Biorasi is a contract research organization (CRO) that develops complex clinical trials to help pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies accelerate the process of bringing safe and efficacious therapies to market. That process can be time-consuming though. Building a clinical trial is an extensive undertaking that involves a laborious data entry process. That’s why Jon Roth, Vice President of Data Science at Biorasi, was in search of a data science partner that could potentially shorten the development lifecycle of the drugs Biorasi was helping to get to market, and do so at a reasonable cost.

Biorasi needed to reduce costs, overhead and time spent on building clinical trials.

Biorasi leveraged the intuitive capabilities of IBM Clinical Development to reduce the resources spent on building and maintaining an eClinical solution.

After implementing IBM Clinical Development, Biorasi was able to reduce its full lifecycle cost by more than 50 percent and its clinical trial build time by 25 percent.
“At Biorasi, we combine the personal care and attention of a customer-focused CRO with the global capabilities of market-leading full-service organizations,” said Roth. “So when we were looking for a data science partner, we were conscious of not only finding a partner who could help us get these drugs to market faster, but also working with a partner that would provide exceptional customer support throughout.”

Intuitive design streamlines a lengthy process

After a comprehensive bidding process, Biorasi selected IBM Watson Health and its IBM Clinical Development solution. Immediately, the Biorasi team realized the convenience of the build process.

“IBM Clinical Development allowed us to get up and running on studies much faster than we could with other systems, thanks largely to their streamlined and intuitive design,” Roth said.

Preparing the electronic data capture (EDC) includes entering trial data into a number of forms and data validations for all phases of the trial. The more intuitive a platform is, the more quickly trial data can be entered and analyzed. Because most solutions are non-intuitive and disjointed in the build phase and may require special programming skills, the industry standard for these captures is two-and-a-half months. But with the IBM Clinical Development solution, Biorasi’s team was able to complete their study build faster, which ultimately reduced its average EDC deployment to a 4-to-6 week timeframe.

“Not only is IBM Clinical Development’s interface extremely user-friendly compared to other software our team has used in the past, but it does not require as much manual programming for additional features,” said Raul Lopez, Manager of Data Management at Biorasi. “It allows us to work faster and smarter, and that’s critical because our ability to get the study database build completed in less time leads to even bigger savings of time and money for our sponsors down the line.”

Reduced costs and a shorter lifecycle

In addition to shortening the study build time, Biorasi also realized significant cost savings.

“Not only did we manage to trim a month off our database build – which helped result in an overall reduction of 25 percent off the build time – but because the solution required fewer man hours, we also cut more than 50 percent off the full lifecycle cost,” Roth said.

Cost and time savings are critical, as they ultimately can affect patients who are awaiting new therapies.

“Whenever we can save time, it’s a huge advantage to us, because it not only means cost savings for our sponsors, but also allows us to get potential life-saving drugs to market faster, and that’s exactly what IBM has helped us to do.” Lopez added.

About IBM Clinical Development

IBM Clinical Development, a solution-as-a-service (SaaS) electronic data capture (EDC) solution, requires no user infrastructure or programming experience. Designed to be intuitive and easy to navigate, users access all study data and platform functions through a centralized, password protected web interface.

IBM Clinical Development offers comprehensive solutions that help streamline clinical trial processes. From electronic patient-reported outcomes (ePRO) to randomization and trial supply management (RTSM) and more, IBM helps clinical research teams launch and complete studies efficiently, bringing needed tools to patients sooner. Used by clinical professionals worldwide, the platform lets users capture, manage, analyze and report study data across any therapeutic area and trial type.
Why Watson technology?

IBM solutions — from data capture to endpoint adjudication — are the groundwork for new ventures and directions. With IBM Watson technology, support for greater patient engagement is at hand. Watson can retrieve volumes of data from many medical sources, including electronic health records and insurance claims data. It can also work to help protect patient privacy, allowing clinical, research and social health information to be aggregated, analyzed and shared in a security-rich IBM cloud that complies with government regulations and industry standards. Combined with the cognitive computing ability of Watson to rapidly derive meaning from voluminous networks of data, there are technological solutions and enhancements underway at IBM to help enrich patient care.

Next steps

To learn more about IBM Clinical Development from Watson Health, please contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit ibm.com/clinical-development