

Delivery new medicine to the patient faster

Japan Clinical Trial Transformation Research Society

- For Delivering New Medicines To Patients Faster -

Introduction of the First Period of our activities

🙏 Mitsubishi Research Institute

Introduction

Concern about a future in which Japan "is no longer chosen for global clinical trials"

Japan's rate of participation in global clinical trials is low and is becoming one cause of drug loss

- If drug loss occurs, new drugs do not reach patients in Japan
- For that reason, it is necessary for Japan to put in place a clinical trial environment in Japan in order to be "chosen for global clinical trials"



Source) Prepared based on OPIR Views and Actions No. 66, July 2022, Hiroshi Azuma , "Survey on Trends in Global Clinical Trials in Recent Years "

*1:According to OPIR Views and Actions No. 72, July 2024, Yoshiura, Azuma, Morimoto, "The Latest Trends in Unapproved Medications in Japan: Based on the Status of New Drug Approval in Japan and the United States in 2023," in a determination made as of the end of December 2023, 67.5% of New Molecular Entities (NMEs) from the United States were unapproved medications in Japan. *2:According to OPIR Views and Actions No. 66, July 2022, Azuma, "Survey on Trends in Global Clinical Trials in Recent Years," the number of global clinical trials has increased 3.6 times in ten years, and there were 450 such trials in FY2020.

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Clinical Trials Transformation

Clinical Trial Transformation (CTX) is required in Japan as one of the means for Japan to remain "chosen for global clinical trials."

- It has been pointed out that clinical trials in Japan are slow and high cost due to their low potential for case accumulation.*
- For that reason, transformation of the conventional format of clinical trials in Japan in order to increase the international competitiveness of Japan in clinical trials is required.
- CTX does not refer to a specific method; it is a broad concept which refers to new mechanisms for conducting clinical trials more efficiently and effectively.



* In the presentation materials of the 20th Conference on CRC and Clinical Trials 2020 in Nagasaki, a seminar jointly hosted by PHRMA/EFPIA JAPAN with the title "How to Avoid being Excluded from Global Trials: Cost Awareness will Revitalize Clinical Trials in Japan," it was stated that based on a comparison of the number of registered cases per number of facilities in each country and a comparison of the number of facilities required for the registration of 100 cases in each country, many facilities are necessary in order to obtain the necessary number of cases in Japan.

What the Japan CTX Research Society is aiming to achieve

The Mitsubishi Research Institute, Inc. established the Japan CTX Research Society on October 1, 2023 with the aim of advancing CTX and eliminating drug loss in Japan with the participation of multiple stakeholders.

Purpose

Enhancing participation in global clinical trials by transforming the clinical trial environment in Japan through multi-stakeholder engagement.

Vision

Contributing to the advancement of pharmaceutical development in Japan through policy recommendations and initiatives that support the dissemination of CTX.

Mission

Advancing the efficiency of clinical trials through CTX, while enhancing participation in global clinical trials, to deliver new therapeutic options to patients more quickly on a world level.

The Composition of the Research Society

Japan CTX Research Society (Mitsubishi Research Institute, Inc.)					
Members Observers Secretariat					
Leading companies (product manufacturers including pharmaceuticals/medical devices/regenerative medicine, etc.), startups (biotech/medtech)	CRO SMO	IT vendors	Medical institutions, healthcare professionals, academia	Government agencies, public institutions	Mitsubishi Research Institute, Inc.
(biotech/medtech) Preparation of results (written recommendations, etc.) Promotion of CTX in Japan					

Introduction

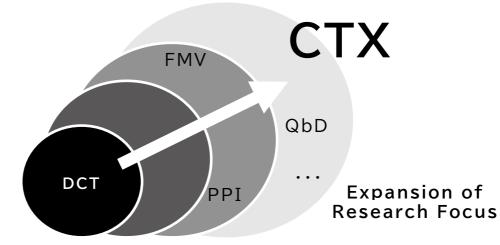
Prospects

In the First Period (October 2023 to September 2024) the society focused on decentralized clinical trials (DCTs) but in the Second Period (October 2024 to September 2025) we will expand the scope of discussion to promote CTX.

- In the First Period we focused on the recent topic of DCTs and generated concrete achievements.
- Going forward, we will gradually expand our research focus regarding the areas where we should promote CTX in line with the objectives of our society, taking into account our priorities and the need for this Research Society to handle them.



Discussion on Advancing CTX in Japan from the Perspectives of Industry, Government, Academia, and Patients



Content of the activities in the First Period and the recommendations

Content of the activities in the First Period of the Japan CTX Research Society

The Japan CTX Research Society launched two sectional committees, commenced its First Period activities in October 2023, and compiled its recommendations.

• In the First Period we put the focus on the "encouragement of mutual understanding" and "building an environment which encourages the creation of results and evidence" and discussed these issues in the two sectional committees.

Sectional Committee 1 Encouragement of mutual understanding	 The purpose of this committee was to align the perceptions of companies, medical institutions, doctors, and patients regarding the sense of crisis over Japan Passing in clinical trials and the introduction of DCTs, to enable them to understand each other's situations.
Sectional Committee 2 Building an environment which encourages the creation of results and evidence	• The purpose of this committee was to delve into the issues that are actually arising in the sponsors, CROs, and medical institutions, respectively, extract the issues which are obstructing the dissemination of DCTs, and recommend the efforts necessary to resolve those issues.

List of members in the First Period

In the First Period, 18 companies, five medical institutions (including universities), and 11 researchers from academia participated.

Companies/Startups

- EPS Corporation
- A2 Healthcare Corporation
- Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.
- SUSMED, Inc.
- Cmic Co., Ltd.
- TechDoctor, Inc.
- Eli Lilly Japan K.K.
- Pfizer R&D Japan G.K.
- Falma Co., Ltd.
- Mediford Corporation
- Merck Biopharma Co., Ltd.
- Janssen Pharmaceutical K.K.
- Linical Co., Ltd.
- Buzzreach Inc.
- IQVIA Site Solutions Japan G.K
- Medical Research Network Japan K.K
- MEDICOLAB Co., Ltd.
- MICIN.Inc.

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Medical institutions

- Aichi Cancer Center
- Okayama University Hospital
- KINDAI University Hospital
- Tokyo Center Clinic
- Nippon Medical School

Non-member participant

(Academic researchers who has participated in this research society, similar to members.)

• 11 researchers

Secretariat

• Mitsubishi Research Institute, Inc.

Release of recommendations for the dissemination of DCTs in Japan

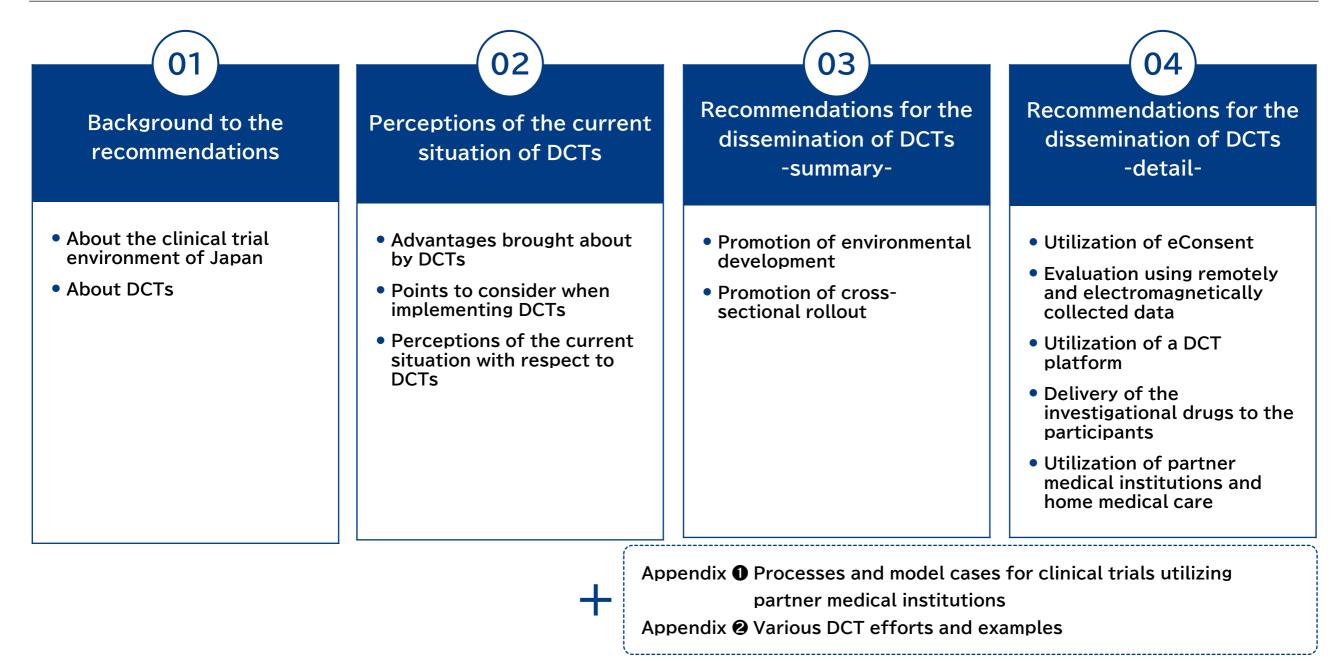
We compiled the results of discussions for two hours every month over ten months in each of the two sectional committees and published the "Recommendations for Dissemination of DCTs in Japan " in September 2024.

- In summary, we recommended six overall measures which the national government and industry, etc. should tackle for the dissemination of DCTs in Japan from the perspectives of "promotion of environmental development" and "promotion of cross-sectional rollout."
- In detail, we presented the basic approach and points to note when introducing and implementing each of the five elements of DCTs, and made recommendations regarding the "current situation," "issues and needs," and specific "directions of solutions" for each of the 21 topics pertaining to each of the elements.



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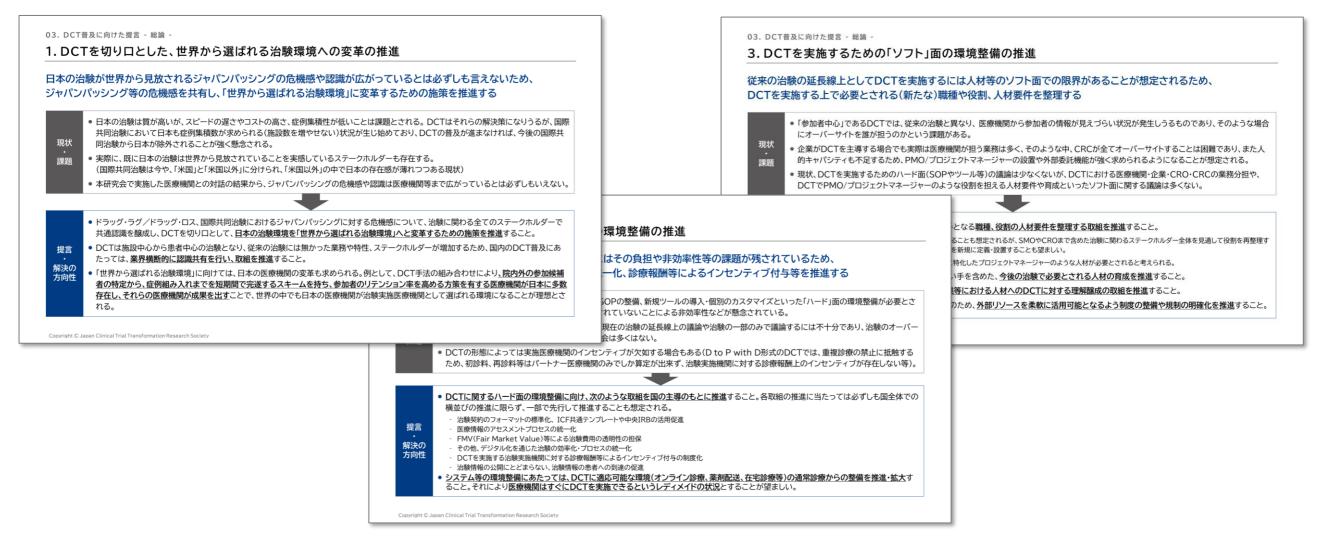
The composition of the recommendations



In summary, we recommended six overall measures which the national government and industry, etc. should tackle for the dissemination of DCTs in Japan from the perspectives of "promotion of environmental development" and "promotion of cross-sectional rollout."

Promotion of environmental development	1 Transformation into a clinical trial environment chosen by the world	
	Hard" aspects of environmental development	
	Soft" aspects of environmental development	
	4 The establishment of evidence concerning the effect of DCTs	
Promotion of cross-sectional rollout	5 The horizonal rollout of examples of DCT efforts and DCT know-how	
	6 Network formation involving diverse stakeholders	

We made recommendations regarding the current situation and issues and the direction of solutions for each of the six overall measures.



Detail | The five elements of DCTs and recommendations for their dissemination

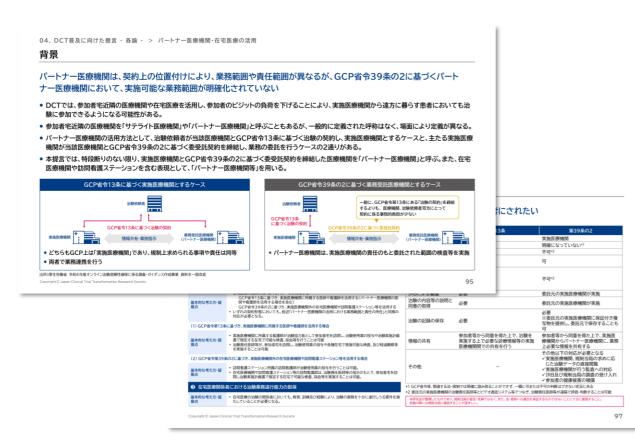
In detail, we presented the basic approach and points to note when introducing and implementing each of the five elements of DCTs, and considered the "current situation," "issues and needs" and specific "directions of solutions" for each of the 21 topics pertaining to each of the elements.

1 eConsent	Identity authentication using multifactor authentication				
2 Data collected remotely and electronically	remotely and evaluation techniques		Approach of utilizing BYOD	An environment in which it is easy to use a copyrighted scale	Meeting the requirements of Japan's unique regulations when using products from overseas vendors
3 DCT platform	The burden of healthcare professionals when utilizing systems	Use of site-owned systems and tools	Clarification of the suitability of using general-purpose services and tools	Saving of medical records in the case that the records concerning the clinical trials are only saved in sponsor- owned systems	
4 Delivery of the investigational drugs Direct delivery to the homes from outside the implementing medical institutions		Pickup outside the participants' homes of the drugs used in the clinical trials			
5 Partner medical institutions and home medical care	Verification of the effect due to the utilization of partner medical institutions , etc.	Sharing information which could become partner medical institutions and construction of a clinical trial network	Payment of clinical trial expenses in partner medical institutions, etc.	Methods of calculating the clinical trial expenses	Basic medical fees in the case of D to P with D format
	Administration of medication in partner medical institutions, etc.	Approach concerning reports on serious adverse events	Handling of testing samples collected outside medical institutions	Utilization of pharmacies, etc. in sample collection and recovery	

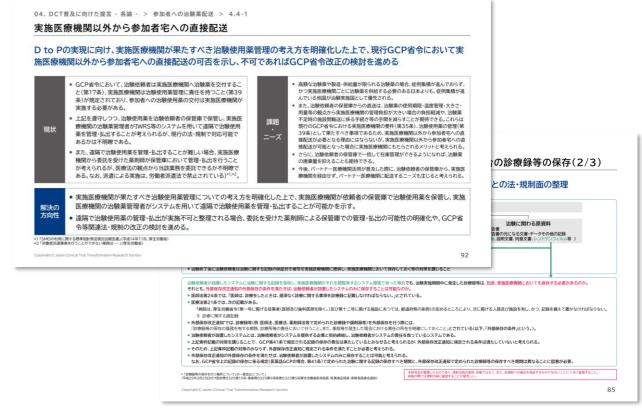
Detail | The five elements of DCTs and recommendations for their dissemination

Concerning the four elements for which there is no guidance, we presented the "basic approach and points to note" and then organized the current situation and issues regarding the 21 topics of the five elements and recommended directions of solutions.

Examples of Basic Concepts and Considerations



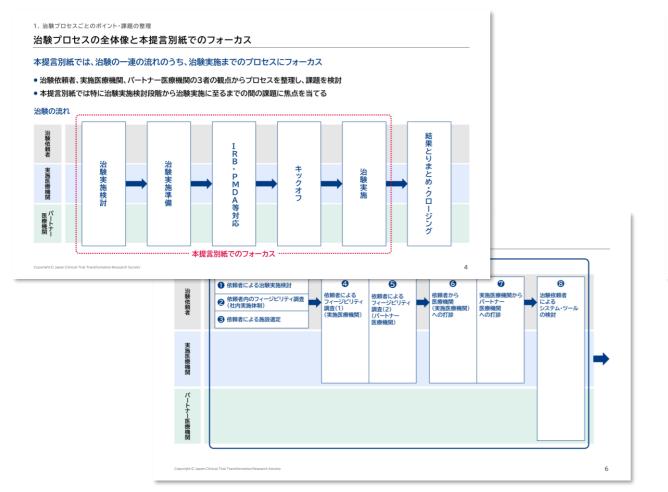
Examples of the Current Situation, Challenges, and Possible Solutions for Each Topic

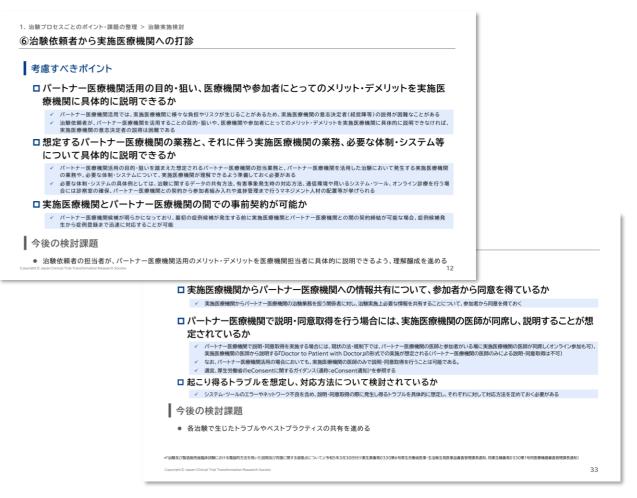


Processes and model cases for clinical trials utilizing partner medical institutions

In Appendix 1, we have organized the points which should be taken into account in each process from the stage of considering a clinical trial to implementation of the trial.

• We organized the processes and considered the issues from the perspectives of three parties: the clinical trial sponsors, implementing medical institutions, and partner medical institutions.



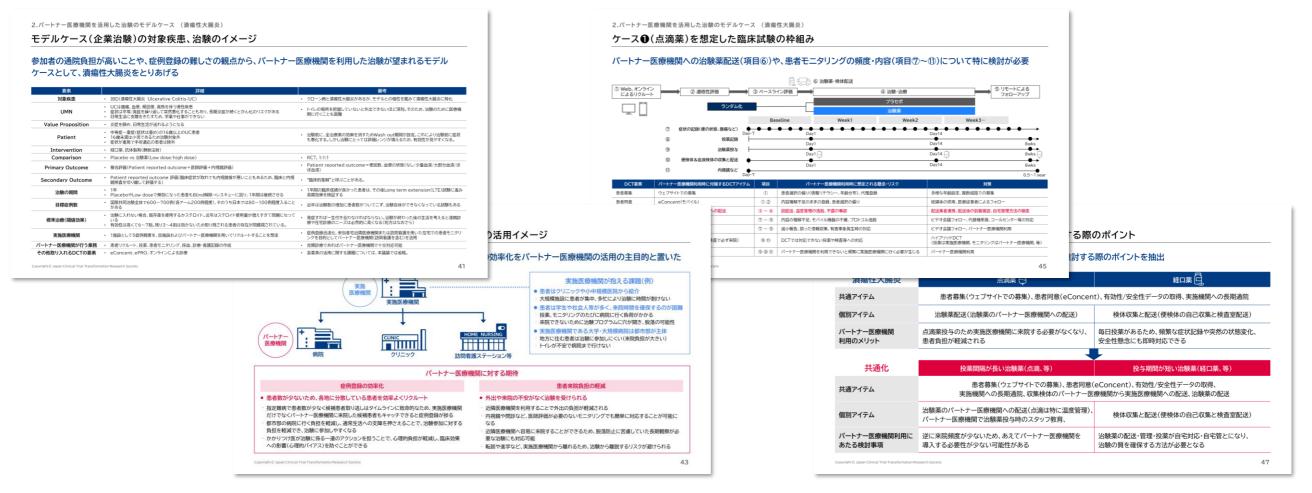


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Appendix 1

Processes and model cases for clinical trials utilizing partner medical institutions

In the second half of Appendix 1, in order to enable clinical trials which utilize partner medical institutions to be visualized in a concrete way, we used a hypothetical clinical trial on ulcerative colitis as a model case to extract the key points when considering the use of partner medical institutions.



The Second Period

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Second Period sectional committees

In the Second Period, we set themes for two directions : a sectional committee which holds discussions from a larger perspective and a sectional committee which holds more detailed discussions.

Sectional Committee 1

Identification and elimination of bottlenecks to clinical trial streamlining and acceleration The purpose of this committee is to consider
 "transformations necessary to accelerate clinical trials"

 from a large perspective which anticipates not only DCTs but
 also the appearance of new technologies.

Sectional Committee 2

Environmental development of the soft aspects necessary for the implementation of DCTs The purpose of this committee is to organize the environmental development of the soft aspects (functions, roles) necessary in medical institutions, including the perspectives which pharmaceutical companies, CROs, etc. require for the implementation of DCTs.

Second Period activities policies

In the Second Period, we will deepen collaboration and advance discussions with a variety of stakeholders (patients, job types, industry groups) and aim to strengthen our ability to communicate our results.

Activities policy 1

Establishment of opportunities for exchanges of opinions between our stakeholders

- Deepen collaboration, including exchanges of opinions with patients' associations, etc.
- Exchanges of opinions with stakeholders responsible for the practical work, such as nurses and pharmacists.
- Construct and strengthen a network with groups carrying out similar activities in Japan and overseas.

Activities policy 2

Strengthening our ability to communicate our results

- Exchanges of opinions with government agencies aimed at the execution of the content of the recommendations.
- Disseminate the results of the Research Society and publicize the status of our considerations externally.

List of members in the Second Period

2025/02/01

Companies/Startups

- Accelight Inc.
- EPS Corporation
- A2 Healthcare Corporation
- NTT DATA Inc.
- Cmic Co., Ltd.
- PPD-SNBL K.K.
- Sophiamedi Corporation
- TechDoctor, Inc.
- Eli Lilly Japan K.K.
- Nippon Boehringer Ingelheim Co., Ltd.
- Pfizer R&D Japan G.K.
- Falma Co., Ltd.
- Janssen Pharmaceutical K.K.
- Linical Co., Ltd.
- Buzzreach Inc.
- IQVIA Site Solutions Japan G.K
- Medical Research Network Japan K.K
- MICIN.Inc.

Medical institutions

- Aichi Cancer Center
- Okayama University Hospital
- KINDAI University Hospital
- Tokyo Center Clinic
- Nippon Medical School

Non-member participant

(Academic researchers who has participated in this research society, similar to members.)

• 11 researchers

References

- Recommendations for the dissemination of DCTs -summary-
- Recommendations for the dissemination of DCTs -detail- Xoutline

In summary, we recommended six overall measures which the national government and industry, etc. should tackle for the dissemination of DCTs in Japan from the perspectives of "promotion of environmental development" and "promotion of cross-sectional rollout."

Promotion of environmental development	1 Transformation into a clinical trial environment chosen by the world	
	Hard" aspects of environmental development	
	Soft" aspects of environmental development	
	4 The establishment of evidence concerning the effect of DCTs	
Promotion of cross-sectional rollout	5 The horizonal rollout of examples of DCT efforts and DCT know-how	
	6 Network formation involving diverse stakeholders	

Element	Торіс	Current situation and issues	Recommendations
	Transformation into a clinical ① trial environment chosen by the world	The concern that Japan's clinical trials will be excluded from global clinical trials (Japan Passing)	• Share the sense of crisis over Japan Passing, etc. and promote measures for transforming Japan's clinical trial environment into a "clinical trial environment chosen by the world," using DCTs as the entry point.
Environmental development	② "Hard" aspects of environmental development	A high burden is incurred in the environmental development of hard aspects such as SOPs, and there is a lack of incentive	 Promote the standardization of contracts and introduction of FMV to clinical trials, the streamlining and unification of the processes of clinical trials using DX, the provision of incentives for conducting DCTs using medical fees, etc., the development of systems in daily medical examinations which can be adapted to clinical trials and DCTs, and other measures.
	³ "Soft" aspects of environmental development	There is a lack of discussions on soft aspects such as the division of labor and human resource requirements, etc.	 Organize the (new) job types and roles and the human resource requirements deemed to be necessary when conducting DCTs.
	The establishment of ④ evidence concerning the effect of DCTs	There is a lack of evaluation of effect using DCTs, making investment decisions on DCTs difficult	• Through the establishment of a special research group led by the national government and research and development support by the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED), etc., establish evidence concerning the actual enhancement of the clinical trial environment through the introduction of DCTs and its cost-effectiveness, etc.

Element	Торіс	Current situation and issues	Recommendations
Cross- sectional	The horizonal rollout of ⑤ examples of DCT efforts and DCT know-how	Interest in and momentum toward DCTs is growing, but examples of the introduction of DCTs and sharing of their findings remain limited	 Establish a consultation counter concerning DCTs or construct a "forum" where the issues and know-how can be shared, and develop a foundation for widely providing the FAQs concerning DCTs and know-how on the procedures unique to DCTs
rollout	⁶ Network formation involving diverse stakeholders	Discussions concerning DCTs are fragmented, so perceptions with respect to DCTs also differ depending on the stakeholder	 Construct a "forum" where diverse stakeholders, including regulatory authorities, academic societies, etc., can discuss DCTs candidly

1. Promotion of transformation into a clinical trial environment chosen by the world

Issues remain for the environmental development of the hard aspects required for the introduction of DCTs, including the burden and inefficiency of such development, so we will promote clinical trial streamlining and process unification through DX and standardization, and provide incentives using medical fees, etc.

Current situation and issues

Direction of ecommendations and solutions

- Japan's clinical trials are high quality, but their slow speed, high cost, and low potential for case accumulation are considered to be issues. DCTs could become the solution to these issues, but in global clinical trials a situation is starting to occur in which the accumulation of a number of cases is required for Japan too (Japan cannot increase its number of facilities), and there are strong concerns that if the dissemination of DCTs does not progress then Japan will be excluded from global clinical trials going forward.
- There are already stakeholders who are strongly aware of the fact that Japan's clinical trials are being overlooked by the world.
- Based on the results of dialogues with medical institutions which were implemented in this Research Society, it cannot necessarily be concluded that there a sense of crisis or that the perception of Japan Passing has spread to medical institutions, etc.



- Foster a common perception among all of the stakeholders involved in clinical trials regarding the sense of crisis with respect to drug lag/drug loss
 and Japan Passing in global clinical trials, and promote measures to transform Japan's clinical trial environment into a "clinical trial environment
 chosen by the world," using DCTs as the entry point.
 - DCTs are clinical trials which are centered on the patients rather than facilities, and operations, characteristics, and stakeholders not present in conventional clinical trials are increased, so when disseminating DCTs in Japan, share perceptions across industries to promote the efforts.
 - Transformation of Japan's medical institutions is required for a "clinical trial environment chosen by the world." As an example, there are many medical institutions in Japan which have a scheme that combines DCT techniques to complete the process from identifying participation candidates inside and outside the institution to enrolling cases in a short period of time and which have measures to increase participant retention rates. It would be ideal for those medical institutions to produce results, creating an environment in which Japan's medical institutions are chosen throughout the world as clinical trial implementing medical institutions.

2. Promotion of "hard" aspects of environmental development for conducting DCTs

Issues remain for the environmental development of the hard aspects required for the introduction of DCTs, including the burden and inefficiency of such development, so we will promote clinical trial streamlining and process unification through DX and standardization, and provide incentives using medical fees, etc.

- Environmental development of "hard" aspects at medical institutions, such as the development of SOPs, is considered to be necessary for the introduction of DCTs, but there are concerns about the burden and cost of that development, and inefficiency due to the lack of unification.
- It is considered that discussions of extensions to current clinical trials and discussions of only some of the clinical trials are insufficient for reform of the clinical trial environment in Japan, and that discussions of an overhaul of the clinical trials are necessary, but there are not many opportunities to hold those discussions.
- Depending on the format of the DCTs, there are cases in which the implementing medical institutions lack incentives. (DCTs in the D to P with D format infringe on the prohibition on duplicated medical examinations, so the initial examination fee etc. can only be calculated at the partner medical institutions, and medical fee incentives do not exist with respect to the institutions implementing the clinical trials, etc.)



- For environmental development of the hard aspects concerning DCTs, promote the following kinds of efforts under the leadership of the national government. Promotion of each effort is not necessarily limited to parallel promotion nationwide; promotion of some areas in advance is also anticipated.
 - Standardization of the format of clinical trial contracts and encouragement of the utilization of ICF common templates and central IRBs
 - Unification of the assessment process for medical information
 - Guaranteeing the transparency of clinical trial expenses using fair market value (FMV), etc.
 - Other streamlining and process unification of clinical trials through digitalization
 - Institutionalization of the provision of incentives through medical fees, etc. for the institutions implementing the clinical trials which are conducting the DCTs
 - Encouragement of going beyond the publication of clinical trial information to the delivery of clinical trial information to patients
- When engaging in the environmental development of systems, etc., we will promote and expand development of an environment which can be adapted to DCTs from usual medical examinations. It is desirable to use this approach to create a ready-made situation in which medical institutions can conduct DCTs immediately.

Current situation and issues

3. Promotion of "soft" aspects of environmental development for conducting DCTs

It is anticipated that there will be limitations to the soft aspects such as human resources, etc. for conducting DCTs as an extension of conventional clinical trials, so we will organize the (new) job types and roles and human resource requirements considered to be necessary for conducting DCTs.

- In "participant-centered" DCTs, unlike conventional clinical trials, situations can arise in which it is difficult for the medical institutions to see the information of the participants, raising the issue of who should be responsible for the oversight in those kinds of cases.
- The medical institution is responsible for many operations even in the case that a company leads a DCT, and in that context it is difficult for the clinical research coordinator (CRC) to carry out all of the oversight, and there is a shortage of human capacity, so it is anticipated that the establishment of a project manager and external outsourcing functions will be strongly required.
- The current situation is that there are quite a lot of discussions of the hard aspects needed for conducting DCTs (SOPs and tools, etc.), but not many discussions concerning soft aspects, namely, the division of operations between the medical institutions, companies, CROs, and CRCs in DCTs, and the requirements for and training of the human resources who can take on roles such as PMO/project manager in DCTs.
- When conducting DCTs, promote efforts to organize the human resource requirements such as job type, role, etc. of the person responsible for oversight.
 - The role of oversight responsibility may be applied to existing job types, but it is also desirable to redefine and establish the job type and role of the oversight person by reorganizing the roles of all stakeholders in clinical trials, including SMOs and CROs.
 - It is thought that in the case that oversight is difficult as in DCTs, human resources such as project managers specializing in DCTs will be considered to be necessary.
- Promote training of the human resources considered to be necessary for future clinical trials, including human resources who can handle DCTs and the person responsible for oversight.
- Furthermore, promote efforts to foster understanding of DCTs among human resources not only in medical institutions but also in the companies, etc. involved in the DCTs.
- In order to respond to the human capacity shortage in DCTs, promote the development of systems and clarification of regulations so that external resources can be utilized flexibly.

Current situation and issues

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4. Promotion of the establishment of evidence concerning the effect of the introduction of DCTs

The lack of evaluation in Japan of enhancement of the clinical trial environment using DCTs and its cost-effectiveness, etc. has become a barrier to the introduction of DCTs, so we will establish evidence concerning enhancement of the clinical trial environment and its cost-effectiveness, etc. that can be obtained by introducing DCTs.

- Examples of the introduction of DCTs are increasing, but there is a lack of evaluation of actual clinical trial environment enhancement, cost-effectiveness, etc. in Japan, so evaluation of enhancement of the clinical trial environment and its cost-effectiveness, etc. is required.
 - From the perspective of medical institutions, etc. which are newly introducing DCTs, initial investment is difficult as they are medical institutions in a situation in which the advantages/incentives from the introduction of DCTs are not clear. (These advantages/incentives are also important for coordination inside the institution and persuasion inside the institution.)



- Through the establishment of a special research group led by the national government and research and development support by AMED, etc., establish evidence concerning the actual enhancement of the clinical trial environment through the introduction of DCTs and its cost-effectiveness, etc.
- It is important to encourage not only clinical trials led by doctors but also efforts by company clinical trials, so even in the case of research and development support it is desirable to establish support projects, etc. predicated on a structure under which medical institutions and companies, etc. collaborate.
- In addition to promoting DCTs centered on rare diseases, orphan cancers, etc. from the perspective of drug lag/drug loss, it is also desirable to promote the implementation of DCTs targeting general diseases in company clinical trials in order to disseminate DCTs in Japan.

Current situation and issues

5. Promotion of the horizonal rollout of examples of DCT efforts and DCT know-how

There are situations where DCTs cannot be conducted due to limited opportunities to obtain the information necessary for the introduction of the DCTs, so we will construct a consultation counter for DCTs and a "forum" where issues and know-how can be shared, and share information widely across industries.

- Interest in and momentum toward DCTs is growing. For example, DCTs are being raised as a theme in a range of academic societies. However, examples of the introduction of DCTs and their findings are in the accumulation stage, so information sharing remains limited.
- In particular, medical institutions, etc. where there is interest in DCT efforts but specific considerations have not progressed face issues such as "explanations to coordinators/management within the institution pertaining to conducting DCTs are difficult," etc., so building up efforts and achievements in previous examples is an important element in the dissemination of DCTs.
- An increase in the burden of medical institutions (the CRCs and the people in charge of the medical affairs division, etc.) when introducing DCTs can be easily imagined, and the fact that the sharing of know-how at the practical level and sources of consultations are limited is a factor behind the fact that medical institutions with an interest in DCTs cannot take a step forward.



Direction of ecommendations and solutions

Current situation and issues

- Promote the establishment of a counter for consultations from medical institutions, etc. concerning DCTs or the construction of a "forum" where issues and know-how can be shared, and develop a foundation for providing the FAQs concerning DCTs and know-how unique to DCTs across patient groups and medical institutions.
- By accumulating and sharing examples and know-how across industries, establish a de facto standard regarding matters that have not been clarified and carry out push-up from the field with respect to regulations and responses.
- Furthermore, it is expected that the dissemination of DCTs in Japan will progress further if we list the examples of DCTs in Japan and list and map the medical institutions which are able to conduct (or are interested in conducting) DCTs.

6. Promotion of network formation involving diverse stakeholders

Each stakeholder has a different perception and situation with respect to DCTs, and there has not been sufficient fostering of a common perception and mutual understanding, so we will construct a "forum" where diverse stakeholders including the regulatory authorities and academic societies can discuss DCTs candidly.

- The situation is that momentum concerning DCTs is growing, but the discussions are fragmented.
- The content imagined when the term "DCT" is heard differs depending on the stakeholder, and the stakeholders' moves toward its introduction and the visions they are aiming for are also different, so a shared perception across industries regarding the form of DCTs which Japan should aim for has not been fostered sufficiently.
- Actually, each of the stakeholders sometimes misunderstands the perceptions of the other stakeholders regarding DCTs, such as when the medical institutions, etc. assume the patients do not want DCTs despite the fact that there are patients who do want DCTs. However, there are not many opportunities for the stakeholders to align each other's perceptions and understand each other's situations.
- Furthermore, information concerning DCTs has not been disseminated to the patients, trial subjects, or patient groups, so the realization of patient-centered DCTs is only half completed.



- Promote the construction of a "forum" where each stakeholder, including the regulatory authorities and academic societies, can hold candid discussions face-to-face.
 - More stakeholders are involved in DCTs than in conventional clinical trials, and the nature of their involvement is more complex, so it is desirable for diverse stakeholders including the clinical trial participants to be allowed to participate in the "forum."
- Furthermore, there are expectations of DCTs from the perspective of encouraging the participation of Japan in global clinical trials as well, so international relations are also important, and it is desirable for groups working on the promotion of DCTs overseas (CTTI in the United States, among others) is also be included in the network.

Direction of recommendations and solutions

Recommendations for dissemination of DCTs from Individual Perspectives(1/10)

Element	Торіс	Issue	Recommendations
Utilization of eConsent	4.1-1 Identity authentication using multifactor authentication	The cases in which identity authentication using multifactor authentication is required/cases in which it is not are unclear, for example in the case of using an electronic signature, etc. to obtain consent face-to-face.	 In the regulatory authorities, use QA, etc. to clarify the cases in which identity authentication using multifactor authentication is required. In academic societies, industry groups, etc., share information about the cases in which identity authentication using multifactor authentication is required or unnecessary. Furthermore, advance the sharing of information about techniques which are alternatives to multifactor authentication.
Evaluation using remotely and electromagnetically collected data	4.2-1 Construction of evaluation techniques using remotely and electromagnetically collected data	There has been little progress in the construction of established techniques for remote clinical evaluation using video call systems or new clinical evaluation using devices.	 Through clinical research, etc., create evidence concerning clinical evaluation using video call systems and clinical evaluation using a range of devices, and advance information sharing in academic societies, industry groups, etc., thereby aiming to encourage the utilization of these approaches in clinical trials. In regulatory authorities, separate superiority verification trials and non-inferiority trials, as described in the FDA guidance, in order to present the approach regarding equivalence. In the regulatory authorities, clarify the approach in the case that evaluation techniques for which evidence already exists overseas or which are being used in overseas clinical trials are to be used in Japan.

Recommendations for dissemination of DCTs from Individual Perspectives(2/10)

Element	Торіс	Issue	Recommendations
g remotely and Iy collected data	4.2-2 Dissemination of online medical examinations and requirements for calculating the re- examination fee in clinical trials	There are high barriers to providing online medical examinations in clinical trials at medical institutions which have not given notification of online medical examinations.	 Make industry groups, etc. well aware of the fact that even in the case of carrying out online visits in clinical trials, in the case that basic medical fees, etc. are not calculated, submission of the "documents attached to the notification form pertaining to medical examinations using information and communications devices" is unnecessary. In regulatory authorities, consider more flexible responses, for example narrowing down the required items in the online medical examination guidelines limited to the case in which the basic medical fees, etc. are calculated when online medical examinations are implemented only for clinical trial actions. The national government should further advance the dissemination of online medical examinations in daily medical examinations, which would then lead to the dissemination of online visits in clinical trials.
Evaluation using r electromagnetically	4.2-3 Approach of utilizing BYOD	There are no guidelines or guidance concerning the utilization of BYOD, so the points to note, etc. when utilizing it are unknown, and its utilization has not progressed.	 In regulatory authorities, present the basic approach regarding the utilization of BYOD in clinical trials. For example, the approach to cases in which a single device has to be used within the same trial, the approach regarding the necessity of user acceptance testing (UAT) in the case that the screen sizes or aspect ratios of the devices differ, the approach to the communication fees burden, etc. Share examples of utilization of BYOD in academic societies, industry groups, etc. In academia, advance the construction of new device-independent evaluation indicators regarding scales which are affected by the screen sizes and aspect ratios, etc. of the devices. When doing so, construct the indicators anticipating that they will also be utilized in global clinical trials.

Recommendations for dissemination of DCTs from Individual Perspectives (3/10)

Element	Торіс	Issue	Recommendations
remotely and v collected data	4.2-4 An environment in which it is easy to use a copyrighted scale	Negotiations with copyright owners are prolonged due to the move to electronic media.	 In clinical trials led by doctors, further promote the centralized management and handling of copyrighted scales by academic societies, so that doctors do not need to negotiate individually with copyright owners. Share examples of ePRO (electronic Patient-Reported Outcomes) development within academic societies and industry groups. In academia, advance the development of new evaluation metrics that are independent of devices for scales that are affected by screen size or aspect ratio. When constructing the metrics, anticipate their use in global clinical trials.
Evaluation using r electromagnetically	4.2-5 Meeting the requirements of Japan's unique regulations when using products from overseas vendors	The commencement of trials is delayed due to the need to comply with Japan's unique regulations such as the Technical Conformity Mark and the PSE Mark.	 The regulatory authorities, industry groups, etc. should fully inform the overseas sponsors, vendors, etc. about all of the laws and regulations related to the devices used in clinical trials. The regulatory authorities should consider Technical Conformity Mark exemption provisions when using products for clinical trials or research purposes. Aim for mutual recognition with international standards and harmonization with international laws and regulations.

Recommendations for dissemination of DCTs from Individual Perspectives(4/10)

Element	Торіс	Issue	Recommendations
	4.3-1		• In regulatory authorities, industry groups, etc., consider innovations such as establishing a certification system for training so that retraining in basic operations, etc. is unnecessary if the systems and tools are being used in other identical trials or during a fixed period after such use.
	The burden of	It is a burden for healthcare	• The industry should encourage utilization of site-owned systems and tools and advance the integration of systems.
platform	healthcare professionals when utilizing systems and tools	professionals to receive education and training on different systems and tools for each clinical trial.	• IT vendors should develop systems and tools with high-quality UIs which incorporate the views of the healthcare professionals from the development stage, enhance the help desks, and provide remote support.
of a DCT plat		each clinical trial.	 Note that utilization of a DCT platform is not essential for conducting clinical trials that incorporate elements of DCTs; it is possible to incorporate elements of DCTs by combining individual tools, and the suitability of introducing a DCT platform should be considered for each clinical trial and each site.
	4.3-2 Use of site-owned	It is a burden for the clinical trial sponsors and the implementing medical institutions to confirm	• In industry, in order to save the trouble of clinical trial sponsors individually confirming compliance of the systems and tools with all of the laws and regulations for each clinical trial, work on streamlining by constructing an environment for sharing regulation compliance information. For example, establish a third party authentication system and publish the regulation compliance status of each of the systems and tools.
	systems and tools	systems and tools compliance with all of the laws and regulations of the systems and tools for each	• In clinical trial sponsors, consider active utilization of site-owned systems and tools with a high tolerance, such as systems and tools, etc. for which interoperability between systems is unnecessary.
	clinical trial.	clinical trial.	 The regulatory authorities should prepare guidelines regarding the utilization of site-owned systems and tools.

Recommendations for dissemination of DCTs from Individual Perspectives(5/10)

Element	Торіс	Issue	Recommendations
DCT platform	4.3-3 Clarification of the suitability of using general-purpose services and tools	It is unclear whether general- purpose services can be used from the perspective of ensuring trustworthiness.	 The regulatory authorities should present the approach regarding the usability of general-purpose services and the required trustworthiness in the guidance concerning DCTs.
Utilization of a l	4.3-4 Saving of medical records, etc. in the case that the records concerning the clinical trials are only saved in sponsor-owned systems	In the case that the records concerning the clinical trials are only saved in the systems and devices prepared and installed by the clinical trial sponsors, common perceptions on how the medical institutions save the medical records, etc. are not fostered.	 Carry out the considerations after aligning perceptions between the medical institutions and industry regarding the input and saving of medical records, etc. in the case that the records concerning the clinical trials are only saved in sponsor-owned systems, and regarding other issues and required requirements, etc. concerning the systems and operation taking into account the impact on operations inside a variety of medical institutions.

Recommendations for dissemination of DCTs from Individual Perspectives(6/10)

Element	Торіс	Issue	Recommendations
Delivery of the investigational drugs to the participants	4.4-1 Direct delivery to the participants' homes from outside the implementing medical institutions	It is unknown whether or not D to P can be implemented under current laws and regulations (it is perceived to be extremely difficult).	 Clarify the approach regarding the management of drugs used in the clinical trials which should be carried out by the implementing medical institutions, and then show whether it is possible for the implementing medical institutions to store the drugs used in the clinical trials in the sponsors' storerooms, and for the investigational drugs managers at the implementing medical institutions to use the systems to remotely manage and dispense the drugs used in the clinical trials. n the case that it is determined that remote management and dispensing of drugs used in the clinical trials cannot be implemented, clarify the potential for management and dispensing in storerooms by pharmacists who have received commissions and advance consideration of amendment of the related laws and regulations such as the Good Clinical Practice (GCP) Ministerial Order , etc.
	4.4-2 Pickup outside the participants' homes of the drugs used in the clinical trials	It is unknown whether pickup is possible at facilities which allow face-to-face pickup confirmation such as nursing care facilities, post offices, convenience stores, etc. which are not listed in the Q&As.	• In industry groups, etc. and academic societies, share examples of picking up the drugs used in the clinical trials at places not listed in the "Questions and Answers (Q&As) of the Ministerial Order on Good Clinical Practice for Pharmaceuticals ."

Recommendations for dissemination of DCTs from Individual Perspectives(7/10)

Element	Торіс	Issue	Recommendations
itutions	4.5-1 Verification of the effect due to the utilization of partner medical institutions , etc.	The effect of utilizing partner medical institutions, etc. has not been measured and the issues have not been verified, so the benefits of utilizing partner medical institutions cannot be evaluated appropriately.	• The industry should organize the effects caused by utilization of partner medical institutions, etc. and the issues in the case that they are utilized, and then carry out the effect measurements and issue verifications which back these up, and share the examples.
Utilization of partner medical institutions and home medical care	4.5-2 Sharing information on medical institutions which could become partner medical institutions, etc. and construction of a clinical trial network	It is unknown which medical institutions can be utilized as partner medical institutions, etc., so it will take time to build a structure.	 Industry groups, etc. should gather and share information about the clinical trial networks which can be utilized and the medical institutions which can act as their partner medical institutions, etc. Introduce clinical trial networks which have already been constructed and can be utilized, and share examples of clinical trials which have been conducted utilizing said clinical trial networks. Prepare and share a list of medical institutions which have experience and achievements in clinical trials as partner medical institutions, etc. and can participate in clinical trials promptly. Medical institutions should advance the construction of a clinical trial network at ordinary times to build a structure which enables them to commence clinical trials promptly in the case that specific projects arise (concluding basic contracts in advance, etc.). Clinical trial networks should engage in activities to publicize information about the network (the participating medical institutions, the status of the implementation of education and training pertaining to clinical trials, clinical trials, etc.) in order to attract clinical trials.

Recommendations for dissemination of DCTs from Individual Perspectives(8/10)

Element	Торіс	Issue	Recommendations
Utilization of partner medical institutions and home medical care	4.5-3 Payment of clinical trial expenses in partner medical institutions, etc.	Although the partner medical institutions, etc. have outsourcing contracts with the implementing medical institutions, there are no contracts between the clinical trial sponsors and the partner medical institutions, etc., so it is unknown how the sponsors' share of the uninsured combined medical treatment expenses system will be paid.	 In industry groups, etc., opinions should be expressed on the payment method for clinical trial expenses in partner medical institutions, etc.
	4.5-4 Methods of calculating the clinical trial expenses in the implementing medical institutions and partner medical institutions, etc.	With the conventional points table, it is difficult to appropriately estimate the workloads of each of the medical institutions in clinical trials utilizing partner medical institutions, etc.	• For the introduction and dissemination of benchmark-type cost calculations based on FMV, the national government should present and strongly back specific policies and measures, and stakeholders such as industry groups, etc., academic societies, and medical institutions, etc. should work together to draw up a roadmap for their introduction and dissemination, and advance preparations for their introduction in each company and each medical institution based on the roadmap.
	4.5-5 Basic medical fees in the case of D to P with D format	There are no medical fee incentives in implementing medical institutions when carrying out medical examinations in the D to P with D format.	 The regulatory authorities should consider incentives for the implementing medical institutions in the case that medical examinations are carried out in the D to P with D format in clinical trials. In industry groups, etc., academic societies, and medical institutions, advance the introduction and dissemination of benchmark-type cost calculations based on FMV and consider incentives other than medical fees.

Recommendations for dissemination of DCTs from Individual Perspectives(9/10)

Element	Торіс	Issue	Recommendations
Utilization of partner medical institutions and home medical care	4.5-6 Administration of medication in partner medical institutions, etc.	It is unclear whether or not administration of the drugs used in the clinical trials is possible in the partner medical institutions, etc. based on the GCP Ministerial Order, Article 39-2.	 The regulatory authorities should clarify whether or not the administration of medication is possible in partner medical institutions, etc. using outsourcing contracts based on the GCP Ministerial Order, Article 39-2. If it is the case that the administration of medication in partner medical institutions, etc. is not possible under current laws and regulations, they should amend the laws and regulations so that the administration of medication becomes possible. Furthermore, they should give clarification, including about harmonization with the ICH-GCP, regarding the positioning of partner medical institutions in the GCP Ministerial Order, including matters other than the administration of medication.
	4.5-7 Approach concerning reports on serious adverse events occurring in partner medical institutions, etc.	The approach regarding the beginning date for the calculation of the deadline for reporting to the head of the implementing medical institution when serious adverse events occur at partner medical institutions, etc. is unknown.	 In industry groups, etc., share examples of the handling of serious adverse events which have occurred in partner medical institutions, etc. and foster common perceptions within the industry.
	4.5-8 Handling of testing samples collected outside medical institutions	The approach regarding the storage, processing, and recovery of samples collected in participants' homes, etc. is unclear.	 In regulatory authorities, use QA, etc. to clarify the approach concerning the handling (collection, storage, processing, and recovery) of samples outside medical institutions at participants' homes, etc.

Recommendations for dissemination of DCTs from Individual Perspectives(10/10)

Element	Торіс	Issue	Recommendations
Utilization of partner medical institutions and home medical care	4.5-9 Utilization of pharmacies, etc. in sample collection and recovery	Utilization of pharmacies, etc. is not anticipated when the samples are collected by the participants themselves.	 Industry groups, etc. and regulatory authorities should consider whether there is any room for utilization of pharmacies, etc. in sample collection and recovery in clinical trials. Note that when considering the utilization of pharmacies, etc. it is necessary to sufficiently keep in mind the fact that the measurement of samples in sample measurement laboratories is not provided for use in medical examinations and its purpose is completely different from that of clinical trials.

Japan Clinical Trial Transformation Research Society

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