**Effectively Applying Project Management to Clinical Studies**
4-week online academy course

informa corporate learning PTI

# 60 seconds with...

# Ian Stokes

**Ian Stokes is a project management specialist, certified facilitator and trainer who delivers process and learning solutions to the pharmaceutical industry. His recent clients include Pfizer, Sanofi Aventis, Nestlé, Danone and Celgene.**

**He delivers courses on several Master's and MBA courses in France. As chairman of several project user communities in France he believes in a customer-centric approach to projects, with frequent feedback and open teamwork.**

In this **60 second interview** we explore the challenging aspects of managing clinical trials...

Next Page

## What are some of the current trends in the clinical research industry and how do you see the industry changing in the future?

> Any changes happening in the clinical research industry will depend on how subcontracting takes place. For instance, when pharma companies subcontract clinical research they are essentially subcontracting the know-how for trial conduct.
>
> Going forward, it is likely some pharma companies will have to do more clinical studies in-house in order to better understand what they are subcontracting.

## Why is it important to effectively manage clinical research?

> In order to make sure the correct activities get done to the correct deadlines and comply with the regulations. Also, outside of a regulatory context, meeting these objectives is important for optimising all study procedures and ensuring the correct medical research outcome.

## In your experience, what would you say are the most challenging aspects of managing a clinical trial?

> If you were to ask both the pharma sponsors and the CROs, they'd both say communication is the biggest challenge. Often this can result in a pharma company delegating risky study activities to a CRO who is not adequately prepared to deal with them.
>
> Patient recruitment is also challenging, due to the regulations, recruiters often see this as a restraint as opposed to an opportunity.

## How does your course 'Effectively Applying Project Management to Clinical Studies' prepare delegates for managing clinical trials?

> This course takes delegates through the whole project life-cycle and gets them to understand important aspects such as: why are we doing this project, drug development milestones and why it is important to do clinical trials.

## What are your top three tips to effectively manage clinical research?

> 1. Partnering & teamwork is crucial in order to share information and get important data as soon as possible
>
> 2. Be optimistic, but sceptical. Often unexpected events can occur during study trials
>
> 3. Have contingency plans to be prepared for all situations

## Effectively Applying Project Management to Clinical Studies is a 4-week online academy course starting 22 July 2019:

Download the agenda

Contact our Education Consultants for more information:

training@informa.com.au
+61 (0) 2 9080 4022