MERIT INSIGHTS

March 2024 Edition

Welcome to the March issue of MERIT Insights, our monthly newsletter. Each month we bring you updates on webinars and trade shows, spotlights on our employees, and important industry news you may have missed. This month we're pleased to introduce two members of our Ophthalmology Scientific Advisory Council.

VIDEO: MERIT'S ENDPOINT EXPERTISE

Watch our video of MERIT's CEO and Co-Founder, Yijun Huang, PhD, giving an overview of MERIT's clinical endpoint expertise. "Sponsors must ensure a new drug is both safe and effective, and clinical endpoints become an important parameter to measure that success. That's where MERIT comes in; we evaluate endpoints with accuracy and traceability." Watch here.

OPHTHALMOLOGY SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COUNCIL

Our Ophthalmology Scientific Advisory Council (SAC) advises MERIT on cutting edge technology and treatments to keep our firm aligned with market needs and assist with fulfilling our mission of driving innovation in life sciences.

We are fortunate to have David Boyer, MD on our SAC. Dr. Boyer is a world-renowned clinician, surgeon, and educator with sub-specialty training in medical and surgical diseases of the retina, vitreous, and macula. He is board certified in ophthalmology, and his areas of expertise as a leading retinal clinical researcher include new treatments in macular degeneration and diabetic macular edema.

We are privileged to have David Brown, MD, FACS, on our SAC. Dr Brown's research and clinical interests are focused on macular surgery, age-related macular degeneration, gene therapy, retinal vascular disease, and diabetic retinopathy. He serves as the consultant retina specialist for NASA for all ongoing and long-term space flight astronauts. Dr. Brown has published and written over 400 national meeting presentations, abstracts, and scientific papers, including many of the primary papers establishing the use of anti-VEGF agents for AMD, retinal vein occlusion, and diabetic retinopathy.

LEARN MORE ABOUT MERIT'S SAC

INFO SHEETS

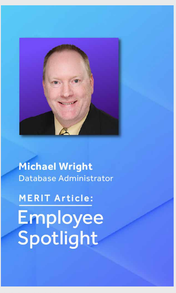
Pressed for time? Our info sheets are brief, easily downloadable, and include helpful checklists, cheat sheets, and challenge & solution guides. Check them out!

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHTS

MERIT Employee Spotlight is a series featuring team members introducing themselves, outlining their role at MERIT, and explaining why they chose to work in the clinical trials industry.

LIN Chengu, MD
Associate Medical Director

Dr. LIN Chengu oversees MERIT's oncology medical affairs in China and provides medical support to both US and China teams. "The medical team at MERIT spearheads imaging evaluation strategies for clinical trials and carries out quality monitoring during the image reading process. Professionalism, rigor, and exploratory spirit are the most important traits of our medical team." Read his full interview here to learn more about his role and how he got into clinical research.



Michael Wright
Database Administrator

Michael is MERIT's Database Administrator. "Day to day, it is my coworkers that make MERIT so enjoyable – we have a wonderful cast of people who are fun to work with. Looking at the bigger picture, I love working in an industry where the primary goal is to make people's lifespans longer and their quality of life better." Read his full interview here to learn more about his role at MERIT and why he got into clinical research.

RECENT INDUSTRY NEWS

FDA Approval of Eyenovia's APP13007
"Formosa Pharmaceuticals and AimMax therapeutics announced the FDA has approved Eyenovia's APP13007 (clobetasol propionate ophthalmic nanosuspension, 0.05%) eye drops for the relief of pain and inflammation following ocular surgery." Read more in Ophthalmology Times here.

Biotech IPOs Heated Up to Start 2024. Will the Surge Last?
"Industry watchers don't expect a big run in stock offerings just yet, but some say venture funding has already picked up amid newfound optimism in the sector." Read BioPharma Dive's complete article here.

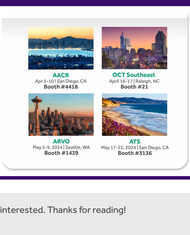
FDA approvals in 2023: biomarker-positive subsets, equipoise and verification of benefit
This *Nature Reviews Clinical Oncology* article provides an overview of FDA approvals in 2023 as well as a description of regulatory focus areas. Read the full article here.

FDA approves amivantamab-vmjw for EGFR exon 20 insertion-mutated non-small cell lung cancer indications
"On March 1, 2024, the Food and Drug Administration approved amivantamab-vmjw (Rybrevant, Janssen Biotech, Inc.) with carboplatin and pemetrexed for the first-line treatment of locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) with epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) exon 20 insertion mutations, as detected by an FDA-approved test." Read the full press release here.

More FDA News and Notes for March
An at-a-glance summary of news from around the Agency thus far in March. Click here to read the press release.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

We love meeting Sponsors, partners, and industry professionals! Network with us at one of our upcoming conferences or trade shows. You can set up an appointment with one of our team members by going to the Events page on our website and clicking on the event of interest!



Feel free to forward our newsletter to any colleagues who might be interested. Thanks for reading!
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