



#### Why do we do Clinical Trials?

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#### Introduction

- What are clinical trials?
- Brief history of clinical trials
- Who benefits from clinical trials
- Medical Oncology Clinical Trials



# What are Clinical Trials?

#### "Clinical Trials provide the evidence basis for rational decision making in medical therapeutics"



#### A Coates AM

CEO, The Cancer Council Australia

International Breast Cancer Study Group

Australian New Zealand Breast Cancer Trials Group

Sydney, NSW

# Where did it all Begin?

- The earliest record around 530-540 BC.
- King ordered his people to eat only meat and drink only wine
- Daniel and his followers preferred vegetables and water.
- King allowed the rebels to follow their diet for 10 days.
- Vegetarians appeared in better condition than the meat and wine imbibers





# **Lind Scurvy Trial**

- **1747** James Lind was the first to introduce a control group to a clinical trial.
- Documented that citrus fruit in the diet could prevent scurvy
- Nearly 50 years before the Navy made citrus a compulsory part of the seafarer's diet.



#### **Modern Trials are Complex**



- 1. Participating patients
- 2. Future patients
- 3. The community
- 4. Health Care Professionals
- 5. Third party payers (e.g. government)

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### **Primary Endpoint: PFS**



CI, confidence interval; HR, hazard ratio; NR, not reached; PFS, progression-free survival.

# Magnitude of response: Lenvatinib



CR, complete response; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease.

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#### **Future Patients**



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# **The Community**

C Mike Baldwin / Cornered DRUG Co. RESEARCH COSTS CARTOONSTOC .con BARQUIN Search ID: mban3139

"Human clinical trials start in six months. Sooner if we run out of mice."

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#### **Health Care Professionals**



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# Clinical trials are good value for money

#### "Combined health and health system returns in the order of \$3 to \$5, *per year*, for every dollar of one-off investment"

#### ACTA June 2016 (submission to MRFF Advisory Board)



#### International





#### Australia





#### Cancer Care Services Clinical Research Unit July 2016

#### **Patient Recruitment Numbers**



1505 Total Number of Patients



#### **Medical Oncology Clinical Trials**

- Started 1995
- 11 Oncologists
- 11 FTE research staff
- 10 broad tumour groups
- 90 active studies, 30 recruiting.
- Nearly 1000 patients on a clinical trial.
- Started 8 new studies this year, 13 on the books to start in the next few months.
- The number of studies offered has ramped up
- Hold on new studies due to insufficient resources. Includes staff and space.



"You see, if we want a great health care system, yes we need hospitals and equipment, but to provide for an ever improving health system - we need research."

Professor Johnathon Morris AM,

Chief Investigator ACTA Clinical Trial of the Year 2016





### **Our Staff**





#### **Our Patients**

#### They are not -"Subjects in a Clinical Trial"

#### They are -"Partners in Research"

(Dennis Slamon)

