Introduction

The biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries are two of Taiwan’s most important developing businesses in the 21st century. In the last few years, efforts in promoting globalization of the clinical trial business in Taiwan have started. This publicity drive is jointly carried out by the government, the pharmaceutical industry, contract research organizations and medical centers. As a result of highlighting the ICH-GCP compliance clinical trial that fulfilled the ICH-GCP standards, the volume of clinical trials has increased both in Taiwan and in the National Taiwan University Hospital (NTUH).

Clinical Trial Center, NTUH

The Clinical Trial Center of the National Taiwan University Hospital (CTC-NTUH) is designed to fit the needs of globalization in clinical trial business. CTC-NTUH was established by funds from the Department of Health and NTUH in 2000. The primary role of CTC-NTUH is to provide a fully GCP compliant environment early for clinical trials. Development of clinical trial methodology for herbal extract is also one of the missions of this center.

Currently, facilities of CTC-NTUH include a unit with 12 beds and physiological monitors, two interview rooms, a pharmacy, an archiving room, a laboratory for samples processing, a computer room, one office and one recreation room. Otherwise, The CTC provided full scale of services, such as protocol development, volunteer/patient care, study monitoring, data management, statistical analysis, report writing, and education and training. The staff includes director, deputy director, biostatistician, research nurses, pharmacists, project manager and technicians.

The CTC-NTUH has held several educational symposium and lectures with other departments or agencies in order to disseminate clinical trial skills and knowledge in NTUH and other medical center.

In addition to helping the sponsor and investigators conducting an ICH-GCP/GLP standard clinical trials, the ultimate goal of CTC-NTUH is to integrate resources in NTUH and to work with other units in Taiwan to attract international clinical trials to Taiwan and to work with domestic pharmaceutical companies for new drug development.

NTUH Medical Center

The mission of the National Taiwan University Medical Center, which encompasses the College of Medicine (NTUCM) and the teaching hospital (NTUH), is to educate and train students, physicians, and biomedical scholars and to provide a spectrum of comprehensive knowledge, research, patient care and service of the highest quality to the population of Taiwan and beyond.

The Medical Center has a strong faculty working at the cutting edge of biomedical research, such as research on cancer, hepatitis, diabetes, immunology, lymphoma, and surgery, as well as diseases of the cardiovascular, pulmonary, gastrointestinal, and hematological system. State-of-the-art technology is now