

# SELECTING CROS

# AN EXCERPT FROM THE 2018 CRO LEADERSHIP AWARDS ISSUE

Life Science Leader



Smarter questions : Smarter answers

# **CRO Selection Taken Seriously**

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ndustry Standard Research (ISR) asked over 500 clinical-development outsourcers their level of agreement with the statement: "My organization's mix of CROs is not likely to change much in the next two years." Sixty-five percent of these respondents at least slightly agreed with this statement. The remaining 35 percent at least slightly disagreed with the statement, meaning they anticipate some level of change to their organization's mix of CROs over the next few years. Thirty-five percent might not seem like a high percentage, but if I were responsible for business development at a CRO and you told me that one-third of my accounts were considering changing their mix of CROs, you can bet I'd be nervous. I also may view this opportunistically, as this stat likewise means that one-third of my competitors' accounts may be up for grabs as well.

With the potential for churn in sponsors' current mix of providers, sponsors will need to put in the legwork to choose appropriate CROs. Selecting or even creating a shortlist of providers without sufficient information is risky, considering the importance of properly and efficiently executing clinical trials. From the service provider's perspective, CROs need to put their best foot forward during the proposal and bid-selection processes. Therein lies the rub. How do sponsors choose the CRO that best fits their needs? And how do CROs know what is important to the sponsors whose business they're hoping to win?

Via an online survey, we collected information from clinical-development outsourcers regarding their selection and evaluation of CROs. Respondents share the key attributes they consider when selecting a CRO and then rate, along the same dimensions, the performance of providers with which they have recently worked. Understanding selection-driver data alongside provider performance ratings allows service buyers to gain a comprehensive view of how providers fare on key attributes. No longer do decision makers have to rely on casual conversation with the colleague down the hall to enlighten them on what it's like to work with a new provider. These structured and detailed performance evaluations go a long way in helping sponsors understand the highlights and/or pitfalls that others have encountered in their experience with a provider.

So what is important to sponsors when looking to outsource clinical development work? Figure 1 shares the top selection criteria for three real-life decision-making scenarios when outsourcing Phase 2/3 services: 1) choosing a provider from a preferred provider list, 2) choosing a provider that is not on the preferred provider list, and 3) choosing a provider in the absence of a preferred list.

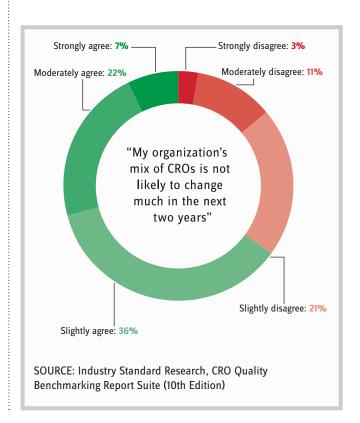


Figure 1

Choosing among preferred providers	Choosing a provider NOT on the preferred list	No preferred provider list
perational excellence	Operational excellence	Operational excellence
Prior positive experience with service provider	Therapeutic expertise	Therapeutic expertise
herapeutic expertise	Low cost	Prior positive experience with service provider
Expectations for data quality	Experience with similar study types	Experience with similar study types
Patient recruitment strategy	Offers innovative solutions	Project manager quality

Notice any themes? We sure do. Operational excellence and Therapeutic expertise appear in each of the decision-making scenarios, something that has happened three years running. The takeaway is this: These two attributes aren't going anywhere, anytime soon. CROs will be judged on their ability to operate well and on their expertise in the desired therapeutic areas. Prior positive experience with service provider and experience with similar study types are among the top attributes for two of the scenarios. Sponsors want to feel certain that providers know their stuff.

sponsors' current mix of providers, sponsors will need to put in the legwork to choose appropriate CROs. 99

A host of other traits appears among the top attributes and varies by scenario. Knowing what is important regardless of decision-making scenario is critical, but the ability to discern how key attributes differ among scenarios is similarly important.

ISR also asked 300 respondents how they believe Phase 2/3 service provider performance has changed

over the past few years. About half said it has remained the same, 25 percent felt it has improved, and 21 percent felt provider performance has declined. That 21 percent is a pretty substantial proportion of people who feel that CROs are generally not performing as well as they used to. If these outsourcers are considering a change in their service providers, they'll likely feel confident selecting a new provider if they can use experience-based data to understand, in detail, how the provider has performed for industry peers. For CROs, understanding how your performance is viewed through the eyes of your customers will help you address any potential weaknesses and manage to your strengths.

Survey Methodology: Industry Standard Research is a full-service market research provider to the pharma and pharma services industries. ISR's CRO Quality Benchmarking research is conducted annually via an online survey. For the 2018 CRO Awards data, more than 60 services providers were evaluated on over 20 different performance metrics. Research participants were recruited from biopharmaceutical and medical device companies of all sizes and are screened for decision-making influence and authority when it comes to working with CROs. Respondents evaluate only companies with which they have worked on an outsourced project within the past 18 months. This level of qualification ensures that quality ratings come from actual involvement with a business and that companies identified as leaders are backed by experiential data.



Life Science Leader's readership of pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical executives has told us about their struggles in efficiently vetting potential CRO partners. In response to this input, Life Science Leader developed the CRO Leadership Awards.

Based on research from Industry Standard Research's *Contract Research Organization Quality Benchmarking* annual online survey, 70 contract research organizations were evaluated on more than 20 different performance metrics. Research participants were recruited from biopharmaceutical companies of all sizes and were screened for decision-making influence and authority when it comes to working with contract research organizations. Respondents evaluate only companies with which they have worked on an outsourced project within the past 18 months. This level of qualification ensures that quality ratings come from actual involvement with a business and that companies identified as leaders are backed by experiential data. CROs have an opportunity to win these awards in up to three groups of outsourcing respondents — Big Pharma, Small Pharma, and Overall (combined Big and Small Pharma).

### WHAT ARE THE AWARDS?

ISR survey participants were asked to provide an expectation rating for each CRO they have worked with in the past 18 months. Points were then totaled for a combined score for each attribute, and a composite score for each core category was determined. Winning CROs were determined when comparing their overall score vs. the competitive set.

To learn more about ISR's industry reports and customized research, or to be included in future CRO Quality Benchmarking annual surveys, visit isrreports.com or contact ISR at info@isrreports.com.

PRESENTED BY:

Leader Life Science

RESEARCH CONDUCTED BY:



Smarter questions : Smarter answers



- Access to unique tests, machines, equipment
- Access to a broad range of services beyond clinic / volunteer management
- Access to patient populations
- Offered innovative solutions
- Patient / volunteer recruitment
- Speed of site startup
- Technology for real-time access to data
- Breadth of services
- Global footprint
- Network of sites / investigators
- Patient recruitment strategy
- Speed of site / investigator recruitment

### **CAPABILITIES**

### TOP PERFORMERS

### **OVERALL**

SGS bioskin GmbH Biotrial Bioclinica Worldwide Clinical Trials NAMSA Celerion

### **BIG PHARMA**

SGS Bioclinica NAMSA Medpace Duke Clinical Research Institute

### **SMALL PHARMA**

Worldwide Clinical Trials Celerion

# EXCEEDED CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS

### **OVERALL**

Rho
WCCT Global
Syneos Health
Medpace
Premier Research
Duke Clinical Research Institute
BioPharma Services Inc.
PPD
Centre for Human Drug Research (CHDR)
Frontage Laboratories
Eurotrials Scientific Consultants
Quotient Clinical
Eurofins Scientific

### **BIG PHARMA**

PAREXEL International

Celerion Syneos Health Quotient Clinical PPD IQVIA

### **SMALL PHARMA**

SGS Rho Chiltern, a Covance Company Bioclinica Syneos Health WCCT Global Frontage Laboratories PAREXEL International PPD Eurofins Scientific Medpace

### MET CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS

### **OVERALL**

Chiltern, a Covance Company Novotech IQVIA Covance PSI CRO

### **BIG PHARMA**

Covance Worldwide Clinical Trials

### **SMALL PHARMA**

Quotient Clinical Nuvisan Novotech

Companies are listed in ranking order per survey results. The terms "Small Pharma" and "Big Pharma" pertain to the outsourcing respondents, not the winners. "Overall" is a combination of Big and Small Pharma.



- Easy to work with
- Project team chemistry
- Responsiveness
- Timely project communications

### **COMPATIBILITY**

### TOP PERFORMERS

### OVERALL NAMSA

Biotrial
PSI CRO
SGS
Nuvisan
Quotient Clinical
Eurotrials Scientific Consultants
Premier Research
BioPharma Services Inc.
Celerion
Medpace
Worldwide Clinical Trials

### **BIG PHARMA**

SGS NAMSA Bioclinica

Bioclinica

### **SMALL PHARMA**

Quotient Clinical Nuvisan

# EXCEEDED CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS

### **OVERALL**

Syneos Health Rho WCCT Global Frontage Laboratories Novotech Duke Clinical Research Institute Eurofins Scientific

### **BIG PHARMA**

Celerion Medpace Duke Clinical Research Institute Syneos Health Tata Consultancy Services Frontage Laboratories CRS Clinical Research Services Andernach GmbH

### **SMALL PHARMA**

Worldwide Clinical Trials
Celerion
Medpace
WCCT Global
Frontage Laboratories
Syneos Health
SGS
Bioclinica
Rho
Chiltern, a Covance Company
Eurofins Scientific
Novotech
PAREXEL International
Duke Clinical Research Institute

### **MET CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS**

### OVERALL bioskin GmbH

CRS Clinical Research Services Andernach GmbH ICON PAREXEL International Tata Consultancy Services PPD

Covance IQVIA

DaVita Clinical Research

### **BIG PHARMA**

PPD IQVIA Quotient Clinical Covance ICON QPS

### **SMALL PHARMA**

ICON Premier Research DaVita Clinical Research Covance PPD PRA Health Sciences

Companies are listed in ranking order per survey results. The terms "Small Pharma" and "Big Pharma" pertain to the outsourcing respondents, not the winners. "Overall" is a combination of Big and Small Pharma.



- Experience of the Phase I unit's lead investigator
- Local market / regulatory knowledge
- Operational excellence
- Scientific knowledge
- Therapeutic experience
- Study design expertise

### **EXPERTISE**

# TOP PERFORMERS

### OVERALL NAMSA

Biotrial
SGS
Duke Clinical Research Institute
bioskin GmbH
Celerion
Medpace
Worldwide Clinical Trials
Ouotient Clinical

### **BIG PHARMA**

NAMSA SGS Duke Clinical Research Institute Bioclinica

### **SMALL PHARMA**

Quotient Clinical SGS

# EXCEEDED CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS

### **OVERALL**

Premier Research Rho Bioclinica BioPharma Services Inc. PSI CRO DaVita Clinical Research Syneos Health Novotech

### **BIG PHARMA**

Celerion Medpace IQVIA Syneos Health QPS Worldwide Clinical Trials

### **SMALL PHARMA**

Duke Clinical Research Institute
Worldwide Clinical Trials
Medpace
Celerion
PAREXEL International
Rho
Syneos Health
Chiltern, a Covance Company
DaVita Clinical Research
Frontage Laboratories
Novotech

### MET CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS

### **OVERALL**

IQVIA
PAREXEL International
Frontage Laboratories
WCCT Global
Nuvisan
Eurofins Scientific
PPD
Covance
Lambda
Tata Consultancy Services
PRC Clincial
Centre for Human Drug Re

PRC Clincial
Centre for Human Drug Research (CHDR)
ICON
Chiltern, a Covance Company
Eurotrials Scientific Consultants

### **BIG PHARMA**

PPD Quotient Clinical Tata Frontage Laboratories Covance

### SMALL PHARMA Eurofins Scientific

Nuvisan ICON Bioclinica Covance WCCT Global PPD IQVIA PRA Health Sciences



- Data quality
- Project manager quality
- CRA quality

### **QUALITY**

### **TOP PERFORMERS**

### **OVERALL**

NAMSA bioskin GmbH SGS

Biotrial

**Eurotrials Scientific Consultants** Bioclinica

**Quotient Clinical** 

Worldwide Clinical Trials

Celerion

### **BIG PHARMA**

SGS NAMSA

Bioclinica

Celerion

**Duke Clinical Research Institute** 

### **SMALL PHARMA**

Frontage Laboratories

### **EXCEEDED CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS**

### **OVERALL**

PSI CRO

Duke Clinical Research Institute

Syneos Health

Frontage Laboratories

Nuvisan Novotech

Rho

Medpace

Premier Research

Centre for Human Drug Research (CHDR) **Eurofins Scientific** 

PAREXEL International

### **BIG PHARMA**

**Quotient Clinical** Medpace

Syneos Health

Tata Consultancy Services

Frontage Laboratories

### **SMALL PHARMA**

Chiltern, a Covance Company

Worldwide Clinical Trials **Quotient Clinical** 

Rioclinica

Syneos Health

Nuvisan

PAREXEL International

Novotech

Rho

**Eurofins Scientific** 

Celerion

Medpace

**Duke Clinical Research Institute** 

### **MET CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS**

### **OVERALL**

ICON

BioPharma Services Inc.

IQVIA

PPD Covance

Chiltern, a Covance Company

### **BIG PHARMA**

ICON

Worldwide Clinical Trials Covance

CRS Clinical Research Services Andernach GmbH

### **SMALL PHARMA**

ICON PPD Covance

WCCT Global

Companies are listed in ranking order per survey results. The terms "Small Pharma" and "Big Pharma" pertain to the outsourcing respondents, not the winners. "Overall" is a combination of Big and Small Pharma.



- Meeting overall project timelines
- Operational excellence
- Minimizing staff turnover

### RELIABILITY

### **TOP PERFORMERS**

### **OVERALL** NAMSA

Biotrial SGS Celerion Worldwide Clinical Trials bioskin GmbH **Quotient Clinical** Premier Research Bioclinica BioPharma Services Inc.

**Duke Clinical Research Institute** 

Medpace PSI CRO

### **BIG PHARMA**

SGS NAMSA **Duke Clinical Research Institute** Bioclinica Celerion

### **SMALL PHARMA**

**Ouotient Clinical Worldwide Clinical Trials** Celerion Frontage Laboratories

### **EXCEEDED CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS**

### **OVERALL**

Frontage Laboratories Nuvisan Syneos Health WCCT Global **Tata Consultancy Services Eurotrials Scientific Consultants Eurofins Scientific** Rho

### **BIG PHARMA**

### Medpace

Quotient Clinical Tata Consultancy Services Frontage Laboratories Syneos Health Worldwide Clinical Trials

### **SMALL PHARMA**

Bioclinica Medpace Nuvisan

**Eurofins Scientific** Syneos Health WCCT Global PAREXEL International **Duke Clinical Research Institute** Chiltern, a Covance Company



### INDIVIDUAL ATTRIBUTE AWARDS

The Individual Attribute Awards were developed as a result of many conversations we have had with the readers of *Life Science Leader*. These conversations uncovered common attributes that sponsor companies identified as being imperative when choosing a supplier and deciding to continue doing business with a supplier.

They were often referred to as the ever-important "intangibles" a supplier brings to the table. Outside of the cover metrics of capabilities, compatibility, development, expertise, phase IV, quality, and reliability, these attributes were what our readers identified as being the most important, and as such, we felt it was important to share the data with other sponsor companies.

### **DATA QUALITY**

### **TOP PERFORMERS**

bioskin GmbH NAMSA

Biotrial

SGS

Bioclinica Eurotrials Scientific Consultants

Celerion

# EXCEEDED CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS

Syneos Health

Worldwide Clinical Trials

Medpace

Rho

Novotech

Frontage Laboratories Tata Consultancy Services

WCCT Global

PAREXEL International

**Duke Clinical Research Institute** 

**Quotient Clinical** 

Nuvisan

### **MEETING PROJECT TIMELINES**

### **TOP PERFORMERS**

Biotrial

SGS

**Quotient Clinical** 

NAMSA

**Eurotrials Scientific Consultants** 

Celerion

Worldwide Clinical Trials

Nuvisan

Tata Consultancy Services

bioskin GmbH

Premier Research

BioPharma Services Inc. Frontage Laboratories

## EXCEEDED CUSTOMER

EXPECTATIONS

Duke Clinical Research Institute

Bioclinica

PSI CRO Medpace

Syneos Health

Centre for Human Drug Research (CHDR)

**Eurofins Scientific** 

Novotech

### **OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE**

### **TOP PERFORMERS**

SGS NAMSA

Celerion

bioskin GmbH

Biotrial

Premier Research

Medpace

Quotient Clinical

Worldwide Clinical Trials

# EXCEEDED CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS

Bioclinica

**Duke Clinical Research Institute** 

Syneos Health

BioPharma Services Inc.

Frontage Laboratories PSI CRO

Nuvisan

Rho WCCT Global

Companies are listed in ranking order per survey results. The terms "Small Pharma" and "Big Pharma" pertain to the outsourcing respondents, not the winners. "Overall" is a combination of Big and Small Pharma.



### **INDIVIDUAL ATTRIBUTE AWARDS**

### **RESPONSIVENESS**

### **TOP PERFORMERS**

NAMSA

**Eurotrials Scientific Consultants** 

SGS

Biotrial

PSI CRO Premier Research

Nuvisan **Quotient Clinical** 

Medpace

Celerion

**Worldwide Clinical Trials** 

Bioclinica

### **EXCEEDED CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS**

Duke Clinical Research Institute

Frontage Laboratories Syneos Health

WCCT Global

Rho

Novotech

DaVita Clinical Research CRS Clinical Research Services Andernach GmbH

BioPharma Services Inc.

### **TECHNOLOGY FOR ACCESS TO DATA**

### **TOP PERFORMERS**

SGS

bioskin GmbH

Clinipace Worldwide

Biotrial

NAMSA

Cognizant

### **EXCEEDED CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS**

Centre for Human Drug Research (CHDR)

Celerion

Bioclinica

Rho

Syneos Health

Tata Consultancy Services

WCCT Global

PAREXEL International

Worldwide Clinical Trials

Lambda IQVIA

Covance



CATEGORIES WON:



### Worldwide Clinical Trials

Morrisville, NC www.worldwide.com

Phone: 610-964-2000 Contact: Lynn Ledwith

Email: lynn.ledwith@worldwide.com KEY LOCATIONS: North America, South America, Europe, Russia, Asia

### DRUG LIFE CYCLE STAGES:

Research & Development: Clinical, Phase 1, Phase 2, Phase 3

### MAIN SERVICE AREAS:

Full Service Clinical

SERVICES & CAPABILITIES: Worldwide delivers full-service contract research services, extending from bioanalytical labs, early phase 1-2A, clinical phase 2B-3, phase 3B-4, through real-world evidence studies.

THERAPEUTIC AREAS: We help sponsors move from discovery to clinical development and commercialization across a range of therapeutic areas, including central nervous system, cardiovascular & metabolic, immune-mediated inflammatory disorders, oncology, and rare diseases.

### INDIVIDUAL ATTRIBUTE AWARDS: Data Quality, Meeting Overall Project Timelines, Technology For Access To Data, Operational

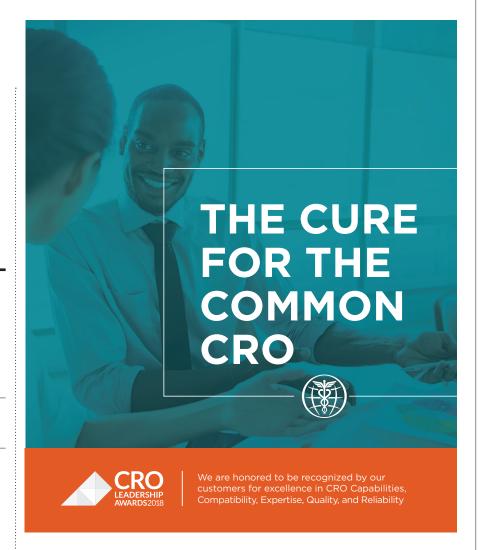
PETER BENTON
President & Chief

**Operating Officer** 

Excellence, Responsiveness



"Recognition in the CRO Leadership Awards is a reflection of the commitment and expertise of the 1,600 Worldwide professionals who deliver uncommon value to our customers every day. Emerging to mid-size pharmaceutical/biopharmaceutical organizations are realizing that large CRO consolidation is detrimental to their goals and the respect they deserve from a CRO partner. Their desire to partner with a CRO whose approach is to tailor research for their specific drug and situation is fueling our rapid growth and expansion."



It's hard to put a finger on what, exactly, makes Worldwide different from other CROs — but you start to get it when you experience the passion, expertise, and commitment in every team member. We put everything into our projects.

Our dogged determination to get it right. Our spirit of invention. Our rigorous processes. Always curious. Always dedicated to delivering quality data.

It keeps our customers coming back, choosing Worldwide as their partner time after time. From bioanalytical lab services to early phase, late phase, and real-world evidence studies, we're out to change how the world experiences CROs — in the best possible way.

Learn more at WORLDWIDE.COM.

### FULL-SERVICE, AWARD-WINNING CRO SERVICES

Bioanalytical Services | Phase I-IIa | Phase IIb-III Phase IIIb-IV | Real-World Evidence | Rater Services

### THERAPEUTIC FOCUS AND EXPERTISE

Central Nervous System | Cardiovascular and Metabolic Immune-Mediated Inflammatory Disorders Oncology | Rare Diseases

