



MRN Newsletter

Winter 2016

INTRODUCTION

Welcome To MRN's Latest Newsletter

As we all return to work following the Christmas and New Year break, it's a good time to reflect on another successful year for MRN, which saw our partnership with World Courier, an increase in our team on both sides of the Atlantic and an even stronger focus on patient-centricity.

However, here at MRN, we never rest on our laurels. Our long term vision to support the ability to run clinical trials based in the community remains our focus, and, after the last 12 months, we're closer than ever before.



Stuart Redding
Vice President

CLINICAL TRIALS 2016

Clinical Research Trends in 2016

Clinical development continues to evolve against a pattern of increasing development times and associated costs. Below we've summarized what we think will be the trends in the industry for 2016.

1. There will be more mergers and acquisitions of pharma and biopharma companies.
2. Patient centricity in clinical trials will continue to be a focus, especially with FDA's Patient-Focused Drug Development Program, led by Dr. Theresa Mullin.
3. Data and technology will help to optimise clinical trials and drive patient engagement.
4. Clinical trial outsourcing spend will continue to grow.

Read the article in full on the MRN website
Visit: www.themrn.co.uk/blog



Events Roundup

We've been busy presenting at a number of conferences and webinars recently, highlighting the need for an increased patient centric approach in clinical trials.

At the recent Orphan Drugs and Rare Diseases Conference in London, MRN were invited to speak about how clinical trials can be improved for rare disease patients.



In November last year, we teamed up with our specialty logistics partner World Courier to deliver a webinar on patient centricity in clinical trials. Chaired by Sue Lee, Technical Portfolio Manager at World Courier, the webinar explored the challenges surrounding clinical trials for both sponsors and patients.

Helena Baker, Vice President of Global Nursing Services at MRN and cancer survivor Jack Whelan offered practical solutions to aid patient recruitment and retention and identify trial pitfalls from a patient's point of view. The webinar also covered the positive impact a patient-centric approach and the use of home healthcare can have on trials and patients.

MRN was also invited to present at World Courier's Biomedical Seminar to discuss the issue of patient withdrawal, despite the trial often being a patient's best chance for a healthier future.

New Starters at the MRN



Todd McGrath

Head of US Operations

Thanks to a successful year MRN has made a series of new appointments, including Head of US operations Todd McGrath.

On joining MRN, Todd says: "In my previous job, I was becoming more and more aware and interested in the growing role of home healthcare and how it is revolutionizing both the pharma industry and health outcomes.

MRN is the market leader and is working with pharma companies who are looking to move into this space, and so when the role came up, it was an easy decision to make.

Todd's appointment takes the team to over 50 in both our Milton Keynes and Chicago offices, across all disciplines. Through our partnership with World Courier we were able to extend our services this year, and that has brought with it a healthy rise in the expertise we have been able to hire. We hope to carry this on throughout 2016.

Further new starters this year have joined in both our UK and US offices.



You'll find out more information about our partnership with World Courier and our home healthcare service on our website.

NEW HIRES AT THE MRN



Jo Carter

Clinical Project Manager

Jo has over 15 years experience within the Pharmaceutical, Biotechnology and Contract Research industries including managing and monitoring Phase I-IV clinical trials.



Charlotte Geen

Project Support Associate

Charlotte graduated the summer of 2014 and interned for the NHS. She is looking forward to the challenges that come with working within clinical trials.



Matimba Swana

Business Development Executive

As a member of the Business Development team, Matimba's role will be to build on MRN's reputation, as an experienced global nursing provider for the clinical trials.

INNOVATION

MRN Clinical Trials Around the World

As we continue to grow, so does the range of sponsors we work with and the patients we support. From large pharmaceutical companies to small biotech and biopharma organizations we're working with clients to provide Home Trial Support and Site Nurse Support in a range of countries including the US, Europe, New Zealand and Australia. After interest from a number of sponsors, we have recently set-up services in Guatemala and Israel.

The types of patients we are helping to treat also keeps growing; from pediatric rare disease patients with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) and Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria (PNH) to elderly patients with Alzheimer's disease. Our nursing support services are helping alleviate the burden of clinical trials on patients and sites and making complex trials simple to conduct, even on a global scale.



Rebecca Veall

Vendor and Contracts Associate

As a new member of the Vendor and Contracts Management Team, Rebecca will progress contracts and ensure excellent collaboration between the MRN and its vendors.

IN THE NEWS

Beating Breast Cancer

Breast Cancer Care was the chosen charity of MRN in 2015 and we were delighted to support October's National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Breast cancer is the second most common cause of death from cancer in women in the UK, with nearly 12,000 people dying from breast cancer in the UK every year. Breast cancer also affects men, but it's rare – around 400 men are diagnosed each year.



We got involved in raising funds for a cause that has touched us all in some way. Whilst this is a very serious disease, we decided to have as much fun as we could to raise money for Breast Cancer Care, so it is able to provide its specialist nurses, local services and vital emotional support network free of charge to those who need it. The event was a success and we managed to raise a fantastic £275.52.

For more information and to donate, please visit: www.breastcancercare.org.uk/donate



Work Experience Students from left to right: Vinay Patel, Elmas Altindal, Polly Swain, Mumina Islam, Edmund Sugarman, Muhammad Shahbaaz Nadeem Kiani, Adam Cooper

Work Experience

For the fifth year running, we welcomed a group of students on a challenging work experience placement. They took part in mini research projects, working in small teams to design a hypothetical clinical trial, research the best course of treatment for patients and predict outcomes, as well as taking part in workshops and delivering presentations to MRN's team.

Edmund Sugarman, 17, a pupil studying biology, chemistry, physics and maths in the Sixth Form at Oundle School, Northamptonshire, said: "I heard about the placement through a careers programme at school and I'm really glad that I got onto the scheme.

Graham gave us a talk and I learnt that a skin cream I used when I was younger took almost 13 years to get to market! I had never realised how much effort goes into clinical trials and what a large involvement hospitals have. I'm hoping to study pharmacology at University and will definitely consider a career in clinical trials.

NEW HIRES AT THE MRN

Leigh Schnake

Executive Assistant

Leigh has over 23 years of Customer Service experience as well as a round range of knowledge in Office Management. She is looking forward to making a positive impact in the growth of the company.

NEW HIRES AT THE MRN



Saketh Gudipati

Project Support Associate

Saketh has been working in the clinical research field for over 3 years, following 8 years in medical education. In his new role he will be working with all study team members, to ensure study tasks are completed efficiently and effectively.



Fraser Wylie

Proposals and Contracts Associate

Fraser has recently graduated from Leeds University. Fraser's experience with writing proposals and building budgets will help him offer bespoke services and advice to customers based on their needs.



Eleni Katsis

Project Support Associate

Eleni started working at MRN's Milton Keynes head office in October 2015. She is very excited to apply her research background on patient-centric clinical trials support.

Sue Lafferty

Pharmacy Manager and Project Manager

Sue has an academic background in pharmacy and a career in the pharmaceutical industry spanning more than 30 years. Sue has worked with big pharma and with small start-up companies across multiple therapeutic areas.

GET IN TOUCH

If you would like support in your next clinical trial then get in touch by emailing enquiries@themrn.co.uk. You can also get in touch via LinkedIn and Twitter.

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