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Bridge gaps for translational clinical development: Ophthalmology

Tina Guanting Qiu
Biopharm Physician, USA

Problems: Developing a drug takes about 10-12 years with estimated cost of 1.0 billions US dollars, and entails of 90% failure rate, which includes about 60% failed at early stage clinical translation, and another 30% failed at mid-late stage translational clinical & medical development. Even after the regulatory approval, still a few may be pulled off the market. What can we do about those failed assets? How can we change the course of translational efficiency?

Ophthalmology represents an emerging lucrative translational opportunity, for which through drug repurposing strategies and local delivery innovation may thrive. In parallel, the explosive cutting-edge sciences in stem cell/gene therapy, genetic modulation and new categories of biologic product are pushing the envelope for medicine revolution, in which the “eye” would serve as an excellent translational PoC model for clinical development and validation. The blockbuster era of “Aspirin and Steroids” is being refurbished by personalized medicine precision towards a new trend of positioning a drug into multiple small niche indications with combination strategy to treat a subset patient population with specific pathological identities.

Therefore, this talk will focus on new horizons of retinal and glaucoma therapeutic development strategies, principles and tactics in bridging gaps for effective clinical translation with a snapshot of current dilemma in talent skillset and knowledge base, which brings my closing remark: “in order to translate Shakespeare, one must speak proficient English language”

Biography

Tina Guanting Qiu is an innovative ophthalmology physician, retinal surgeon, stem cell biologist and ocular transplant specialist by trainings with 19-years global ophthalmic experiences acquiring a broad array of scientific, medical, surgical, translational therapeutics and entrepreneurial experiences, focusing on early stage clinical translation and post marketing medical affairs at the cutting edge scientific forefronts. She held positions with increased importance at BetaStem, Sucampo, Inotek and GSK, and consulted for senior executives to support portfolio and investment decision-making. She published and lectured across the globe (UK, US, China and Japan) and featured at “Scientific America” and National Eye Research Center, UK.

tina70qiu@gmail.com