



# Using Remote Sampling in Clinical Trials – Overcoming the Hurdles to Implementation

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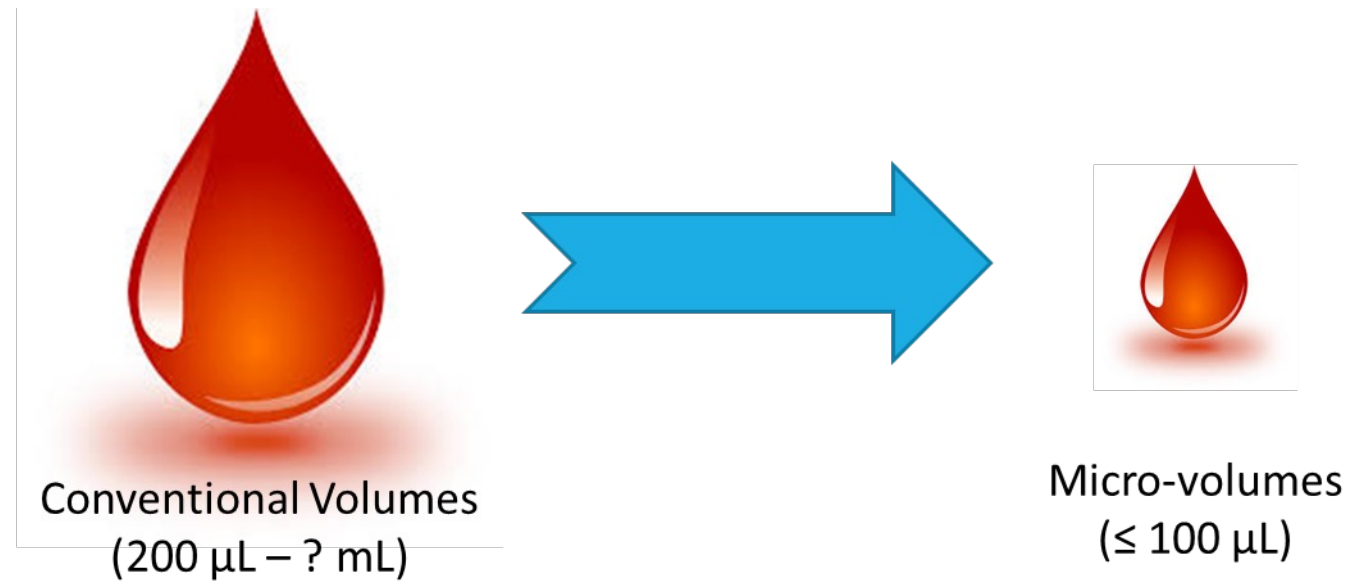
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Founder –   
**SPOONER**  
BIOANALYTICAL SOLUTIONS

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# What is Patient Centric Sampling?

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It is **NOT** simply about collecting smaller blood volumes



.....it **IS** about moving beyond conventional blood sampling and putting the patient at the center of the process

# It is about collecting.....

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...the appropriate sample...

...using a process that is most convenient for the patient...

...that provides high quality information...

...to make high quality decisions

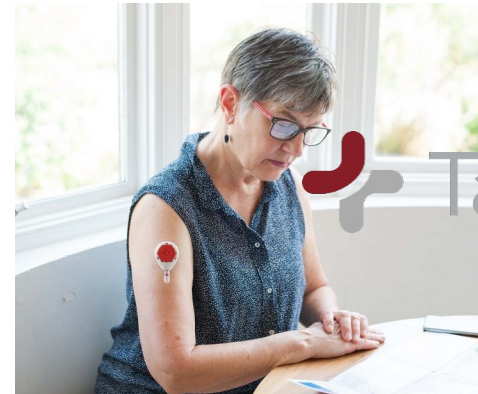
This may be blood sample volumes of 10  $\mu\text{L}$ ,  
or it may be 250  $\mu\text{L}$



# A number of novel approaches are now commercially available



Including.....





# Benefits of Patient Centric Blood Sampling



Quality	Obtaining a high quality blood / plasma / serum sample for accurate quantitative determination of drugs, drug metabolites & endogenous molecules
Patient	<p>Minimising the impact on the human patient / consumer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Optimising blood volume sampled</li><li>• Minimising pain and invasiveness</li><li>• Facilitating convenience</li></ul>
Enriched Data	Generating high quality concentration data in situations that are currently difficult, or impossible to work with

# Where might PCS be of benefit?

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Reduce patient burden, particularly for vulnerable populations, e.g.

- Pediatrics, elderly, oncology, anemia
- Rural locations
- Etc....

Additional data for PK and biomarkers

- Improved PopPK modelling
- Improved understanding of disease

Data during a clinical event, e.g.

- Migraine, asthma, AE's, etc

Potential for improvement in clinical trial patient recruitment & retention

- Shorten clinical trial timelines
- Improve diversity

Understanding patient compliance



# But it's not all plain sailing.....

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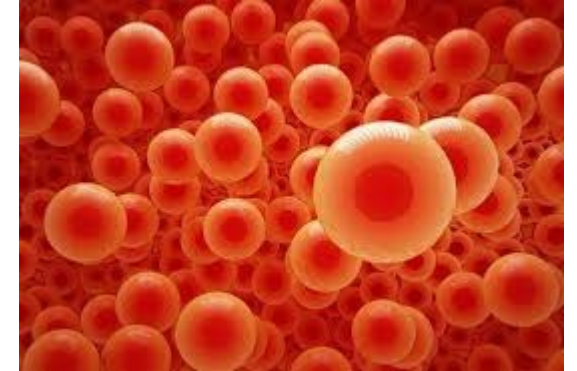


# What are the Challenges? Bioanalytical



## Additional method development & validation requirements

- Effect of blood hematocrit on analyte recovery
- Stability
  - Has to mirror conditions experienced by the samples during transit and storage
  - Increased temperature, low temperature, humidity
- Presence of anticoagulant
- How to perform sample dilutions
- Lot-to-lot variability of sample collection device
- Different devices for different study designs



Bioanalytical lab workflows & automation

Creation of calibrants & QC samples

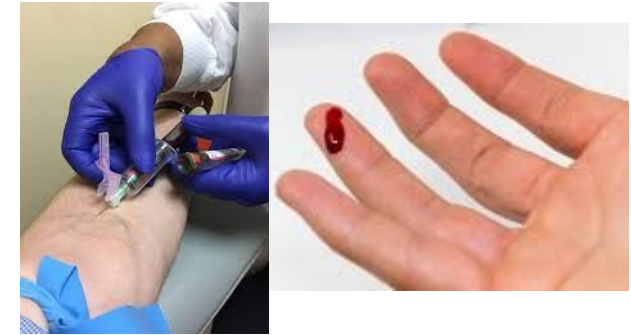
Supported by preferred CROs

# What are the Challenges? Pharmacokinetic



The samples obtained from these technologies could be

- Whole blood vs plasma vs serum
- Wet vs dry
- Capillary vs venous



The concentrations of an analyte of interest may be different

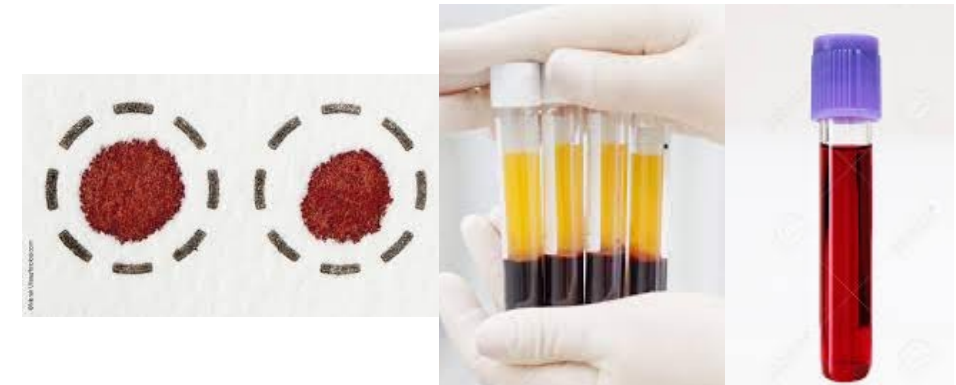
- Comparison to existing non-clinical and clinical data

Requirement to assess in vitro blood / plasma

Requirement to perform clinical bridging studies

Obtaining accurate times for dosing & sampling

May require complex modelling



# What are the Challenges? Logistics & Operations



Potential compromise of patient confidentiality

Confirmation of patient identity

Supplies & logistics

Labelling

Expiry dates

Storage prior to use

Sample integrity & chain of custody

Device regulatory approval & availability in different countries

Consistency of supply throughout clinical programme

Training – staff, patients, caregivers

- Languages

Engage early in the planning process



# What are the Challenges?

## Regulatory

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Regulatory status of the PCS device

- Country differences

Acceptability of bioanalytical data

Patient reported data

- Sampling time

Engage with ethics and regulators early



# How can we Overcome the Challenges?



Within our organisations

Between organisations

- EBF
  - Open Symposium
  - Plenary
  - Workshops
  - Surveys
- AAPS
  - Conference sessions
  - Webinars
  - Surveys
- PCSIG



# Patient Centric Sampling Interest Group



A not-for-profit organization that brings together a variety of interested parties who wish to develop & promote the use of patient centric blood sampling technologies for the advancement of human healthcare & well-being

## Clinical trial

- Understand whether home vs in-clinic blood sampling has an impact on clinical trial recruitment & retention

## Diagnostics Working Group

- Publications
  - Economic use cases
  - Summary of guidelines for bridging diagnostic test with PCS
- Buyers guide

## Surveys

- Clinician
- Patient

## Education

- Engaging key stakeholders at international conferences
- PCSIG webinars

## Contact us

- <https://www.pcsig.org/>
- [contact@pcsig.org](mailto:contact@pcsig.org)





# Conclusions

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PCS brings a number of benefits

Increasing interest and acceptance

Challenges

- Beyond the bioanalytical lab

Overcome challenges & make progress  
by working together

- Passion
- Persistence





# Thank-you



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# Some useful reading

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KF Maass et al (2022) Leveraging patient-centric sampling for clinical drug development and decentralized clinical trials: Promise to reality. *Clin. Transl. Sci.* doi: 10.1111/cts.13411.

ER Wickremsinhe et al (2020) Land O'Lakes workshop on microsampling: enabling broader adoption. *AAPS J.* doi:10.1208/s12248-020-00524-2.

K Bateman (2020) The development of patient-centric sampling as an enabling technology for clinical trials. *Bioanalysis.* doi:10.4155/bio-2020-0075.

C Bailey C (2020) Giving patients choices: AstraZeneca's evolving approach to patient-centric sampling. *Bioanalysis.* doi:10.4155/bio-2020-0105.

S Capiou et al (2019) Official International Association for Therapeutic Drug Monitoring and Clinical Toxicology Guideline: Development and Validation of Dried Blood Spot–Based Methods for Therapeutic Drug Monitoring. *Ther. Drug Monit.* doi: 10.1097/FTD.0000000000000643

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