

BeiGene works with Cancer Trials Australia for its Australian clinical trials



BeiGene has been supported by Cancer Trials Australia (CTA) for eight Australian clinical trials since 2013.

BeiGene is focused on developing molecularly targeted and immuno-oncology drug candidates for the treatment of cancer. It is a rapidly growing biopharmaceutical company, with over 1,700 staff across four continents and more than 40 clinical trials underway globally.

Experienced in working with foreign biotech and pharmaceutical companies, CTA has supported the administration of eight BeiGene clinical trials in Australia, with BeiGene's first ever clinical trial initiated in Australia in 2013. These CTA supported trials have been predominantly first-time-in-human studies, recruiting over 1,000 Australian patients.

Working with over 250 biotechnology companies, more than 95% being international, Melbourne based CTA has grown to be an international leader in clinical trials, playing a pivotal role in the development of new therapies and the advancement of patient care. Since 2003, CTA has supported the administration of over 1,300 oncology clinical trials undertaken at Australian hospitals. These trials have recruited in excess of 8,500 cancer patients to participate in multi-site oncology clinical trials through its 27 member sites. These trials have included Phase 1 and first-time-in-human, through to larger scale Phase 3 studies.

BeiGene chose to undertake clinical activity in partnership with CTA to ensure professional high quality trial administration, experienced clinical sites and skilled staff, rapid start-up times, high patient enrolments including multicultural patient populations and support through the Commonwealth's R&D tax incentive.

Kurt Lackovic, CEO of CTA said, *"It is pleasing to see BeiGene continue to return to Australia to conduct clinical studies, as CTA prides itself on building long-term relationships with biotech, in addition to supporting high quality ethics submissions, swift negotiation and execution of budgets and contracts, and accurate financial management of clinical studies across our member sites."*

Jayesh Desai, Head of Early Drug Development Trials at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, and Chair of the CTA Phase 1 tumour group said, *"We have had the pleasure of working with BeiGene from their inception, in all aspects of drug development: from optimising trial design, to commencing their first in man trials, to moving these agents into phase III registration trials. Through this highly collaborative relationship, Australian cancer patients have been able to access additional, potentially life-saving therapies."*

"Despite Australia's relatively small population, working with CTA has allowed us to conduct multi-site clinical trials and accrue significant patient numbers quickly

"CTA's dedicated Phase 1 tumour group, which includes Key Opinion Leaders from across Australia, has guided us through trial requirements and informed protocol design. They were instrumental in supporting our early clinical programs, and have hence been our mechanism of bringing in almost all of our agents into clinical development."

Xiaowei Shi, Executive Director, Clinical Operations, Asia-Pacific, BeiGene