Minutes from the SafeBoosC Steering Committee Meeting the 24th of January 2022

Present: Hans Fuchs, Gerhard Pichler, Jonathan Mintzer, Christian Gluud, Cornelia Hagmann, Janus Jakobsen, Maria Vestager, Siv Fredly, Gabriel Dimitriou, Gunnar Naulaers, Eugene Dempsey, Jakub Tkaczyk, Anne Marie Heuchan, Mathias Lühr Hansen, Marie Isabel Rasmussen, Gorm Greisen

Apologies: Tomasz Szczapa, Saudamini Nesargi, Simon Hyttel-Sørensen

Absent: Guoqiang Cheng, Ana Vilan, Adelina Pellicer, Ebru Ergenekon, Monica Fumagalli

Trial status update from Copenhagen

We completed recruitment on December 16th 2021 with a total of 1601 randomised participants across 70 centers. April 1st will be the deadline for all data entries in OpenClinica. The 15th of April will be the deadline for completion of inquiries arisen from the data quality monitoring. Furthermore, affiliations on co-authors are being collected for the publication of the primary analysis. Data completion monitoring is being conducted every 14th day and the completed percentages of expected data entries are increasing steadily. Also, the final dates for GCP visits have been defined and each PI has been contacted with these.

Secondary publications

There were no suggestions made for the proposed plan on secondary publications during the last steering committee meeting, so the same plan was circulated and a decision was made at this meeting. The purpose is that all PIs may plan and conduct secondary studies/publications, however, the studies must be approved by the steering committee. Minimum requirements will be 1) a specific, well-defined, quantitative hypothesis, 2) a power calculation. Principal investigators should present the proposed studies at an online meeting in March 2022. Hereafter, the steering committee will discuss the proposed studies and decide on a secondary publication plan, which will be published on the website. It is emphasized that we should encourage PI's to define and register secondary analysis on Clinicaltrials.gov before the results of the primary analysis are known. There will also be a possibility to define secondary studies after the publication of the primary outcome, as this may reveal some results that need further investigation. There will furthermore be co-authors (active authors in the process) and collaborators (non active authors). Finally, secondary studies should not be submitted for publication, before publication of the primary analysis.

It is proposed that investigators are reminded what the data set consists of. Mathias will circulate this in an email with the final decision. Furthermore it is asked if some investigators have retained NIRS data, which indeed is the case in some centers. It is discussed whether we need to ask consent again from parents or ask the ethical committees again, to do secondary analysis. It is argued that since the dataset will be anonymized as described in the proposed plan on secondary studies, it should not be a problem. However if the centers wish to share retained NIRS data, then it may be more complicated.

13 members of the steering committee are present (>50%, total n=22) which is enough to consistitute a quorum. Twelve out of 13 present members vote in favor of the proposal and the secondary analysis plan is therefore approved.

Investigator meeting

It is discussed whether we should still plan on a March investigator meeting with a hybrid version, make it solely virtual, or postpone the meeting till May, where unblinding of the primary analysis results will also take place. Some investigators have travel restrictions from their universities/hospitals. If we shift it to May it will give us a better chance of higher physical attendance. Many investigators agree that a May meeting is more realistic, and that social interactions are appreciated and important. Furthermore it is argued, that the results of the trial should be celebrated. It may also make more sense to discuss SafeBoosC-IIIv with the results of the SafeBoosC-III being known.

13 members of the steering committee are present (>50%, total n=22) which is enough to consistitute a quorum. Twelve out of 13 present members vote in favor of postponing the meeting till May.

We will contact the venue and a new invitation will be circulated with new dates. There will still be an online meeting in March to discuss secondary publications.

The SafeBoosC-III follow up study – a status

Six centers have participants that have reached two years of corrected age, and four centers have started completing data entries in OpenClinica. A total of 13 participants have been followed up and 10 families have filled out the parental questionnaire. In Copenhagen, there is a need for additional consent to use data from health care records, since the consent form from randomisation did not include the follow up study. In Copenhagen, we have involved secretaries to help with the logistics of sending out new consent forms as well as QR codes for the parental questionnaires. This workflow has been conducted with success so far.

The SafeBoosC-IIIv trial – a status

We unfortunately did not receive any funding from the Novo Nordisk foundation in December. We will keep applying for funding and expect the application to be more robust once we have the results from the SafeBoosC-III trial. It is argued that the SafeBoosC-III follow up study will keep the group together are therefore it is acceptable, that it may take another year to get the new trial running. In the meantime, the design paper is being drafted.

Discussion on potential exemptions on the co-authorship criteria

It is discussed if exemptions should be made for centres that are very close to either 30, 60 or 90 randomised participants and thereby having the possibility of including another co-author. Overall the steering committee agrees that no exemptions are to be made regarding the authorship criteria and number of randomised participants.

Presentation of primary analysis at congresses

It is argued that it should be coordinated carefully when planning the presentation of the results of the primary analysis at congresses and in press releases etc. Some journals have strict guidelines towards this, if manuscript is undergoing peer-review. It is agreed that we will aim at presenting the results for first time around October 2022 at a congress, EAPS was mentioned as a possible venue.

No further business.