Case Study:

Global medical device company pioneering PTSD treatment

nRollmed recruits 50% of the patients in 30% of the time

nRollmed

Faster patient recruitment for your clinical trial

The Challenge:

A global medical device company launched a multi-site study to confirm the efficacy of its dTMS device in the treatment of PTSD.

The study began with an enrollment goal of 100 patients total. Three years later, only 30 patients had been recruited. The sites struggled to find patients since many suffered from disqualifying comorbidities. Many of the sites quickly exhausted their existing patient pool and had no way of expanding it.

Since PTSD is a disorder involving intense suffering, and interferes with daily life, education about the disorder was not difficult. Nor was it a challenge to achieve interest in the study. However, finding patients with the proper diagnosis was challenging; prospective patients were often found to either have been misdiagnosed, have outdated diagnoses, or not diagnosed by a medical professional.

Further complicating recruitment efforts was the requirement to screen out those diagnosed with cPTSD, a newly recognized form of PTSD associated with a history of multiple traumatic events occurring over a longer period of time.

nRollmed's Contribution to the Recruitment Process

- nRollmed recruited 49 subjects
- nRollmed was responsible for the successful recruitment of 66% of patients during the 18 months that they were active
- nRollmed was responsible for 50% of the total randomized subjects. By working with nRollmed, 24 months of recruitment time was saved.

Customized and Collaborative Approach

nRollmed's expert team demonstrated flexibility, quickly adapting their strategy for reaching and screening patients, optimizing their toolset to fit each site's needs.
nRollmed worked closely with each site to determine their level of comfort regarding patient referrals with an unclear diagnosis. Some sites were willing to to perform a professional assessment. Other sites preferred prospective patients to see their own medical professional for diagnosis before on-site screening.

nRollmed's specialized team worked closely with the sites and study sponsor to articulate a broad and carefully worded question that would be IRB approved to screen out cPTSD patients. The pre-screening script was then updated to include this question, enabling the team to further optimize the screening funnel. The addition of this component saved sites valuable time.

The nRollmed team built strong relationships with the staff at each site, listened to their needs and challenges and learned their preferences, capacity, and availability. Based on the information garnered from these relationships, the expert team was able to tailor the service to each site's unique needs.

nRollmed's Method

Awareness campaign

Pre-screening

Site support

Sponsor insights

Optimization

Results

Recruitment for the PTSD trial was successfully completed with nRollmed's participation. nRollmed was active for only 30% of the total recruitment period and in that time recruiter, nRollmed had brought an additional 49 randomized subjects.

nRollmed's active participation resulted in the recruitment of 50% of the total patients.

When comparing the enrollment that took place without nRollmed's participation, working with nRollmed enabled the sponsor to complete the trial 24 months earlier.