

Press Releases



Philadelphia, October 2nd, 2008

"Developing and Managing Clinical Trials in Europe", Aresa seminar coordinated by IDIS US

On September 17th, Princeton University's Bowen Hall hosted "Developing and Managing Clinical Trials in Europe," The seminar was organized by Aresa, the umbrella organization clustering over one hundred life sciences companies in the Walloon Region of Belgium – and supported by the AWEX, Wallonia Governmental Trade & Investment and coordinated by IDIS US.

About thirty representatives from a wide range of life sciences firms were present, including pharmaceutical, biotech companies, clinical research organization and consulting companies. Among those in attendance was Bio NJ, a long-time supporter of growth and enhancement for the industry. Attendees were able to arrange one-on-one meetings with the speakers, adding a personal touch to the event.

The seminar provided a "one stop shop" access to an expert network of clinical trials service providers and allowed for the discovery of new opportunities and ways of overcoming challenges outsourcing clinical developments to European service providers, especially in Belgium where legal, economic and geographic environments are particularly favorable.

Moderated by Eileen Hilton, CEO of the Biomedical Research Alliance of New York (BRANY) and Gerrit Dispersyn, VP of Product Development and Portfolio Management of Barrier Therapeutics, the speakers and audience engaged in panel discussions about the hot topic. Questions about drug safety and efficacy were discussed, along with the processes involved with the scientific writing and marketing of products.

The seminar featured the B&C Group, WaRDeR, Aepodia, EPMC Pharma, ResearchLink, Labima, and 4Clinics, seven prominent firms from the Aresa cluster.

The B&C Group is a contract manufacturing and logistics company dedicated to global (pre)clinical research, and was represented by CEO Philippe Van der Hofstadt Vice President of The Belgian Association of Industrial Pharmacists and Secretary of the European Industrial Pharmacist Group.

WaRDeR is focused on all study phases of clinical research, from preclinical to Phase IV trials and offers personalized services in Bioinformatics, Data management, Monitoring, Transport and Logistics, Investigator's network, Regulatory affairs (FDA, EMEA) and state-of-the-art laboratory analysis. Isabelle Coupienne, a consultant for WaRDeR, spoke on behalf of the company.

Aepodia specializes in Early Phase Clinical Development and offers its scientific and operational expertise in developing early clinical plans and biomarker strategy, as well as in executing phase I and proof-of-concept studies. Speaker Sabine Glibert is the Operations & Quality Manager for Aepodia and Dominique Demolle, Director.

EPMC Pharma offers expertise in European Medical, Pharmaceutical and Regulatory Affairs, and was represented by Jean-Pierre Osselaere, Managing Director.

ResearchLink is a Clinical Trial Network dedicated to helping the success of clinical trials for the pharmaceutical industry. ResearchLink's speaker was Stephane Heijmans, CEO of the company.

Labima proposes any of the phases I up to IV GMP services related to clinical trials and also GMP services related to registered products. Speaker Paul Adrien Slegers is the Business Development Manager for Labima.

4Clinics focuses on Clinical Data Management, Biostatistics, Scientific writing, Regulatory Affairs and Pharmacovigilance, and was represented by Anne Hepburn, Director of Scientific Writing and Regulatory Affairs Services and Jean Fernandez, Director of 4Clinics.

Aresa is the Wallonian non-profit organization which is the official cluster of clinical research organizations in Wallonia. More information can be found at <http://www.aresa.be/>.

AWEX, the Walloon Export and Foreign Investment Agency, is the body of the Walloon Region of Belgium in charge of promoting foreign trade and attracting foreign investment. More information can be found at <http://www.awex.be/awex/FR/>.

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