Clinical Drug Development—Practical Issues in Clinical Pharmacology Studies
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Abstract

Introduction: Clinical pharmacology refers to the study of the safety, pharmacodynamic activity, mechanism of action, pharmacokinetics, metabolism and excretion of a drug in man. Methods: Selected review of topics that provide guidance on practical issues for researchers conducting non-therapeutic investigational research in humans. Results: Close attention to the issues highlighted is needed to ensure successful research in this area of drug development. Resources dedicated to the discipline can logically optimise efficiency and outcome. Conclusions: There is increasing opportunity for clinical pharmacological research, offering an interesting career option to young physicians.

Key words: Clinical trials, Healthy volunteer studies, Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics, Phase 1 studies

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