



December 10, 2021
EPS Corporation

News Release

Speech on the Promotion of DCT*¹ at the Keidanren

The EPS Corporation (Head Office: Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo; Representative: Akira Sasa; hereinafter, “EPS”) made a speech entitled “Promotion of DCT” at a health-tech strategic meeting held by the Japan Business Federation (Keidanren; Head Office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; Chairman: Masakazu Tokura; hereinafter, “Keidanren”) on November 15, 2021.

The Keidanren is gathering new proposals for online healthcare in Japan. One important element of this online healthcare is “DCT.” EPS provides the Keidanren information and exchanges ideas with roughly twenty different pharmaceutical companies and other Keidanren members.

EPS is also advancing *Virtual Go* as a system to consider ways to build frameworks for rolling out new systems and tools used in virtual/online clinical trials as well as initiatives to support burden-free operation of those systems and tools in the homes of patients. However, Japanese laws, regulations, and even related government notifications do not often clarify the standards for implementing the new systems and tools used in virtual/online clinical trials. This is one reason that is preventing broader adoption of virtual/online clinical trials. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is furthering its investigation into “the creation of guidance for conducting clinical trials using online technologies.” EPS believes that the faster Japan can clarify its standards to conduct such clinical trials, the sooner the country will see widespread use of virtual/online clinical trials.

Please refer to Keidanren Times Article No. 3524, “Promotion of Clinical Trials Free from Hospital Visits” (December 2, 2021) for more information about the Keidanren (Japanese).

https://www.keidanren.or.jp/journal/times/2021/1209_07.html

EPS *Virtual Go* Framework

As a leading company in clinical trial operations, EPS is advancing *Virtual Go* as a means to promote virtual/online clinical trials via its cultivated expertise on data science, its extensive experience and proven track record.



Virtual Go is a generic name for all EPS services used to promote virtual/online clinical trials.

Virtual Go always strives to satisfy two core ideas: “virtual/online clinical trials in which patients do not have to visit medical institutions” and “virtual/online clinical trials in which CRAs*² do not have to visit medical institutions.” To do this, EPS handles everything from proposal to the operation and management of various schemes to advance virtual/online clinical trials right for the trial design and type of disease. This includes eConsent*³, online medical examinations, DDC*⁴, eCOA*⁵, use of wearable devices, shipment of drugs for clinical trials, home-visit nursing, and specimen collection.

About EPS Corporation

EPS launched its business in 1991 as a CRO*⁶ to comprehensively support clinical studies with the focus on clinical trials and PMS*⁷. The company proposes new models to satisfy customers' needs by leveraging its data science expertise and digital technology cultivated through its extensive track record. These proposals are founded in its Trial GATE concept, which acts as the gateway for all promotion functions of clinical trials.

*1: DCT (Decentralized Clinical Trial)

*2: CRA (Clinical Research Associate)

*3: eConsent (Electronic Consent)

*4: DDC (Direct Data Capture)

*5: eCOA (Electronic Clinical Outcome Assessment)

*6: CRO (Contract Research Organization)

*7: PMS (Post Marketing Surveillance)

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