A retrospective pharmaceutical financial benefits analysis of clinical trial participation

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– **Background**

– **Cost avoidance**
  – Trials where the sponsor supplied, or reimbursed, currently funded standard of care drugs
  – Pharmaceutical cost avoidance through participation in sponsored oncology trials can result in significant savings [1-7]

– **Financial benefit**
  – Clinical trial participants receiving investigational new agents which subsequently become registered (FDA, EMA, TGA) for their trialled indication effectively receive free early access to efficacious treatment
  – Experimental drug registered by the TGA but not (yet) PBS-listed
  – SOC agent available internationally, but not registered by the TGA for use in Australia

– **Aim**
  – Calculate financial benefit and pharmaceutical cost avoidance (PBS) through clinical trial participation at a single Haematology Clinical Research Unit (HCRU)

– **Method**
  – Calculations
    – Haematology Research Unit at Concord Repatriation General Hospital
    – Individual patient doses were determined from pharmacy dispensing records (2006-2016)
    – Calculations based on PBS pricing lists, or where not PBS listed, from UpToDate®
Results:
34 trials with 195 patients:
- Primary endpoint: $13,500,000 financial benefit
- Secondary endpoint: $3,700,000 cost avoidance

FIGURE 2 Financial benefit and cost avoidance from 2006 to 2016

FIGURE 3 Financial benefit and cost avoidance of pharmaceutical agents