



## PCMG October Workshop

29 October 2020

# Today's Topics

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- Defining decentralized trials
- When to use a decentralized approach
- Example of how to use
- Decentralized Ecosystem – technology and patient support
- Contracting and other considerations

# Decentralized Clinical Trial - Defined



## Traditional

All patient visits are on-site



## Hybrid

Mix of traditional on-site patient visits and remote visits conducted by home health and telemedicine



## Fully Decentralized

No physical on-site patient visits, all remote visits conducted via telemedicine and/or phone

### Patient visits on-site

Collection of data by investigator and site staff

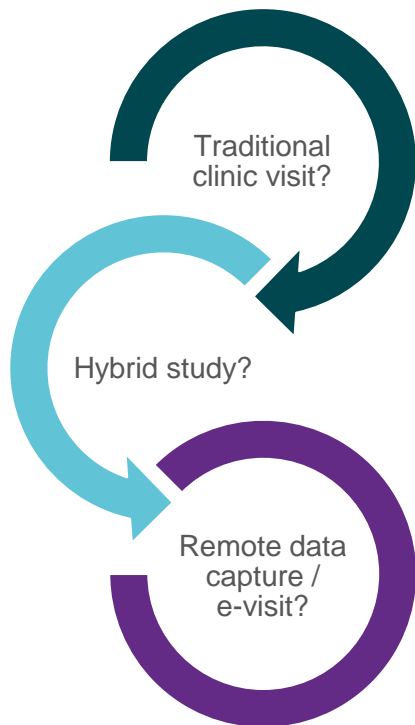
### Direct to Patient

Collection of data directly from patients by wearables, sensors, diaries and/or Direct to Patient Contact (DPC) solutions

Hybrid trials can be implemented across all phases of studies and most indications

# Evaluating when to deploy a decentralized approach

## *Important to assess feasibility of conducting a decentralised study visit*



### – **Therapeutic area/endpoint types**

- Endpoints conducive to being measured, or confirmed, remotely. For example:
  - Digital endpoints (wearable, ePRO, etc.)
  - Readily recorded endpoints (hospitalization, pregnancy, death, etc.)
  - Can record/observe via telemedicine (rash, fever, etc.)
  - Can collect via home-health visit or similar (blood pressure, blood draw, etc.)

### – **Study design**

- Non or low - interventional studies are often well-suited for decentralised approach, depending on endpoints to be collected

### – **Study drug**

- Easy to administer (especially if self-administered)
- No special storage requirements/not a controlled substance (etc.)
- Well-characterized safety profile

### – **Subjects and follow up**

- Patients with hindered mobility
- Rare disease studies, where patients are scarce and geographically remote
- Long-term studies requiring extended follow-up (e.g., 12 months post-hospitalization for recurrence of cardiovascular endpoint such as ACS, 5-year incidence of pregnancy for LARC, etc.)

### – **Regulatory considerations**

- Study conducted in country/region where telemedicine is allowed and used, eConsent is allowed, etc.

Remote or decentralised approaches are especially well-suited for non or low interventional studies

Hybrid studies (combination of traditional clinic visits and remote visits) can be implemented in almost all types of studies

# What Do Patients Think About Decentralized Trials?

Web Based Survey to the ICON Global Site Network (US and EMEA)  
Over 4,000 Respondents in ~2 Weeks

## Clinical trial experience

Had participated Had not participated

**43%** **57%**

**Varied Therapeutic Areas**

Highest percentages  
in **Vaccines, Cardiovascular,  
Rheumatology, Pulmonology**



**Where** would you  
prefer study **visits**  
to take place?

Majority indicated  
**hybrid** or **no**  
**preference** in location



Hybrid



No preference

Would you consider  
**participation** in clinical trials  
where all **visits** were conducted  
**virtually via video calls?**

**57% Yes**



**Where** would you prefer  
**clinical trial tests**  
to be taken? (Blood  
samples, vitals signs)

Majority indicated hybrid  
or no preference



Do you prefer  
**in-person** interaction  
with site staff  
during visits even  
if **more travel** and  
**inconvenience?**



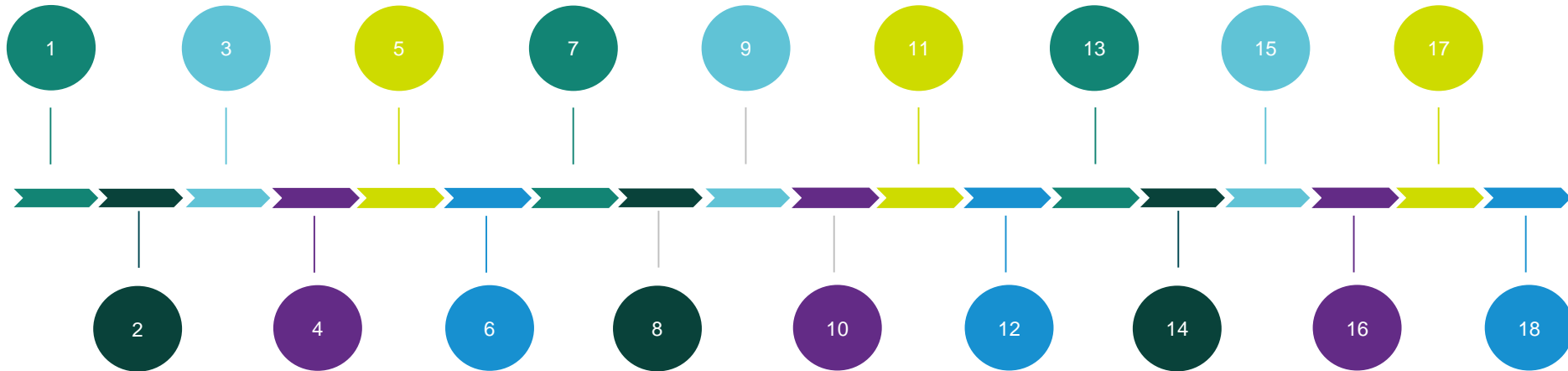
Even split

**Patient diaries** preference –  
**technology, paper**  
or no preference?



# Lupus Nephritis – Traditional On-Site Model

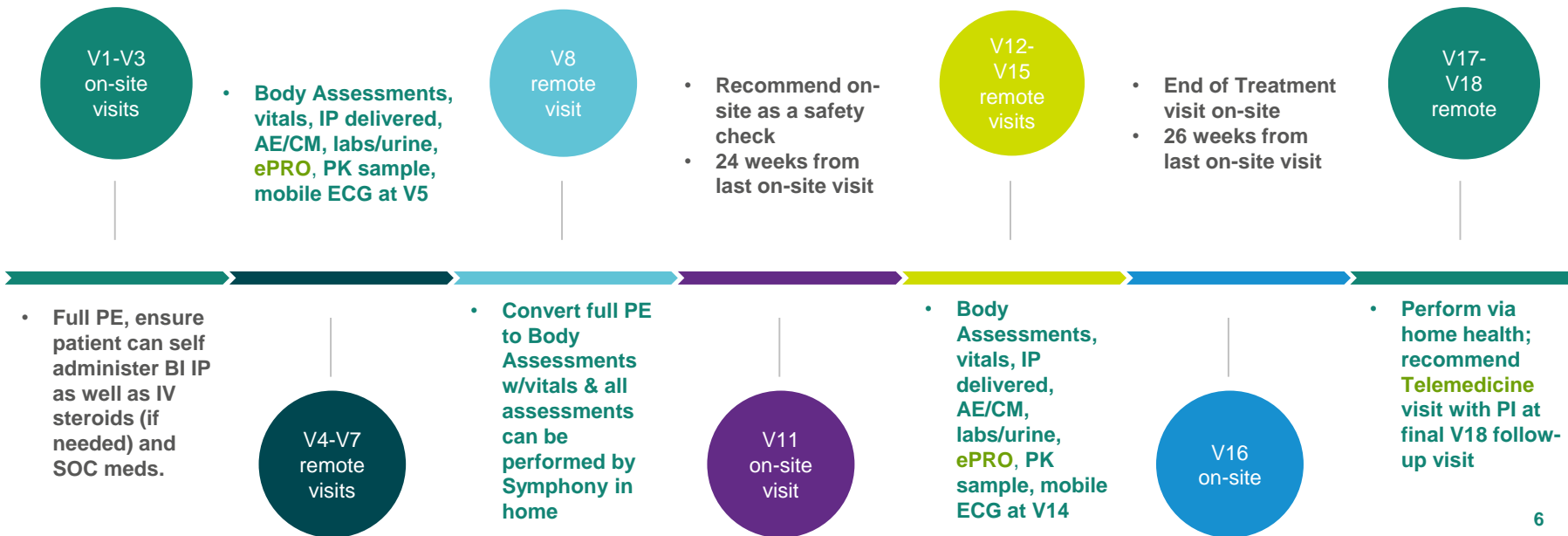
- 22 countries, likely informed based on location of local affiliates
  - 120 randomized patients
  - ~5 patients per site if 1 site/country
  - Study includes a minimum of 18 on-site visits
- Assessments include PE, IP, vitals, AE/CM, labs/urine, ePRO, PK sample, ECG and optional renal biopsy
  - 52 weeks of treatment
  - 8 weeks of follow-up



# Lupus Nephritis – Hybrid Model

- Digital recruitment strategy by ICON = Recruit Patients Faster
  - Supported via NORA
- ICONs PMG, Medinova & Healthcare Alliance PIs for rapid = Reduced Timelines
- Symphony to conduct remote visits = Increased Patient Satisfaction & Retention
  - Supported via NORA

- ePROs supported by NORA – programmed to be administered in order per protocol & prior to drug dosing to ensure compliance = Reduced Patient & Site Burden
- NORA to send reminders to patients for drug dosing, tapering of SOC, questionnaire completion = Increased Compliance & Retention
- ICON Direct to Patient Contact (DPC) follows up on reminders w/patient = Increased Compliance and Retention



# Patient Insights – *When, what for and how?*

- We strongly believe that ***anytime is the right time*** for insights work.
- Engaging directly with patients, care-partners and other key voices in the patient's journey, you will be able to leverage findings across the continuum of drug development
- Important to identify the business need driving the need for insights?



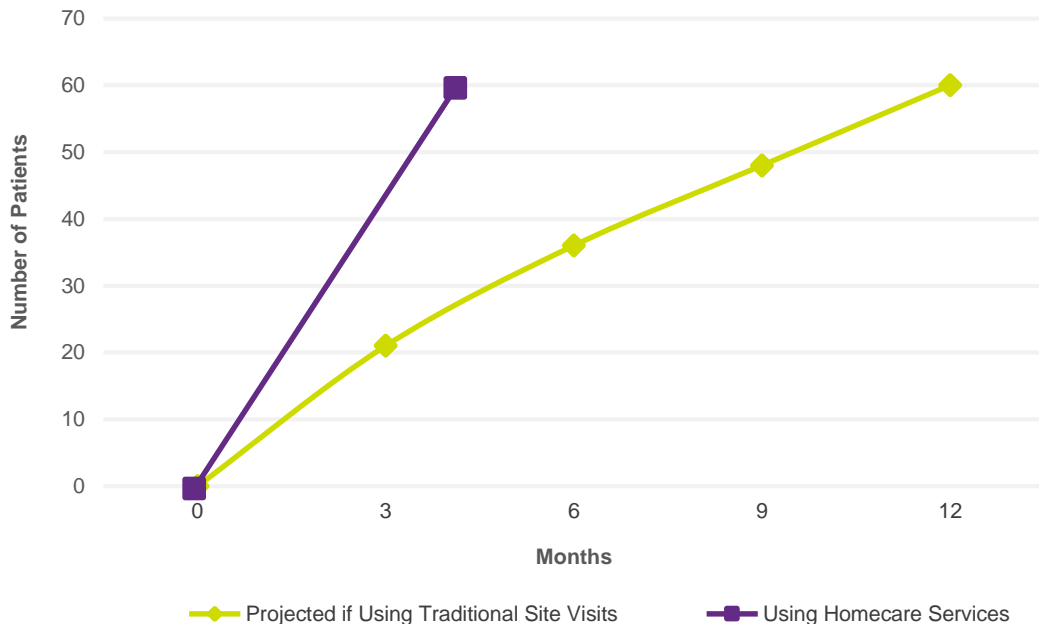
## METHODOLOGIES





# Case Study In-Home Services - Accelerated Patient Recruitment

## Increased Enrollment: Actual enrollment using homecare services vs. projected enrollment timelines



**8 MONTHS SAVED**  
in expected enrollment time



Study start delayed by 11 months,  
but **COMPLETED  
ENROLLMENT AHEAD OF  
SCHEDULE**



**100% OF PATIENTS**  
enrolled within 4 months



Services available  
**WEEKENDS AND  
EVENINGS**

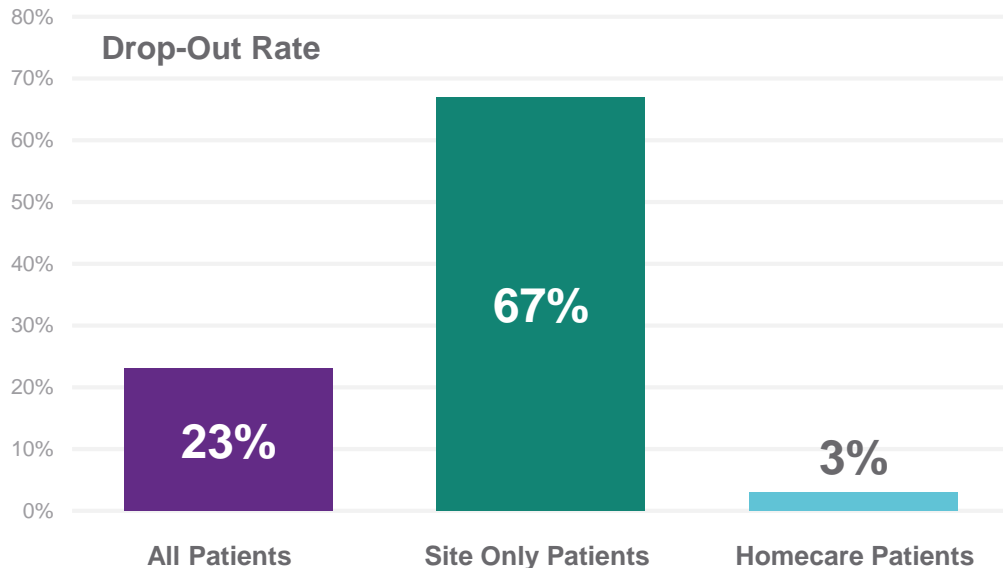


Services available for  
**RETESTS AND  
TRAVELING PATIENTS**

# Case Study In-Home Services – Enhanced Retention

## Use of in-home clinical services vs. traditional site visits

N=529 Patients, 363 (69%) Used Homecare Services



## Dramatic improvements recognized:



Subject  
**RETENTION  
INCREASED**



**ONLY 3%**  
of homecare patients  
dropped out



**OVER 500 PATIENTS**  
enrolled

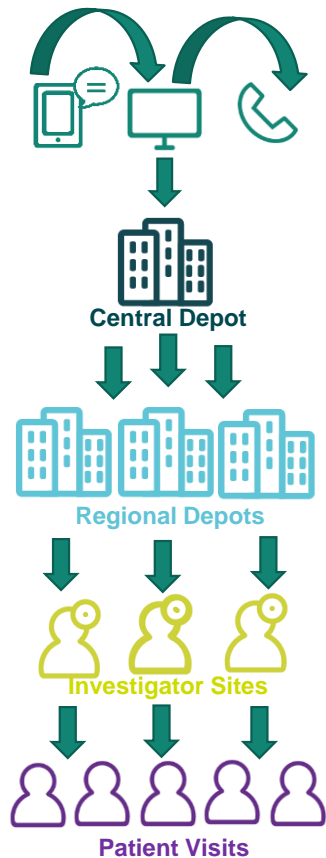


**INCREASED  
COMPLIANCE**  
with blood draws

# Kit & Supply Distribution

*Direct to Patient distribution methods to ensure no interruptions, protect patient safety & comfort*

## Traditional Distribution Process



### Direct To Patient Distribution

- Investigator site to patient
- Regional depot to patient
- Central depot to patient

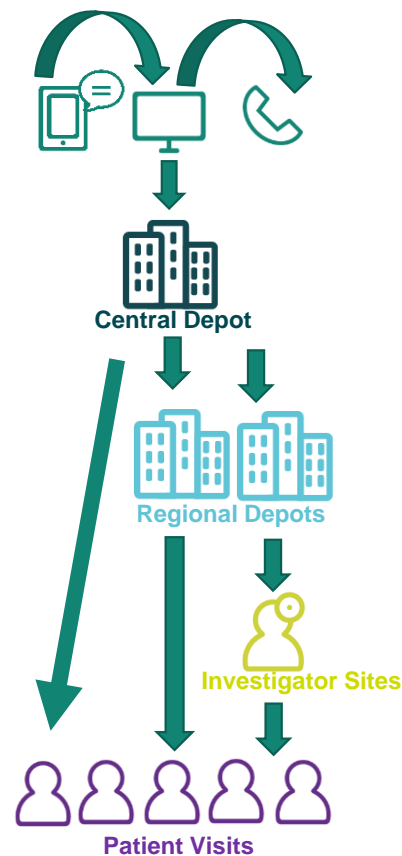
Supply chain effects - reduction of stock Levels

Drug supply distribution plan - set-up to accommodate different distribution options

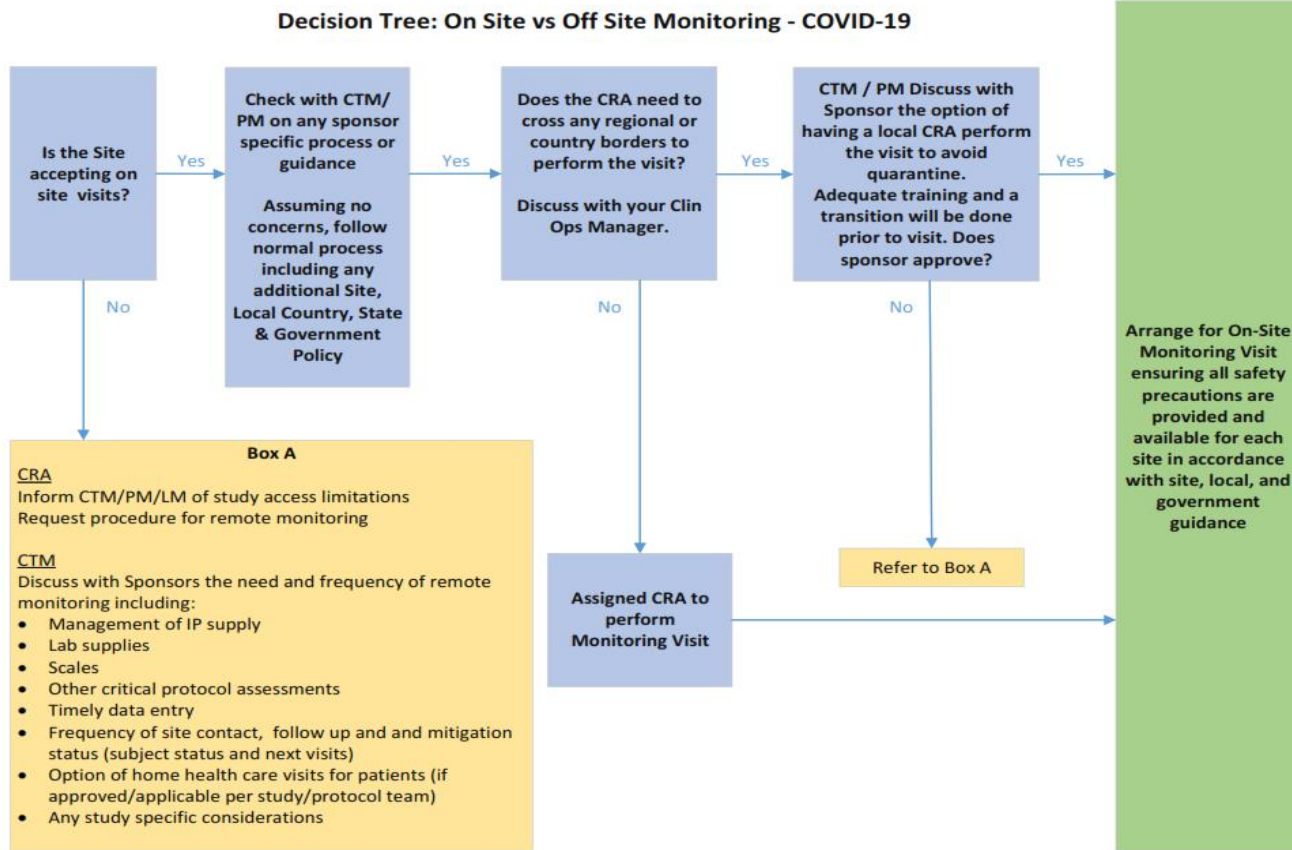
Patient supplies - will IP be stored at the patients home and any special requirements

Integrations between IRT and drug distribution vendors is key

## DTP Distribution Process

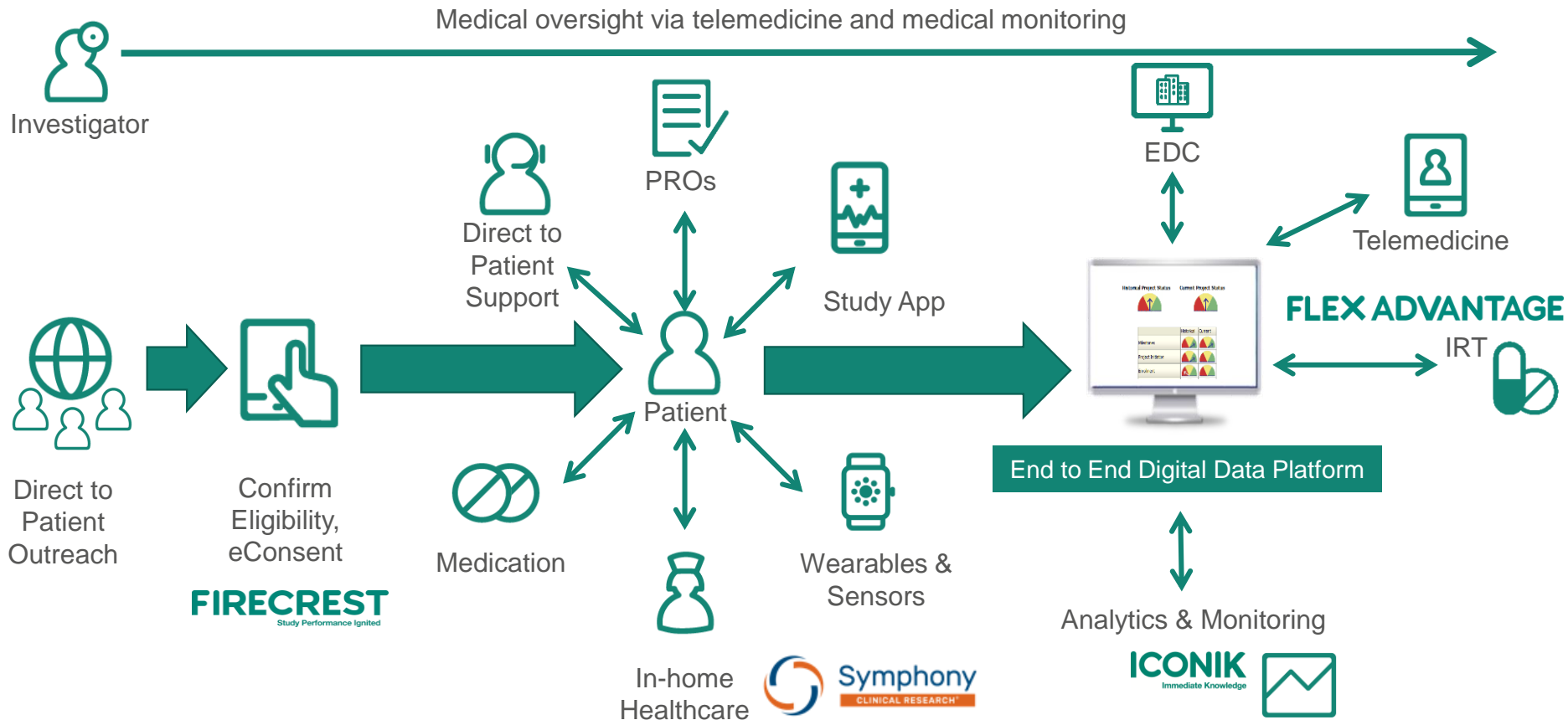


# ICON Decision Tree to Optimize Site Monitoring



# Decentralized and Hybrid Study Ecosystem

*Leverage end to end digital platform to integrate systems, reduce data entry, provide real-time data access, patient engagement, monitoring & decision making to promote resiliency*



# Contracting / Budgeting

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- Technology Contract/License Model
  - License options = Perpetual, SaaS, term or consumption based
  - Contract models = Enterprise (ELA), Pay as you go (PAYG), etc
- Monitoring and negotiation on project management (PM) and support fees
  - Reduced PM fee's year on year throughout life of project
  - Ensure PM & Support fees are consistent with the project requirements
- Discounts
  - Multiyear deals
  - Partnering to help develop new technologies
  - Prepay maintenance and support (long term)
- Equipment rental & purchase options analysis
  - Reclamation and disposition of equipment at study end.
- Focus on termination notice requirements (No auto - renews)

# Compliance Management

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- GxP Assessment
  - Will the technology or software be used to create, modify, maintain, archive, retrieve, sign/approve, or transmit records required by a health authority?
  - Will the technology or software be used to implement or enable quality management practices required by a health authority?
  - Will the technology or software be used in production or distribution of products regulated by a health authority?
  - Will the technology or software be used as a medical device or a component, part or accessory of a medical device, per health authority definitions of medical devices?

# Compliance Management

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## – 21 CFR Part 11 Compliance

- Does the application or system permanently store data that is utilized for any regulated activity?
- Is the date required to be maintained under predicate rule requirements and is it maintained within the system in electronic format in place of paper format?
- Is the data required to be maintained in electronic format in addition to paper format, and is the electronic format data relied on to perform regulated activities?
- Is any of the data stored within the application or system submitted to regulatory agencies (even if such records are not specifically identified in the regulations)?
- Does the application or system employ electronic signature capabilities to provide the sole record of the signature on a document subject to review by a regulatory agency?



# Clinical Trial Changes Relating to COVID-19

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- **Over 60 countries have issued COVID-19 related Guidance impacting the conduct of clinical trials (current or future)**
  - Many of the larger CA have issued multiple COVID-19 related Guidance.
  - For instance, FDA has issued 52 COVID-19 specific Guidance. MHRA and EMA have similarly issued multiple Guidance in response to COVID-19.
- **These Guidance will ‘sunset’ with the expiration of the “Public Health Emergency”**
  - No information has been published by FDA, MHRA or EMA, outlining a timeline for reversion to normal operations. EMA has acknowledged the concern, but has issued no Guidance to specify what processes or timelines should be followed

# FDA Guidance (summary)

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## Summary of the major recommendations follows:

- Multiple reference is made to proactively work with the site, investigators, EC/IRB and FDA regarding protocol changes
- Immediate changes to study procedures without EC/IRB or FDA consultation is allowed ‘to minimize or eliminate immediate hazards or protect the life and well-being of research participants’
  - ‘immediate hazards’ and ‘protect the life’ are very high standards to meet and document
- Documentation of reasons for contingency measures taken and impact assessment should be generated and maintained for future inspection
- Existing regulatory requirements for maintaining investigational product accountability remain intact and should be addressed and documented when utilising alternative distribution procedures
- Sponsors are directed as part of a future CSR to include analysis and reporting of the possible impact of COVID19 on the scientific integrity of the study
- **Remote or alternate treatment of patients is possible but requires risk assessment and documentation in study records**
  - **Specialized staff training, Pt acceptance and privacy, changed schedules, alternate methods of assessment, etc., should be considered**

## Regulatory Acceptance of Novel Approaches for the future?

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“...the FDA’s recent guidance allowing researchers to make more modifications to study practices is a hopeful sign that regulators may be gaining more confidence in novel approaches. We may see a new normal once we put this pandemic behind us and move beyond very partitioned pilot activities to see broader use of different approaches.”

Ken Getz, Deputy Director & Research Professor

Tufts University Center for the Study of Drug Development CenterWatch  
Monthly, May 2020

# Innovations to Evolve Trials & Drive Predictable Delivery

*What do Sponsor, Investigators and Patients need?*



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