

Supporting Recruitment
& Home Trial Support
Utilization Through A
Global Pandemic - An
Early Stage Alzheimer's
Case Study



Early Stage Alzheimer's

Supporting one of the world's largest pharmaceutical research organizations, MRN has more than doubled patient recruitment rates and quadrupled home visit referrals during the global outbreak of COVID-19.



Operating across 20 countries worldwide, the sponsor's ongoing phase III study is researching the efficacy and safety of a new investigative medicine for the early symptoms of Alzheimer's disease.

By enabling research visits to be carried out where the patient is rather than in a clinical setting, MRN has been able to rapidly increase recruitment and retention while maintaining patient adherence and safety for this study which focuses on adults aged 50-85.

MRN's decentralized clinical research approach has ensured an innovative and agile response to global changes. This is enabling efficient delivery of this complex, multi-site trial during a time when patient travel and access to usual healthcare provision is restricted in large parts of the world.

"We act as a single provider with global delivery. This means we can scale quickly and efficiently to deliver where patients live."

Stuart Redding, CEO, MRN



Indication:

Early stage Alzheimer's Disease



Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, UK, US

2 Studies

20 Sites

550+ Patients

2,400 In-home visits

280% Increase in in-home visits

*at the height of the first wave of the COVID 19 pandemic in summer 2020

NOV
2018

Ongoing since November 2018

Putting patients at the heart of research

The multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled research is being run among two parallel groups, in a patient population which is often difficult to recruit.

The MRN team has invested time to fully understand the bespoke research requirements at both country and site levels.

By implementing a focus on home trial support, providing in-country training, placing experienced research professionals into patient communities and expanding the capability for research visits in the home we were able to lessen the trial's impact on patients. This has significantly improved patient recruitment and retention rates.

Increasing patient recruitment

In the early stages of the trial the use of home research visits was relatively low with between 10 and 20 patients being recruited to sites. During initial trial stages there was a low uptake to home visits but by summer of 2020 patient uptake to HTS increased significantly due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

Building trust

Experienced research healthcare professionals (HCPs) were deployed to administer IMP in the home and carry out patient observation and compliance reporting. Principal Investigators (PI's) were able to connect with their research HCPs through video conferences and telephone calls to build trust and be able to place the right professionals with the right patients.



Educating and engaging with sites

Through local language training initiatives with Global Study Managers, Country Study Managers, Clinical Research Associates and HCPs, as well as key opinion leaders within the field of Alzheimer's, we educated sites about the benefits of Home Trial Support (HTS). Our bespoke approach to each PI and every country, particularly those that were non-English speaking, provided each location with site-specific Q&As in their own language.

This collaborative approach led to a vast increase in patient sign ups to the trial and the adoption of home trial support.

"Through outreach and increased engagement at a site level we achieved a 475% increase in subject referrals from February 2020 to April 2020."

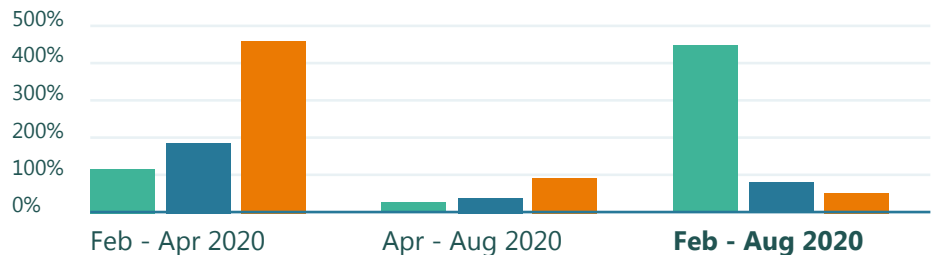
Senior Project Manager, MRN

"Globally, 200 healthcare professionals and country leads have been trained to date."

Senior Project Manager, MRN

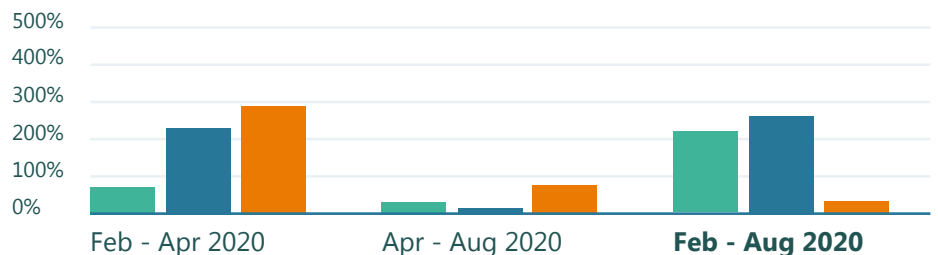
Study Arm 1 Service uptake - COVID-19 - comparing figures in February/April/August

- Increase in patient's enrolled in HTS
- Increase in monthly home visits
- Increase in subject referrals to HTS



Study Arm 2 Service uptake - COVID-19 - comparing figures in February/April/August

- Increase in patient's enrolled in HTS
- Increase in monthly home visits
- Increase in subject referrals to HTS



Efficiently delivering complex research

We are currently running more than **450** home research visits per month across the concurrent studies.

"From February 2020 to April 2020 patient numbers increased by over 300% in the study, now regularly recruiting 50-100 patients per month."

Senior Project Manager, MRN

Drawing on MRN's trusted network of global partners, introducing new vendors and in-country training, the sponsor was able to work in areas that it had not been able to before, such as Portugal, Brazil and Germany.

The study is ongoing, and the collaborative approach delivered by monthly meetings with site leads, sharing information and feedback has led to MRN working with the customer as a trusted ally, and a four-year extension of trial support from MRN.

"Developing an understanding at a site level and adapting MRN's capability and processes to make the best of what is already in place is how we support efficient delivery of complex trials."

Senior Project Manager, MRN

Study Arm 1

166

Patient List:

Patients as of end of August 2020

959

Visit tracker:

Visits completed as of end of August 2020

108

Nurse training tracker:

Nurses & country leads trained to date



Countries on Study: Belgium, Denmark, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, UK, US

Study Arm 2

221

Patient List: Patients referred to HTS as of end of August 2020

1465

Visit tracker: Visits completed as of end of August 2020

92

Nurse training tracker:

Nurses & country leads trained to date



Australia, Brazil, Canada, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Spain, Russia, US

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