

A call for COVID-19 related clinical trials

Treatment trials, subsequent complication trials and SARS-CoV-2 vaccines

Danish hospitals and authorities are prepared for COVID-19 related clinical trials.

In Denmark, the COVID-19 epidemic is under control. Restrictions to prevent further spread of the virus have been in place since March 12th, 2020 and society is now opening step by step. Our government and authorities are monitoring the situation and have implemented proactive measures to prevent healthcare system overload, including high testing capacity.

Readiness

The departments in the Trial Nation networks have been actively researching COVID-19 treatment, doing so with great interest in excellent facilities. This combines well with the necessary experience to participate in the development and testing of COVID-19 related trials. These trials include treatment, subsequent complications, and SARS-CoV-2 vaccines.

Thanks to a grant from Innovation Fund Denmark, the departments have increased capacity for COVID-19 related clinical trials. The grant allows ensures the necessary resources and materials for clinical trials, including dedicated doctors and nurses.

Our authorities acknowledge the need for fast action, and are therefore offering fast track authorization of COVID-19 related clinical trials by Danish Medicines Agency and the Ethics Committees. In addition, fast track is also available for contract negotiation with our regions.

Danish hospitals and authorities are prepared for all COVID-19 related trials within treatment, vaccine or subsequent complications.

Experience

Danish researchers have strong international networks, and on March 22nd, 2020, the first clinical trial application for testing an antiviral drug in patients suffering from COVID-19 was authorized with Rigshospitalet as the European coordinator of the trial. On the same day, the protocol for the first Danish nationwide controlled trial of anti-inflammatory/anti-microbial therapy for COVID-19 was submitted for ethical approval. 16 COVID-19 clinical trials have been conducted or are currently ongoing in Denmark – a country with a population of 5.8 million. With the recently attained control of the disease, there is now a capacity for, and great interest in, trials to complement the treatment trials, namely SARS-CoV-2 vaccine trials and trials within subsequent pulmonary complications.

Collaboration

Trial Nation Center for Infectious Disease and Immunomodulation: The center is a network of 6 dedicated clinical trial units at university hospitals covering all 5 regions of Denmark. The network has a close collaboration, with weekly contact between study coordinators, a fast and agile feasibility process, start-up and execution of clinical studies. The infectious disease departments in Denmark have built considerable knowledge and expertise in the execution of clinical trials through participation in a wide range of not only company-

sponsored trials, but also through an extensive portfolio from phase I to IV trials in infectious diseases, immune modulation, and vaccine clinical research.

Trial Nation Center for Respiratory Disease: The center is a network of Danish lung clinics, specializing in sponsor-initiated clinical research with medicinal products across all respiratory diseases. The center facilitates clinical trials requiring participants diagnosed in a specialized clinical setting with trained staff, harmonized clinical assessments, and specialized diagnostic methods. All departments are continuously and increasingly committed to the demanding activity of conducting multiple clinical trials. The center was established in 2016 and has since been involved, with one or more departments, in all relevant commercial respiratory clinical trials in Denmark, from phase I to IV trials.

Trial Nation offers a single point of contact to identify potential sites. We are a government-funded association facilitating public-private collaboration for clinical trials in Denmark.

The centers are available for dialogue on industry-sponsored or investigator-initiated trials.

We will do our utmost to ensure an expedited response.
If you are interested in further dialogue, please contact:

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