



Established Status Epilepticus Treatment Trial (ESETT)

A multicenter, randomized, blinded, comparative effectiveness study of fosphenytoin, valproic acid, or levetiracetam in the emergency department treatment of patients with benzodiazepine-refractory status epilepticus.

History of the trial

14:00-14:30 What is the relative value of the standard anticonvulsants: phenytoin and fosphenytoin, valproate, phenobarbital, levetiracetam? Eugen Trinka (Innsbruck, Austria)

14:30-15:00 Pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic characteristics of intravenous drugs in status epilepticus Meir Bialer (Jerusalem, Israel)

15:30-18:00 Clinical trials in SE
Chairs: Michel Baulac (Paris, France)
Matthew Walker (London, United Kingdom)

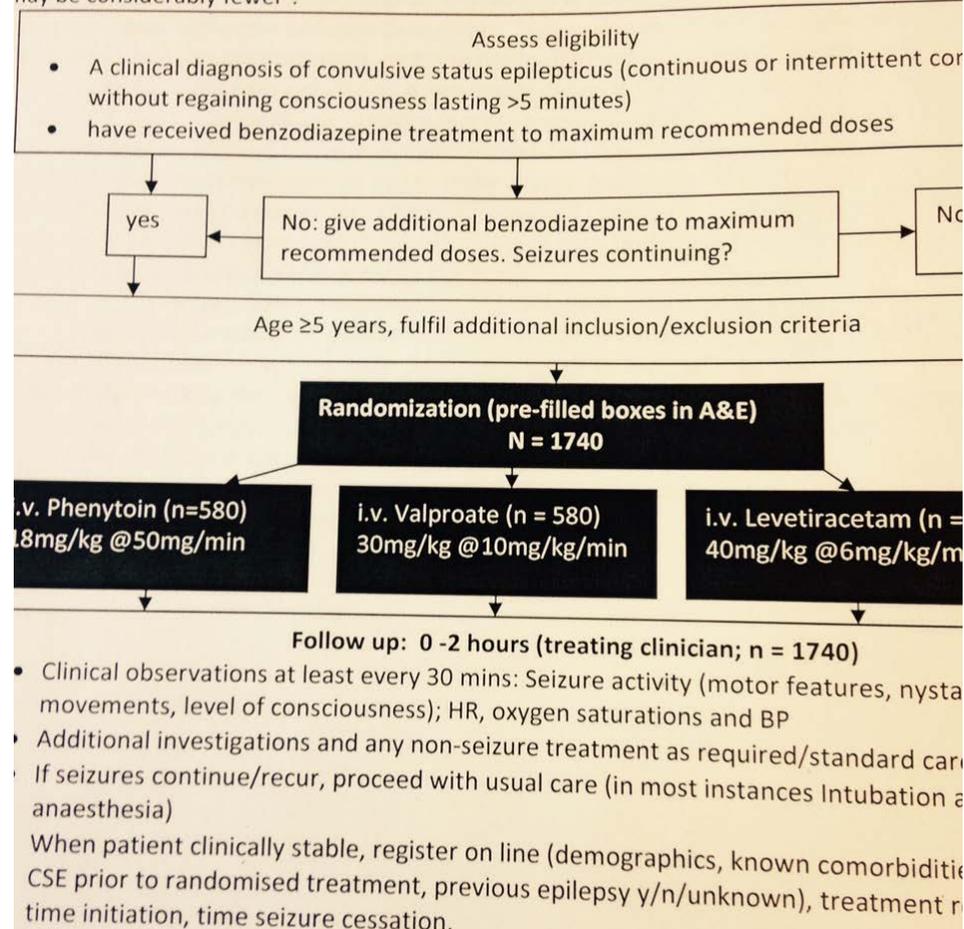


ESETT: Europe & US 2009-2010

Hannah Cock

HTA outline application – ESETT Flow Diagram participants and study design

This is a sequential (adaptive) trial design. Numbers shown are maximums; actual numbers may be considerably fewer¹.



ESETT: Europe & US 2009-2010

E-mail from DHL

2. Our colleagues in Europe (including Hannah Cock, Simon Shorvon and Tim Coats from the U.K. and Eugen Trinkka from Austria) are making definite progress with their plans for ESETT (European Status Epilepticus Treatment Trial). **Based on discussions we had at the last SE Colloquium held in Innsbruck in April, there was a strong consensus that it would be best if the European trial was carried out jointly with centers in the U.S., given the likely number of study subjects and the desire to complete the study as rapidly as possible.** The Europeans have already determined there is a reasonably good chance they can find funding for the study from within the U.K., but rules on indemnification will prevent any funds going to the U.S.

ESETT: Europe & US 2009-2010

E-mail from DHL

3. The RAMPART (Rapid Anticonvulsant Medications Prior to Arrival Trial) study, which has been implemented within the NINDS-supported **Neurology Emergency Treatment Trials (NETT) network**, is enrolling patients at a faster than expected rate and may well be completed within 12-18 months. The NETT is therefore looking for opportunities to support the next SE study sooner than later.

ESETT: Europe & US 2009-2010

E-mail from DHL

4. Preliminary discussions with NINDS leadership have indicated that the institute **is very interested** in supporting a SE study of the type we are considering.

ESETT planning group



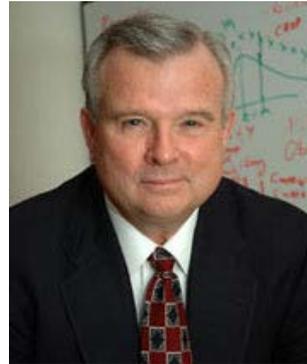
Bleck



Cock



Chamberlain



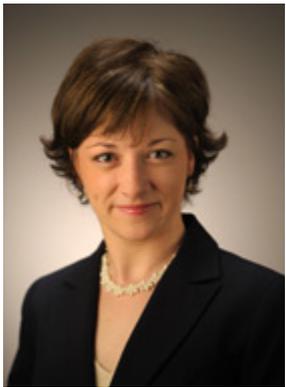
Cloyd



Elm



Fountain



Fureman



Lowenstein



Shinnar



Silbergleit



Treiman



Trinka



Protocol writing and revision



IND approval



NIH grant review



Rationale

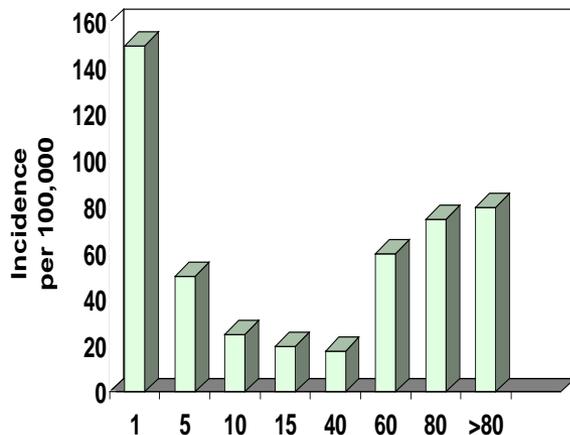
Status Epilepticus: Epidemiology

Status epilepticus: a prolonged self-sustaining seizure or recurrent seizures without recovery of consciousness.

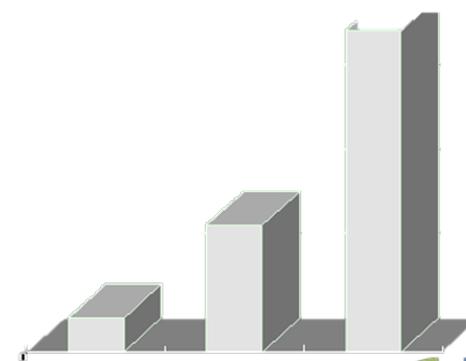
Incidence 41-61/100,000.

Episodes of status epilepticus in US in 2010: 120,000-188,459.

Mortality in patients with status epilepticus to 17%. Mortality correlates with cause & duration of SE.



Mortality



DeLorenzo et al. Neurology 1996
Towne et al. J. Clin. Neurophysiology 1994

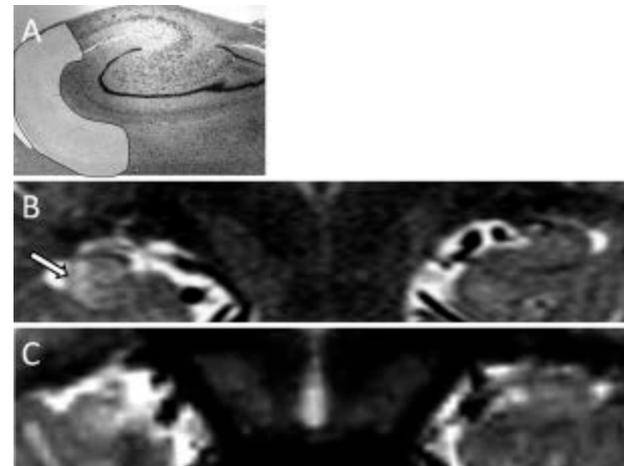
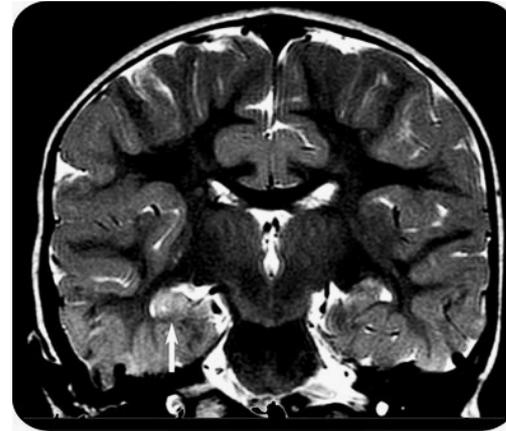


Established
Status
Epilepticus
Treatment
Trial

Effects of Fever Associated Status Epilepticus in Children: FEBSTAT

1) 11% incidence of Hippocampal injury (T2 signal increase) compared to 0% in control (febrile seizures).

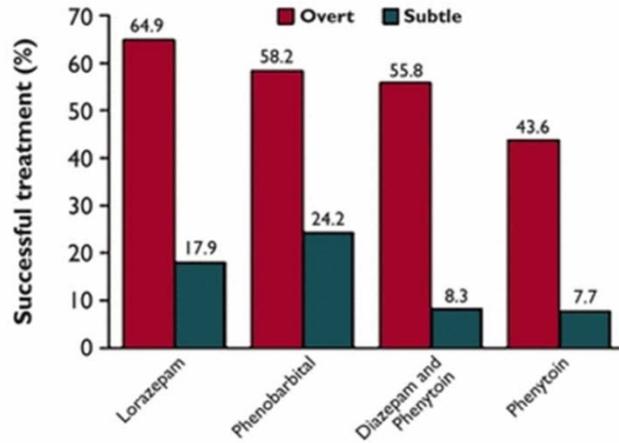
2) Hippocampal T2 hyperintensity after FSE represents acute injury often evolving to a radiological appearance of HS after 1 year.



Shinnar et al. Neurology 2012
Lewis et al. Annals of Neurology 2014

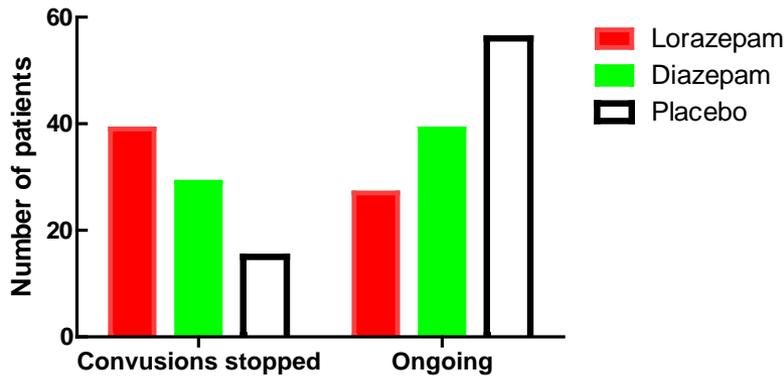
Benzodiazepines: Initial Treatment

Patients with verified diagnoses

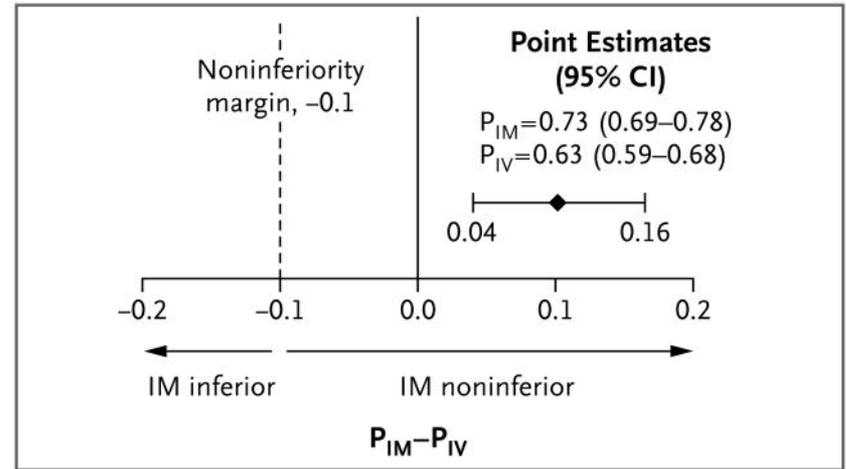


No. of patients	Overt	Subtle
Lorazepam	97	39
Phenobarbital	91	33
Diazepam and Phenytoin	95	36
Phenytoin	101	26

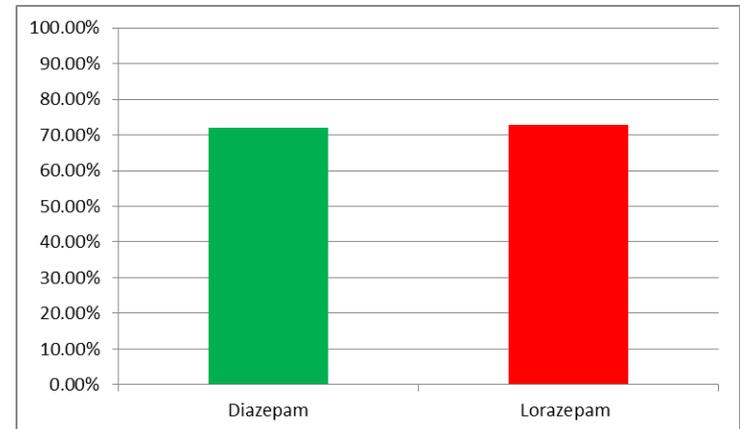
PHTSE



IM midazolam vs IV lorazepam



Lorazepam vs diazepam for pediatric status epilepticus



Need for Trial

- There is no well-controlled prospective clinical trial to guide the treatment of SE in patients who fail benzodiazepines.
- SE not responding to benzodiazepines is called Established Status Epilepticus (ESE).
- Episodes of SE in US in 2010: $41 - 61 / 100,000 \times 309 \text{ million} = 120,000 - 188,459$
- 35-45 % of patients with convulsive SE do not respond to benzodiazepines i.e. 42-72,000 ESE patient.

Therapy of Established SE: Real world choices

Property/AED	Fosphenytoin	Levetiracetam	Valproic Acid
Popularity of use in the US	Most commonly used (60-65%)	Used often (20-30)	Least often
Ease of administration	Slow	Fast	Fast
Speed of action	Slow administration	Enters brain slowly, acts slowly	Yes
Action last long	Yes	Yes	Yes
Efficacious in animal models	Least effective	In combination with diazepam	Very effective
Terminates seizures	Partial seizures	Partial and generalized	Partial and generalized
Safe	Hypotension, cardiac arrhythmia.	safe	Safe for acute use

EFIC

- **Justification:**

- Convulsive status epilepticus is a life threatening disease
- Best available treatment is unproven
- Clinical trials are needed
- Obtaining prospective informed consent is not feasible
 - Subject altered (actively seizing and unconscious)
 - An acute seizing patient cannot be identified prospectively
 - LAR is often not available in the short time frame required. Even when an LAR is available, **meaningful informed consent is impossible to obtain** because of the time constraints and the emotional distress caused by witnessing convulsive SE.
- Subjects may benefit from the research
- Research could not be carried out without EFIC
- Therapeutic window too short

Inclusion Criteria

Inclusion criteria	Measure
Patient witnessed to have a seizure in the past 5-30 minutes.	Time of first seizure is when EMS personnel were called if eyewitness account available or first seizure witnessed by EMS personnel.
Patient received adequate dose of benzodiazepines in the past 5-30 minutes. The doses may be divided. Time is counted from the last dose.	EMS or ED record of treatment: For those > 40 kg--diazepam 10 mg IV or rectal, lorazepam 4 mg, IV, or midazolam 10 mg IM or IV. For those 10-40 Kg adequate doses are: diazepam 0.3 mg/kg IV or rectal, lorazepam 0.1 mg/kg IV or midazolam 0.3 mg/kg IM or 0.2 mg/Kg IV
Continued seizure in the Emergency Department	Clinical observation
Age more than 2 years	Caretakers report the age or clinical observation

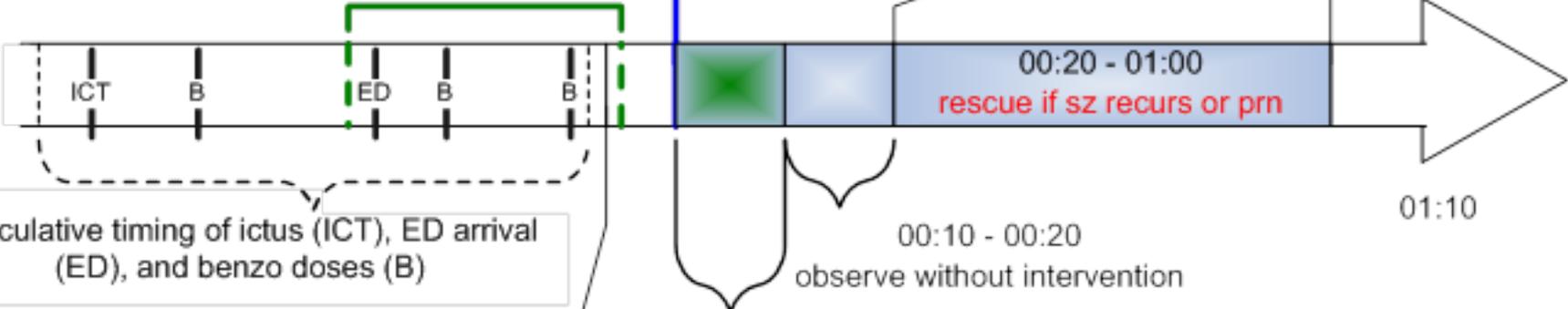
Intervention

Drug	Dose	Comments	Supporting References
FOS	20 mg /kg (PE) with maximum 1500 mg	Viewed as standard dose.	PDR: Package insert
LEV	60 mg/kg with max 4500 mg	Highest approved dose for children, Published reports suggest safety of 4500 mg.	
VPA	40 mg/kg with max 3,000 mg	Doses ranging between 15-45 mg/kg have been reported.	Limdi, et al (2007)



-00:30 to -00:05
cumulative dose of benzodiazepine must be \geq adequate with last dose given > 5 and < 30 min prior to study treatment

00:00 enrollment/randomization
00:20 rescue medication given if ongoing sz
01:00 primary outcome assessment



Speculative timing of ictus (ICT), ED arrival (ED), and benzo doses (B)

If sz's are continuing or recurring clinical team assesses eligibility. Kits are randomized ahead. Clinical team pulls "use next" kit (by age tier) and prepares infusion. Study team is activated.

00:00 - 00:10 study drug infusion

Enrollment and randomization are defined as time of infusion start

00:10 - 00:20 observe without intervention

On arrival study team takes over data collection and initiates efforts to notify and seek consent from LAR

Primary Outcome

Clinical cessation of status epilepticus, determined by the absence of clinically apparent seizures and improving responsiveness, at 60 minutes after the start of study drug infusion, without the use of additional anti-seizure medication.

(*Note if patient is intubated within 60 minutes of enrollment, it is failure to meet primary outcome, because sedatives are used)

Recording Prospective Data: Primary & Back up

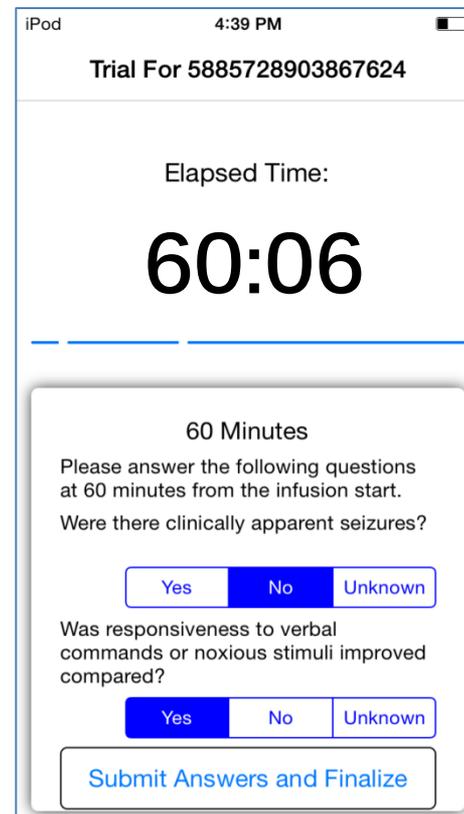
Primary record

Paper record produced by the clinical coordinator

Based on review of the chart, interviews with clinical care team.

However...coordinator could be late, team busy, shifts may change and there is potential for lost data

Back up data recording device



iPod 4:39 PM

Trial For 5885728903867624

Elapsed Time:

60:06

60 Minutes

Please answer the following questions at 60 minutes from the infusion start.

Were there clinically apparent seizures?

Yes No Unknown

Was responsiveness to verbal commands or noxious stimuli improved compared?

Yes No Unknown

[Submit Answers and Finalize](#)

Safety Outcomes at T0 +60

- **Life-threatening hypotension:** Within 1 hour of start of infusion of the study drug, systolic blood pressure remains below specified levels on two consecutive readings at least 10 minutes apart and remains below specified levels for more than 10 minutes despite reduced drug infusion rate or its termination and a fluid challenge.
 - “Specified levels” for systolic blood pressure are 90 mmHg in adults and children older than 13 years old, 80 mmHg in children 7 to 12 years old, and 70 mmHg in children 2 to 6 years of age.
- **Life-threatening cardiac arrhythmia:** Any arrhythmia that occurs within 1 hour of start of infusion of the drug that persists despite reducing rate of drug infusion, or that requires termination with chest compressions, pacing, defibrillation, or use of an anti-arrhythmic agent or procedure.

Secondary Outcomes

- Occurrence of life threatening Hypotension or cardiac arrhythmia,
- Richmond agitation and sedation score at primary outcome determination
- Time to termination of seizures
- Intubation,
- Admission to ICU
- Seizure recurrence
- Length of stay in the ICU and hospital,
- Mortality

STUDY DESIGN

Primary Objective

- To determine the most effective and/or the least effective treatment of benzodiazepine-refractory status epilepticus (SE) among patients older than 2 years.
- Three active treatment arms:
 - fosphenytoin (FOS)
 - levetiracetam (LEV)
 - valproic acid (VPA)

Primary Outcome

Clinical cessation of status epilepticus, determined by the absence of clinically apparent seizures and improving responsiveness, at 60 minutes after the start of study drug infusion, without the use of additional anti-seizure medication.

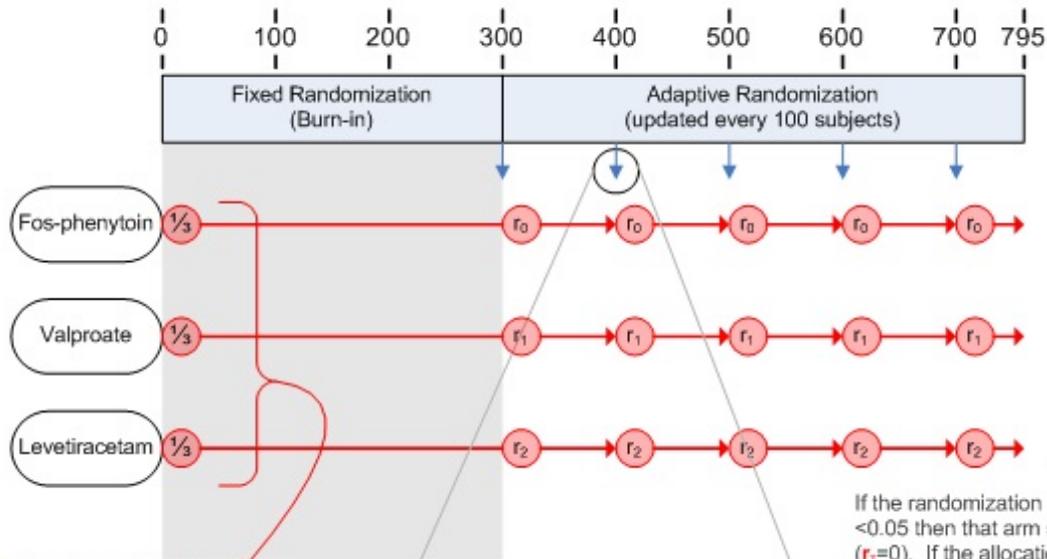
Study Design by Berry Consultants (Jason Connor, PhD)

- Bayesian Adaptive Design (extensive simulation study)
- Maximum sample size is N=795 total.
- Power of 90% when best has 65% response rate (vs 50% other arms)
- Primary endpoint at 60 minutes
- Followed until discharge/30 days
- Randomization will be stratified by three age groups
 - 2 - <18 years
 - 18-65 years
 - 66 years and older

Bayesian Adaptive Design Features

- Adaptively allocate to favor better treatments
- Drop poor performing arms
 - Relative to one another
 - Relative to 25% goal
- Stop early if we know the answer or know we won't know
 - Efficacy stop if treatment clearly better
 - Futility stop if unlikely to ID a 'best' or 'worst'
 - Do not stop if 1 worse and other 2 equally good
 - Futility stopping if all arms bad

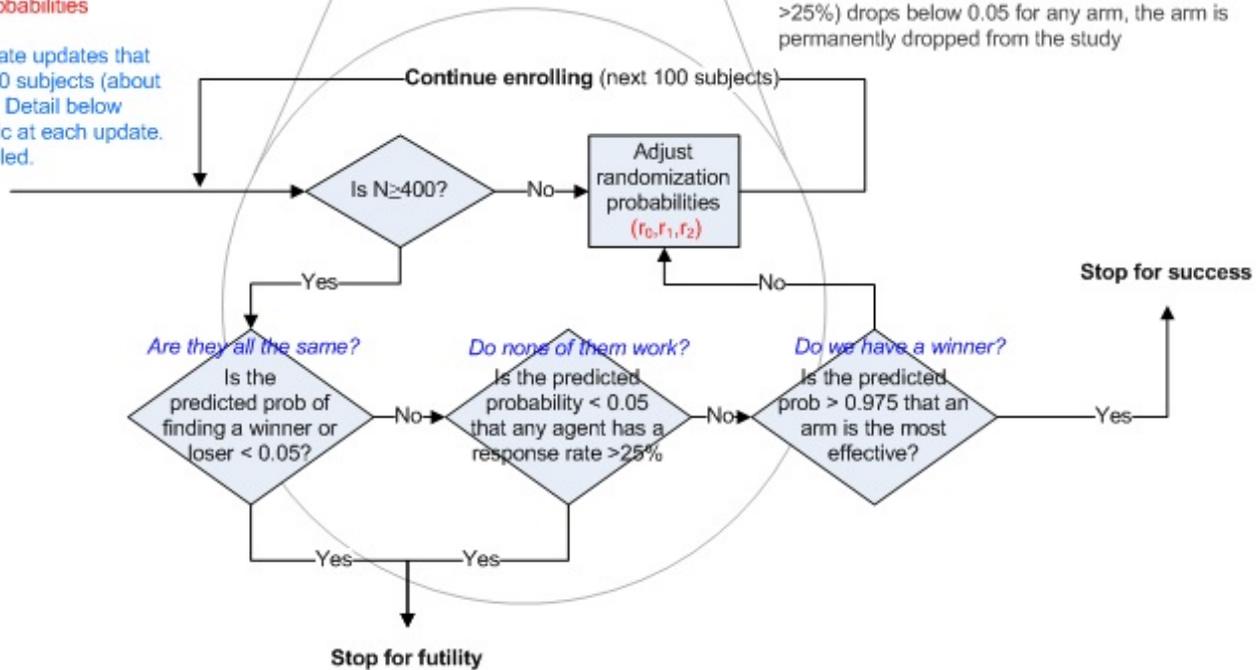
Total No. of Subjects Enrolled



Red circles in columns indicate randomization probabilities

Blue arrows indicate updates that occur at every 100 subjects (about every 6 months). Detail below describes the logic at each update. N = number enrolled.

If the randomization probability r_i for any arm is <0.05 then that arm stops enrollment for that update ($r_i=0$). If the allocation in a subsequent update is >0.05 the arm re-enters. If the $\text{Pr}(\text{response rate} > 25\%)$ drops below 0.05 for any arm, the arm is permanently dropped from the study



Adaptive Allocation

- Randomize N=300 patients equally
 - At N=300 begin adaptive allocation
 - Update allocation probability after every 100 subjects (N = 300, 400, ... , 700)
- Adaptive allocations after every 100 subjects equates to approx. every 6 months given expected accrual
- Adaptively allocate to
 - Favor better performing treatments
 - Favor treatments with greater uncertainty

$$r_t \propto \sqrt{\frac{\text{Pr}(p_t = \max(p))\text{Var}(p_t)}{n_t}}$$

- If allocation probability(r_t) < 5%, suspend accrual
 - Allocation probability increased in remaining arms
- If $\text{Pr}(p_t \geq 0.25) < 0.05$, drop arm

Early Stopping

- Begins after 400 patients
 - Evaluated after every additional 100 patients accrued to coincide with adaptive allocation assessments (i.e. N= 400, 500, 600, 700)
- Early Success Stopping:
 - If arm has 97.5% probability of having highest success rate
 - i.e. $Pr(p_t = \max(p)) \geq 0.975$
- Early Futility Stopping
 - If predicted probability of success (ID 'winner' or 'loser' at the max N=795) < 0.05
 - If all arms have been permanently dropped
 - i.e. $Pr(p_t \geq 0.25) < 0.05$ for all arms

SAMPLE TRIAL

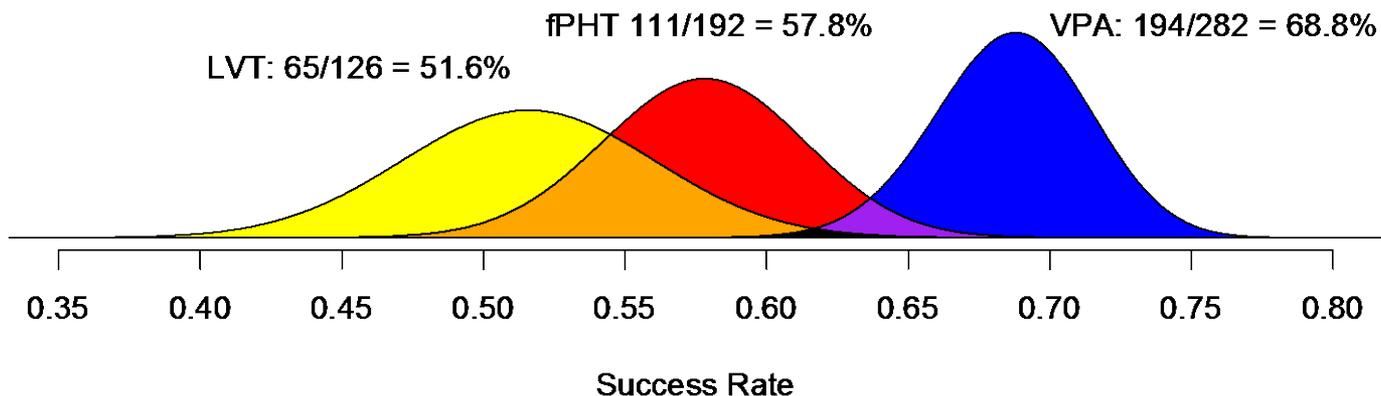
4th Interim Analysis: N = 600 Subjects

Adaptive Allocation AND Early Stopping Allowed

Look	N Enrolled Observed Response Rate			Pr(Max Effective Trt)			Pr(Allocation)			Pred Prob
	LVT	fPHT	VPA	LVT	fPHT	VPA	LVT	fPHT	VPA	
300	51/100 51%	55/100 55%	64/100 64%	0.025	0.092	0.88	0.12	0.22	0.66	0.71
400	57/111 51%	74/126 59%	105/163 64%	0.01	0.16	0.83	0.09	0.34	0.57	0.50
500	62/123 50%	94/164 57%	139/213 65%	0.004	0.056	0.94	0.08	0.23	0.69	0.59
Next 100	3/3 100%	17/28 61%	55/69 80%							
600	65/126 52%	111/192 58%	194/282 69%	0.000 0.87	0.008 0.13	0.992 0.00				

Trial stops early for identifying best treatment

Final Analysis: N = 600 Subjects



Treatment	Observed	%	95% CI	Pr(Best)	Pr(Worst)
LVT	65/126	51.6%	(.429, .601)	0.0005	0.862
fPHT	111/192	57.8%	(.507, .646)	0.007	0.138
VPA	194/282	68.8%	(.632, .739)	0.992	0.0005

Difference	Observed	95% CI	Pairwise Comparison
VPA – fPHT	0.110	(0.022, 0.197)	Pr(VPA>fPHT) = 0.993
VPA – LVT	0.172	(0.069, 0.272)	Pr(VPA>LVT) > 0.999
fPHT - LVT	0.062	(-0.049, 0.172)	Pr(fPHT>LVT) = 0.862

ORGANIZATION AND CULTURE

Why

How

What



Simon Sinek
Start with Why

http://www.ted.com/talks/simon_sinek

Make
people
better

Designed Well

Diligence & Passion

Research On Research

Make people better

Quality Innovation Transparency

Patient-oriented Outcomes

Design

Passion

Research
On
Research

Make
people
better

Quality

Patient-oriented
Outcomes

SHINE

ALIAS

RAMPART

ProTECT

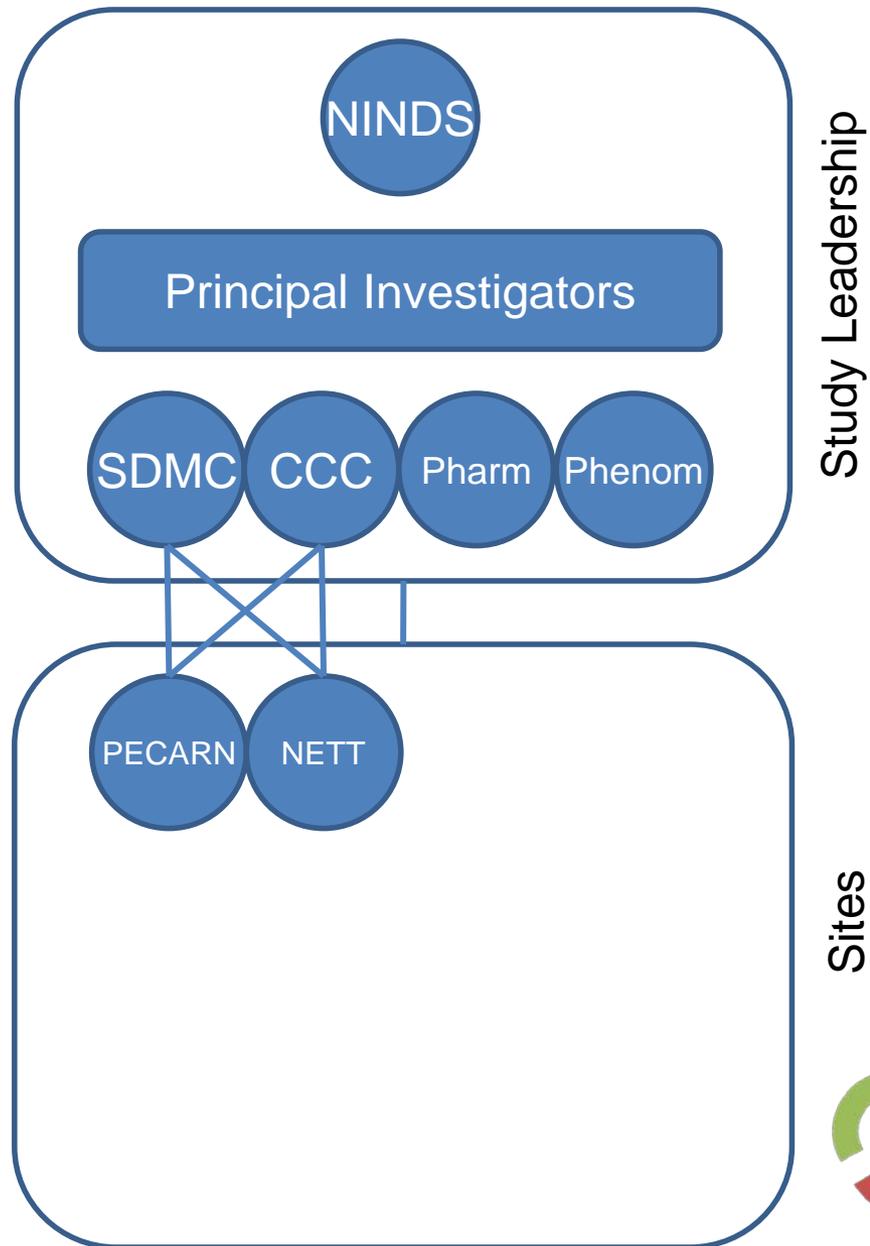
POINT

ATACH

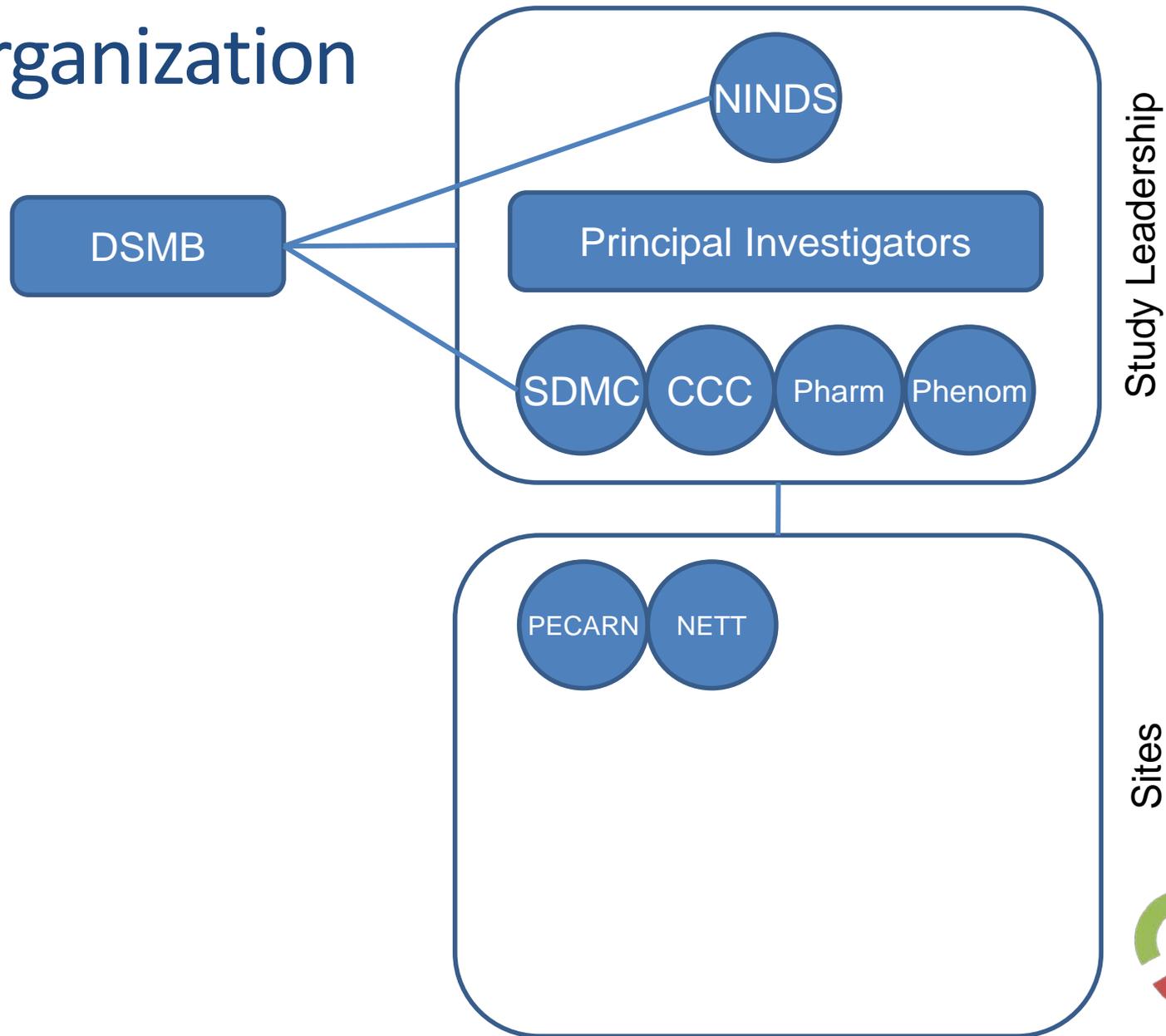
ESETT



Organization



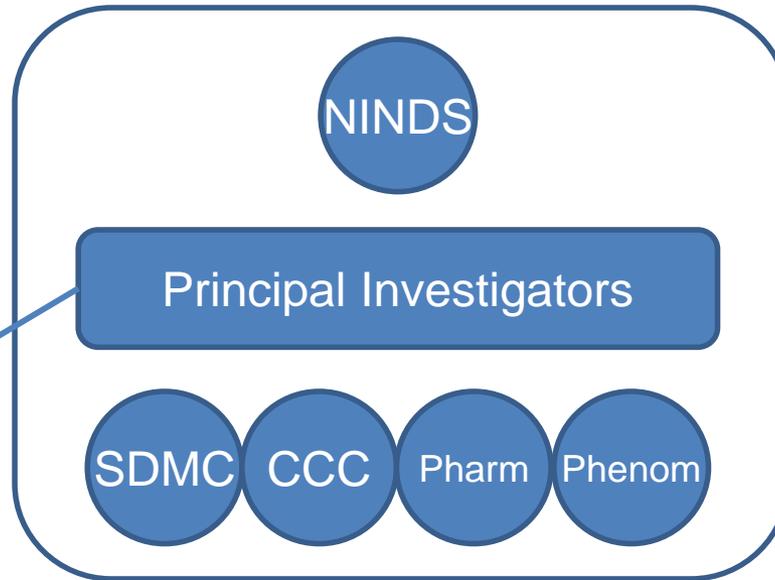
Organization



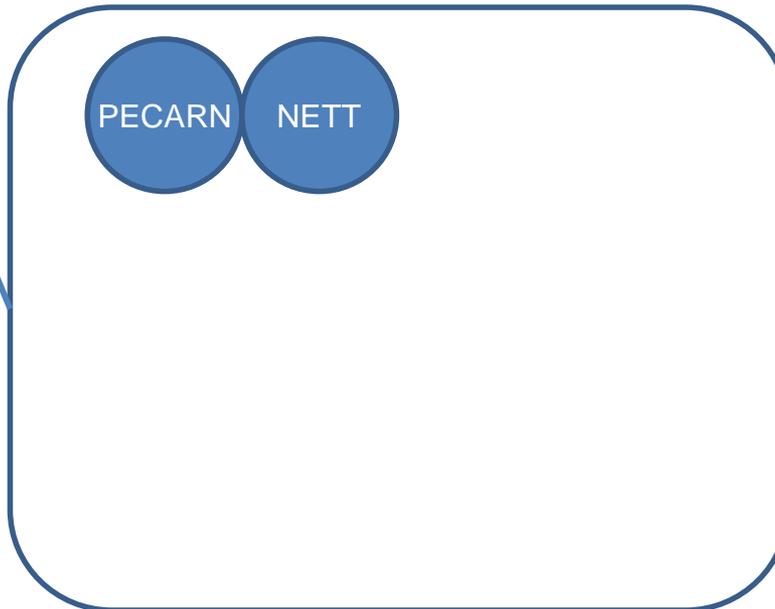
Organization

DSMB

FDA



Study Leadership



Sites

Can't tell the players without a program...

- NINDS Brandy Fureman, Robin Conwit, Scott Janis
- Prime (U Virginia) Jaideep Kapur, Amy Fansler, Emily Gray
- CCC (Michigan) Robert Silbergleit, Valerie Stevenson, Erin Bengelink, Arthi Ramakrishnan, Deneil Harney, Joy Black
- SDMC (S Carolina) Jordan Elm, Caitlin Ellerbe, Catherine Dillon, Cassidy Conner, Kristina Hill
- PECARN Jim Chamberlain, Kate Shreve
- Pharm (Minnesota) Jim Cloyd, Lisa Coles
- Phenomenology Dan Lowenstein, Shlomo Shinnar



Prime – University of Virginia

- Overall Grant Management
- Organize and Direct Leadership
- FDA and IND Sponsorship
- Publications



CCC

- Management of protocol and MoP
- Site Monitoring
- Internal safety review
- EFIC oversight
- Regulatory management
- Adjudication core support
- Protocol assist device data collection



SDMC



- Biostatistical support and study design
- Randomization programming (RAR)
- Data management and validation
- CTMS WebDCU (data, regulatory, site management, invoicing, drug tracking)
- DSMB Report generation
- Publication support



Pharmacology Core

- Pharmacology core oversees acquisition, manufacturing and testing of drugs.
- Assist with preparing and maintaining IND
- Manufacturing facility: UC Davis GMP facility
- Testing UC Davis facility and Analytical Research Laboratories, Oklahoma
- Pharmacology core team members:
 - Minnesota - Jim Cloyd, Lisa Coles
 - UC Davis – Gerhard Bauer, Brian Fury
 - ARL – Jessica Munson



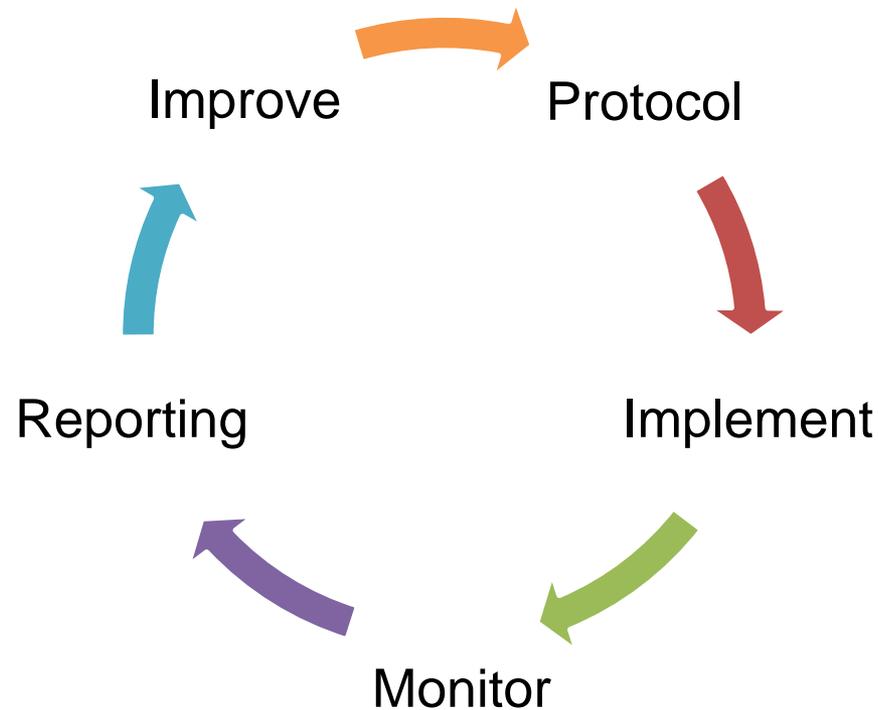
Phenomenology Core

- The Core will monitor the consistency of primary outcomes determined locally.
- Adjudicate secondary outcomes.
- Adjudication Core Members – Dan Lowenstein, Shlomo Shinnar, Hannah Cock, Nathan Fountain

ESETT		-----		
			Subject ID	
Form 14: Clinical Adjudication Core Form				Page 1 of 4
Q01	Were there clinically apparent seizures at 60 minutes after the start of the study drug infusion?		<input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Unknown	
Q02	Was responsiveness to verbal commands or noxious stimuli improved at 60 minutes after the start of study drug infusion compared to responsiveness at the time the study drug infusion began?		<input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Unknown	
Q03	Aside from the study drug, were any other anti-seizure medications administered within 60 minutes after the study drug infusion began?		<input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Unknown	
Q04	If Q01 = 'Yes'	Ongoing type of seizure activity:	<input type="radio"/> Generalized motor <input type="radio"/> Focal motor <input type="radio"/> Subtle status <input type="radio"/> Other Specify: _____	
Q05	Able to determine an estimated total time in status before study drug initiation?		<input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes	
Q06	If Q5 = 'Yes'	Estimated total time in status before study drug initiation:	_____ (min)	
Q07	Did the subject stop seizing within 60 minutes of study drug initiation?		<input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Unable to determine	
Q08	If Q7 = 'Yes'	Date/time of cessation of seizure activity:	_____ / _____ : ____ AM ____ PM <small>dd-mm-yyyy hh.mm</small>	
Q09	If Q7 = 'Yes'	Was there a recurrence of seizure activity within 60 minutes of study drug initiation?	<input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Unable to determine	
Q10	If Q9 = 'Yes'	Date/time of recurrence of seizure activity:	_____ / _____ : ____ AM ____ PM <small>dd-mm-yyyy hh.mm</small>	
General Comments:				
Name of person who collected data: If this worksheet is a source document, sign/date here:				
<small>Data Coordination Unit Medical University of South Carolina</small>				
				Page 1

Quality

- Quality by Design
- Focused efforts on “errors that matter”



Monitoring

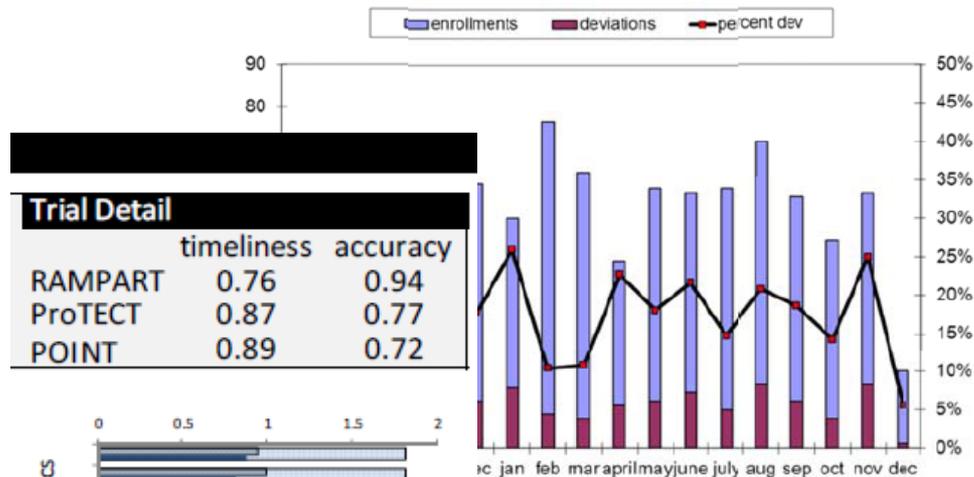
- Central Data Monitoring
- Source Document Verification (Site and Remote)
- Risk-based Allocation
- Site Monitoring



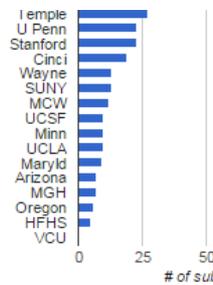
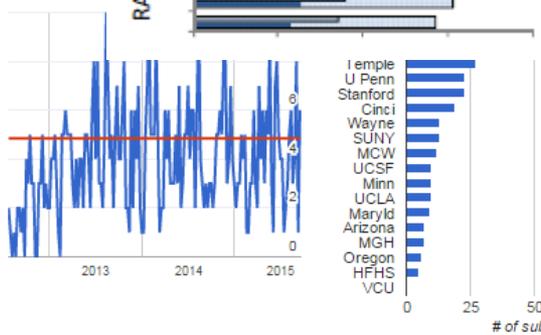
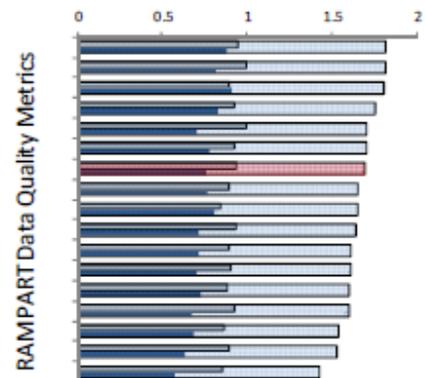
Performance

- Enrollment
- Deviations
- Timeliness
- Compliance

Protocol Deviation Tracking in RAMPART



Trial Detail		
	timeliness	accuracy
RAMPART	0.76	0.94
ProTECT	0.87	0.77
POINT	0.89	0.72



Enrollment Dashboard | NETT - Google Chrome

https://nett.umich.edu/nett-resources/dashboard

SHINE

SHINE Gauge: 670

Line Chart: Enrollment trend from 2014 to 2016.



Culture

- Electronic platforms
- Transparency
- Research on Research
- Ancillary studies

ESETT 2 Year Timeline

