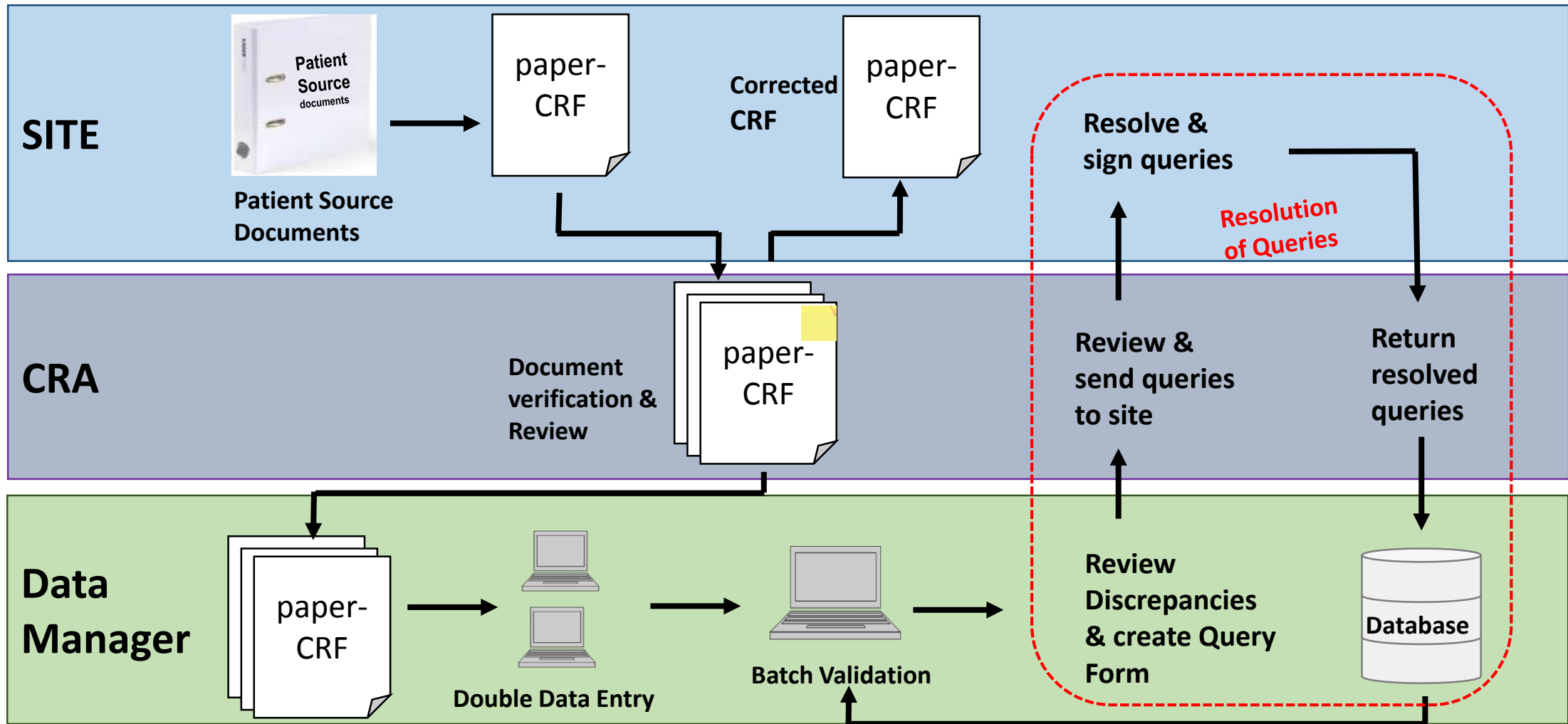
A Brief Survey:

Which of the following describes your organization's Data Management?

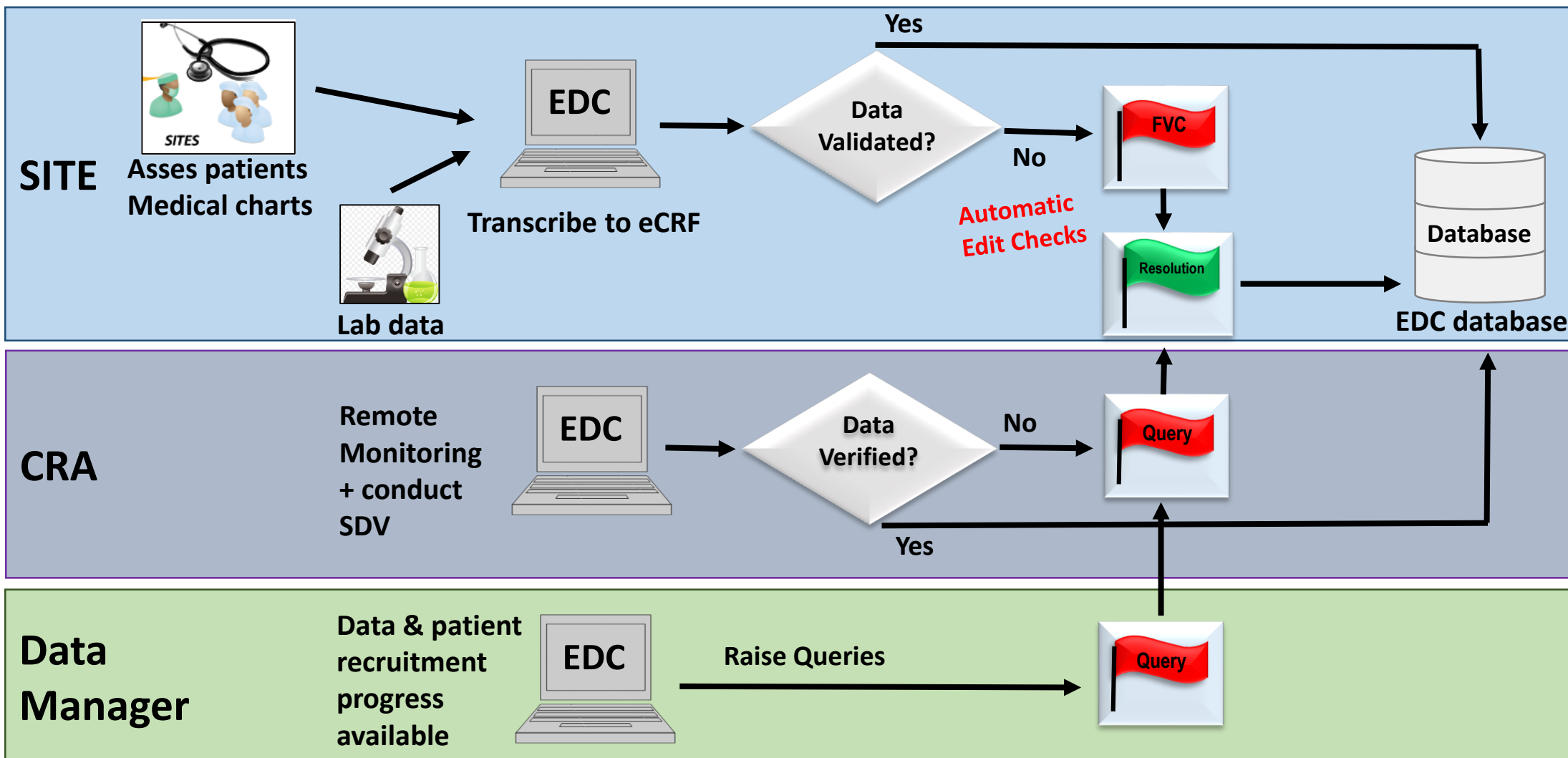
- Full **EDC** system
- **Hybrid** combination of **paper-CRF** and **EDC**
- **Paper-CRF**



Data collection using paper-CRF



Data collection using eCRF



FDA 2013: Promoting eSource

Guidance for Industry
Electronic Source Data in
Clinical Investigations

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)
Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH)
September 2013
Precedent

Guidance for Industry
Electronic Source Data in
Clinical Investigations

September 2013

Why eSource?

- “...**promotes** capturing source data in electronic form...”
- [assists] “in **ensuring** the **reliability, quality, integrity**, and **traceability** of electronic source data.”



U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Protecting and Promoting Public Health

www.fda.gov

Final Guidance on Electronic Source Data in Clinical Investigations

Promoting eSource Data Capture

CDER

Leonard Sacks, Office of Medical Policy
Ron Fitzmartin, Office of Strategic Programs
Jonathan Helfgott, Office of Compliance
Sean Kassim, Office of Compliance

CBER

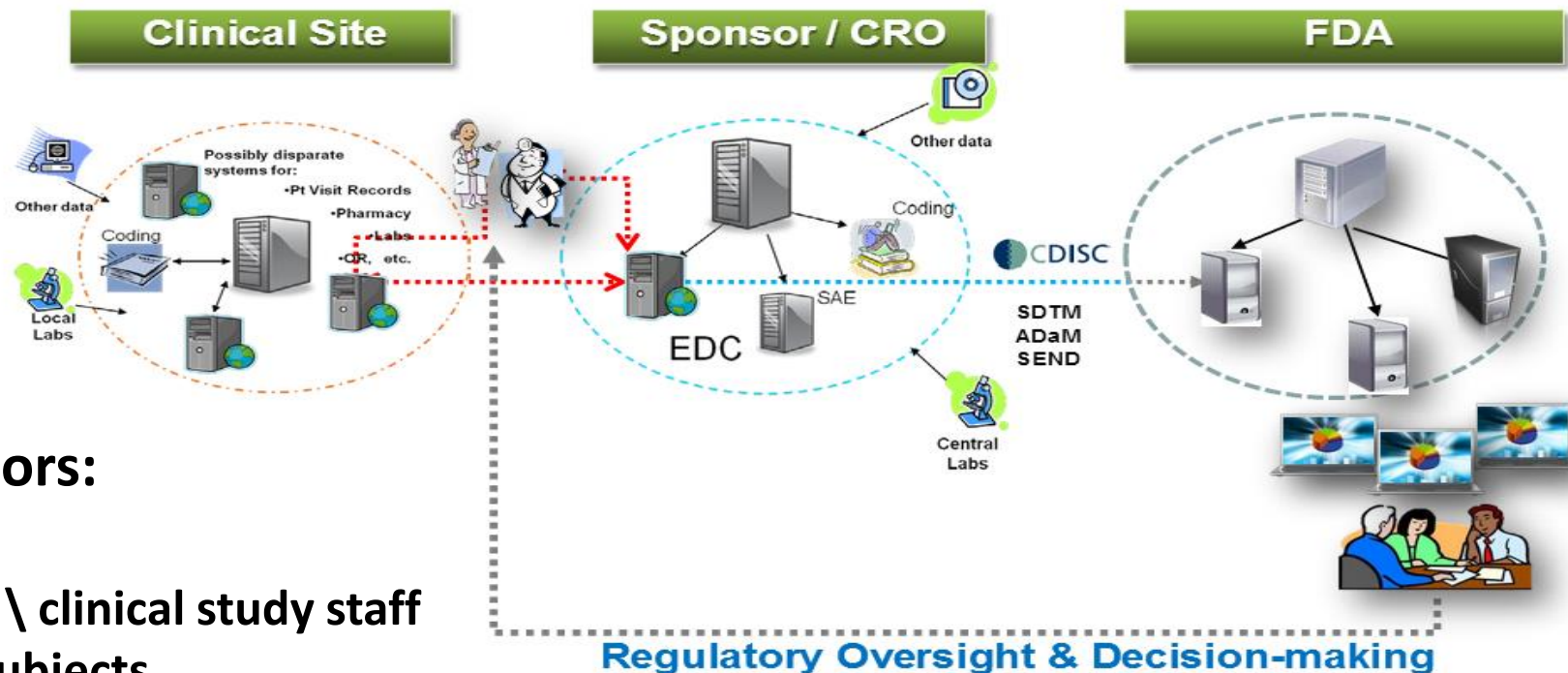
Bhanu Kannan, Bio-monitoring Branch

CDRH

Irfan Khan, Office of Compliance, CDRH

FDA Webinar
29 January 2014

Data initially recorded in electronic format – no intermediary

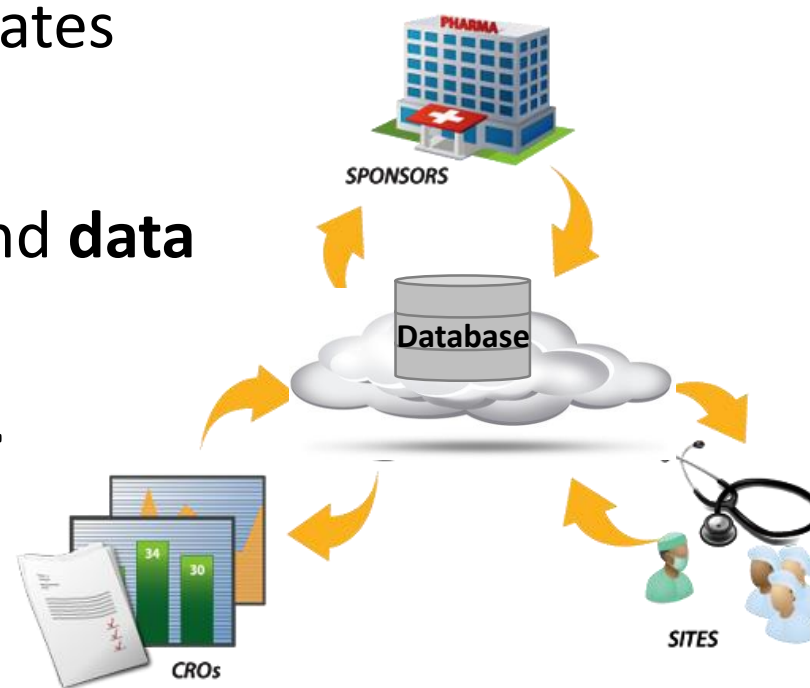


eSource data originators:

- Clinical investigator(s) \ clinical study staff
- Clinical investigation subjects
- Consulting services (e.g., a radiologist reporting on a CT scan)
- Medical devices
- Electronic health records (EHRs)
- Automated laboratory reporting systems

Benefits of EDC deployment

- **REAL TIME Automatic Edit Checks**
- **Worldwide Connectivity** - Real Time Data Accumulation
- **REAL TIME Recruitment progress and status** updates automatically on **EDC dashboard**
- Ability to control both **hierarchical data access** and **data transparency**
- **Higher data quality** – increased statistical power
- **Mid-term reports** easily accomplished



EDC Applications Dashboards

Manage Studies

Copy, Export, Print

Copy CSV Print

Search:

Search

Study	Sites	Subjects				Visit Forms			Queries				Adverse Events		
		All	Enrolled	Signed	Unsigned	All	Partial Complete	Complete	All	Open	Responded	Closed	All	Serious	Unassessed
5.0 Test Study	2	62	62	1	61	144	54	90	64	51	8	5	35	0	33
CICASS5-01	3	37	37	1	36	138	47	91	21	16	0	5	24	6	21
CICASS5-02	3	4	4	0	4										
QA Baseline	2	142	93	13	129										

Showing 1 to 4 of 4 entries

Clickable Links

Home | Subject Matrix | Add Subject | Notes & Discrepancies | Tasks | Report Issue | Support | Go

Sortable Headers

Patient recruitment progress

Subject Matrix for

15 Show More Select An Event Add New Subject

Study Subject ID	Screening 1	Screening 2	Baseline	1 Week	2 Week	3 Week	4 Week	6 Week / Early Termination	8 Week	Verification Form	Termin
UC-01	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
UC-02	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
UC-03	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗

Results 1 - 3 of 3.

REAL TIME Edit Checks

- **Predefined** in the EDC system, **usually by the data manager**.
- **Prevent** the end-user from entering **mistaken invalidated data**.
- **Simplify monitoring** activities

Edit Check type	Example
Patient Eligibility	If any Exclusion Criteria are yes , then error message that Subject should not participate .
Comment availability	If a body system is selected as Abnormal , a reason must be provided .
Chronologic dating	End date is not before Start Date
Range checks	Age is between 18 and 85

Example for a Failed Validation Check (1):

Subtitle: **INCLUSION CRITERIA**

Instructions: **If any criterion is marked "NO", patient is ineligible for study enrollment**

Page:

1	Outpatients	<input type="text" value="YES"/>	
2	22-68 years of age.	<input type="text" value="YES"/>	
3	Diagnosed as suffering from an episode of bipolar depression (BP1 or BP2) according to DSM IV, with the additional requirement of duration for the current episode ≥ 4 weeks and CGI ≥ 4 .	<input type="text" value="YES"/>	
4	Rating on HDRS (21 items) ≥ 20 and item 1 ≥ 2 at the screening visit.	<input type="text" value="YES"/>	
5	Negative answers on safety screening questionnaire for trans cranial magnetic stimulation (TASS).	<input type="text" value="YES"/>	
6	Taking mood stabilizing medication (e.g., Lithium, Lamictal, Tegretol, Topamax, etc.) at a therapeutic dose or atypical antipsychotic medication which was prescribed as mood stabilizers by their treating physician, except for Leponex (Clozapine).	<input type="text" value="YES"/>	
7	According to the treating physician the patient is compliant with taking the mood-stabilizing medication.	<input type="text" value="YES"/>	
8	If currently taking antidepressant pharmacotherapy, must be clinically appropriate to discontinue treatment with those agents.	<input type="text" value="NO"/>	
9	Able to tolerate psychotropic medication washout and no new psychotropics during the H-coil deep brain rTMS, other than benzodiazepines at an equivalent dose of up to 3 mg Lorazepam every day and mood stabilizing medications.	<input type="text" value="YES"/>	
10	Able to adhere to the treatment schedule.	<input type="text" value="YES"/>	
11	Capable and willing to provide written informed consent.	<input type="text" value="YES"/>	

[Return to top](#)



[If any criterion is marked "NO", patient is ineligible for study enrollment. Please verify your answer, if this comment remains applicable add a discrepancy note vis the flag icon.]

INCLUSI...(0/11) EXCLUSI...(0/26) ELIGIBL...(0/4) -- Select to Jump --

Title: FIRST SCREENING VISIT - PATIENT ELIGIBILITY

Subtitle: **INCLUSION CRITERIA**

Instructions: **If any criterion is marked "NO", patient is ineligible for study enrollment**

Page:

1	Outpatients	<input type="text" value="YES"/>	
2	22-68 years of age.	<input type="text" value="YES"/>	
3	Diagnosed as suffering from an episode of bipolar depression (BP1 or BP2) according to DSM IV, with the additional requirement of duration for the current episode ≥ 4 weeks and CGI ≥ 4 .	<input type="text" value="YES"/>	
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7	According to the treating physician the patient is compliant with taking the mood-stabilizing medication.	<input type="text" value="YES"/>	
8	If currently taking antidepressant pharmacotherapy, must be clinically appropriate to discontinue treatment with those agents.	<input type="text" value="NO"/>	

Mistake
during data
entry

Data is
submitted
after
correction.

Example for a Failed Validation Check (2):

- [Make sure you convert the Temperature from °F to °C! If the temperature was entered in Celsius and is still out of range: 35.5-41 °C, please add a discrepancy note via the flag icon.]

System Alert!

VS_BMSE...(0/19) -- Select to Jump --

Title: BL

Subtitle:

BASELINE VISIT

Page: ☐ Mark CRF Complete 

DATE OF VISIT: 05-Dec-2011  *  (DD-MMM-YYYY)

VITAL SIGNS

Pulse Rate: 80  (/min) Temperature:  98.4  (°C)

☐ Pulse was not obtained  ☐ Temp was not obtained 

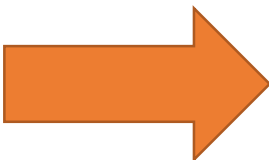
Temperature
entered in °F
instead of °C.

Data is
submitted
after
correction.

Data Element Identifiers (DEIs) enable Audit Trail

- The eCRF should include the capability to record **Audit Trail**:
 - **Who entered / transmitted** and **When?**
 - **What changes were made? When? Why?**
- DEIs should be attached to each data element:
 - Originators of the data element
 - Date and time of data entry into the eCRF
 - Subjects to which the data element belongs



- 
- Allowing sponsors, FDA, and other authorized parties to **examine** the audit trail of the eCRF data.
 - Allowing **FDA** to reconstruct and evaluate the **clinical investigation**.

Possible EDC implementation obstacles

- High upfront cost
- Inability to work offline
- Need to invest in technical knowledge
- Resistance to change
- Restrictive Data Entry
- Loss of flexibility

Pros or Cons?



Let's have a closer look



NOR-DMARD Case Study (1): Transition from paper-CRF to EDC system

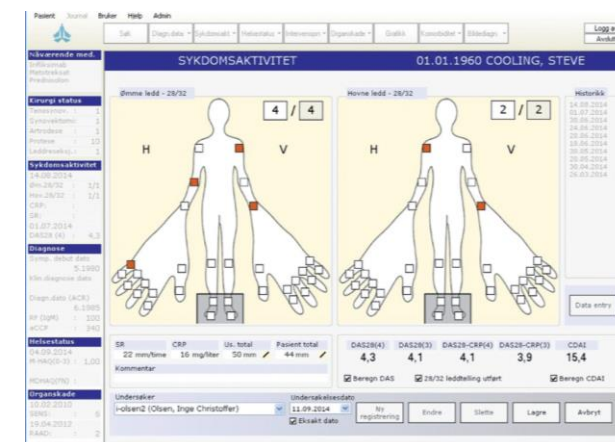
- **2000** -> the **NOR**wegian **Disease Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drugs** (NOR-DMARD) **registry started recording disease activity, quality of life measures and adverse events during DMARD treatment** in 5 different rheumatology departments.
- **2011** -> **new protocol** with focus on **biologic DMARD** treatment
- In addition **Electronic Health Record system** was implemented to enhances disease monitoring, e.g. providing a graphic and numeric display of data.

EHR system limitations:

1. The study tool was quite **rigid** and **limited to pre-specified modules**;
2. **Adverse Events** and other protocol-specific information **couldn't be adequately captured**;
3. **No Audit Trail** or **query handling**;
4. The **data were stored locally** without a central database.



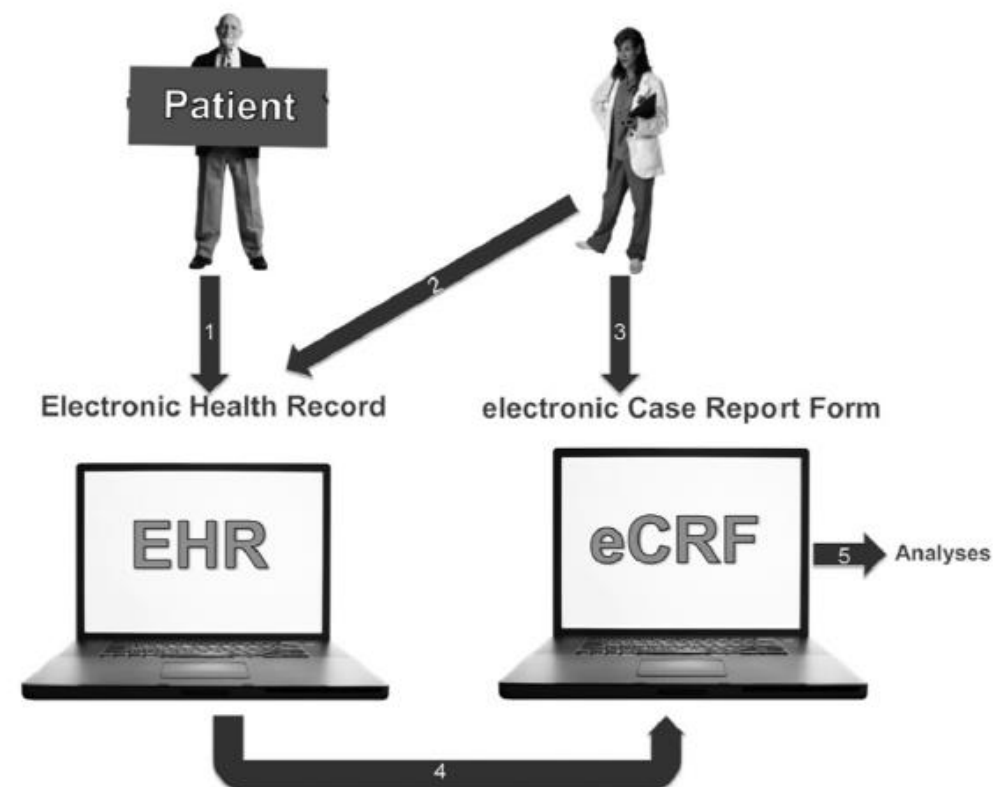
EDC system was added



NOR-DMARD Case Study (2): Transition from paper-CRF to EDC system

Data flow in the NOR-DMARD registry:

1. The **Patient** records his patient registered outcomes (**PROs**) into the **EHR** system;
2. The **treating nurse/physician** also records clinical information into the **EHR** system;
3. **Adverse Events** are registered directly to the **EDC** system.
4. The **EDC** system generates a unique patient number, which is then **registered in the EHR**. Enabling transfer from one system to the other.
5. **Data** in the eCRF is **available for analyses at any time**.



NOR-DMARD Case Study (3): Transition from paper-CRF to EDC system

Previous paper-CRF vs. current EDC system **costs comparison:**

	paper-CRF
CRO Costs	14 EUR per visit\CRF
Total	~88,000 EUR



	EDC
Initial set-up costs (+ licensing fees)	18,000 EUR
Yearly licensing fees	1,800 EUR
Total	24,000 EUR*

*Exclude the costs of the EHR system and some internal data management costs.

This illustration is based on data from almost **6400 visits** in **3400 patients** included in the EDC system between May 2012 and August 2014.

NOR-DMARD Case Study (4): Transition from paper-CRF to EDC system

EDC Advantages:

- **Data feasibility,**
- **Lower cost,**
- **Data quality,** and
- Routine **data extraction within minutes**

Problems and challenges:

- **Export/Import routine is complex and relies on SAS programming expertise: only one person** within the study management had the necessary knowledge to import from the EHR into the EDC system.
- The **export/import routine** is quite time consuming ~ **10 hours per transfer.**

EDC available at the market

	Commercial EDC	Open-Source EDC
Developer:	For-profit company or developer group	A single or group of developers, often as a voluntary effort.
Charges:	User licenses with or without annual support contracts	Free of charge *requires personnel training
Source Code:	Not published	Published online and can be downloaded for free
Some examples include:	Oracle® Clinical (Oracle, USA) Clinsys® (Jubilant Organosys, USA) InForm™ (Phase forward, USA) DATATRAK EDC (DATATRAK, USA) Medidata Rave® (Medidata Solutions)	OpenClinica® (Akaza Research, USA) DADOS P (Research group, Duke University, USA) Redcap (Vanderbilt University, USA) TrialDB (Yale University, USA)



Source: "Electronic Data Capture for Registries and Clinical Trials in Orthopaedic Surgery" Open Source versus Commercial Systems

Considerations when comparing systems available at the market

- Availability of relevant personnel to support the system?
- Multi -central / single site?
- Payment **per study** ? Or **monthly fee** to run all your studies?
- Payment **per system user?** **per site?**
- **Training** site personnel? **Support number?**

- There are no clear rules!



Biostatistician involvement in EDC system design

Principal Investigator

- **Study purpose** and objectives
- Define **tests** and **evaluations**
- Operational aspects

Protocol

Statistical
Analysis
Plan

Biostatistician

- Study endpoints
- **Sample size** calculation
- Interim analysis planning
- Statistical methods



CRF review
and approval

Case
Report
Form

Biostatistician

- Ensure data requested will answer the aims of the study
- Review edit checks

Data
Management
Plan

Data Manager

- Develop electronic database

EDC



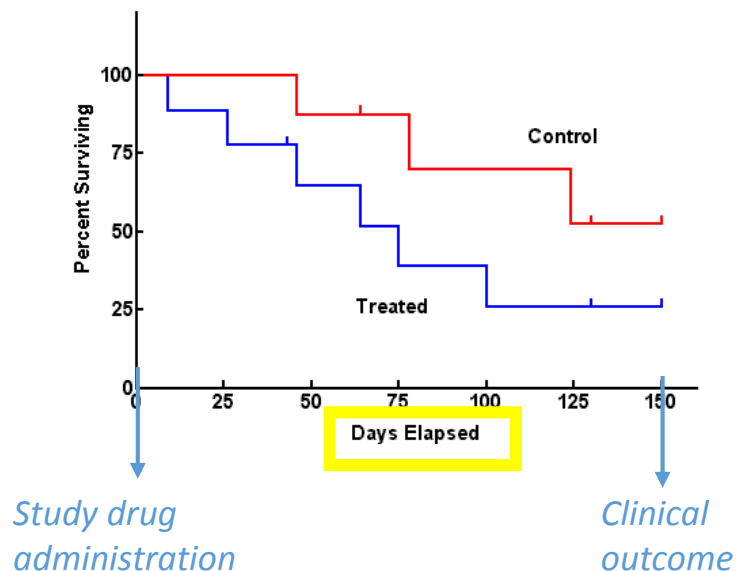
When statisticians review CRFs, they can be useful with:

- Making sure that **only essential information** is collected
- **Consistent coding** of variables -to avoid data loss or late detection.
- **Identifying relevant data checks** - used to **find errors early** —in order to gain greater efficiencies
- **Risk based monitoring** - helping decide **which questionable data values are worth querying**

Data error example:

Missing times - the most common missing variables in CRFs

- **Survival analysis:** is an analysis of the expected duration of time from a certain event to the other.



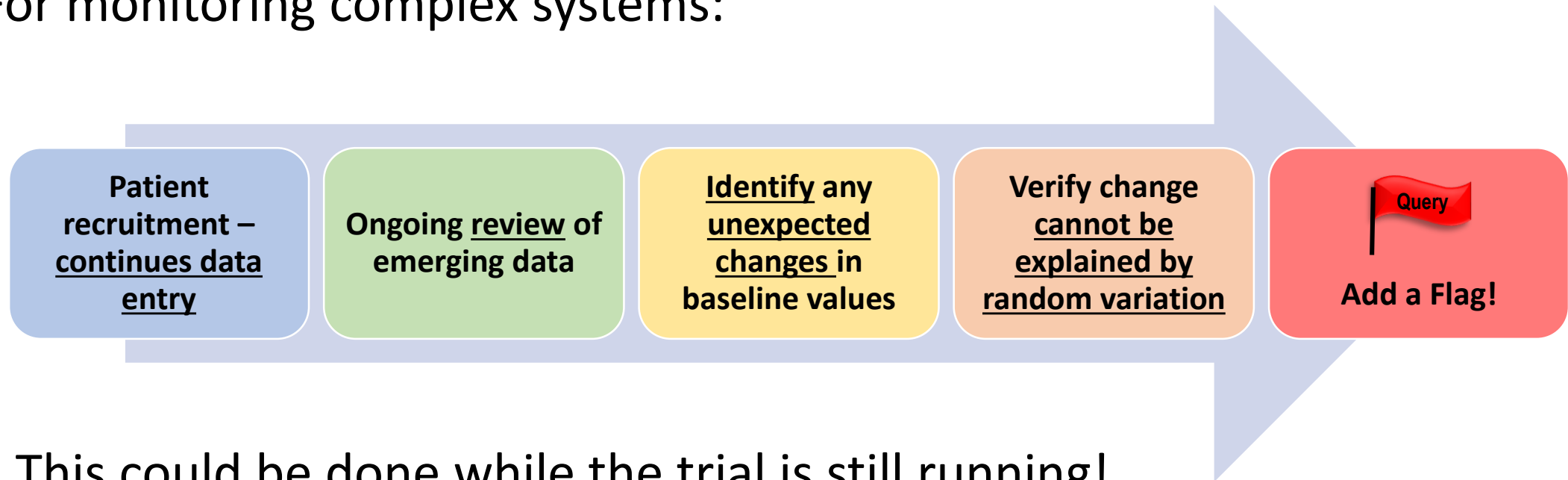
Expected survival Times	Required units
Long-term survival times	Calendar dates
Shorter-term survival times	Calendar dates+ clock times (sometimes even seconds!)

- In case the CRF design **fails to capture time with sufficient accuracy**, we will **loss statistical power**.

The future holds:

Implementation of statistical process control into the eCRF

For monitoring complex systems:



- This could be done while the trial is still running!
- In a **conventional locked clinical database** such artefacts are **identified only during data analysis**, it is then **lowering the trial power**.

Thanks for listening!!!

