

# Co-designing tools to support funders to drive clinical trial transparency

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Clinical trials are the cornerstone of evidence-based medicine. For trials to generate medical knowledge gain, they should adhere to best practices for clinical trial transparency. Transparency in trial registration and reporting ensures that results can be accessed and critically evaluated, helps curb research waste, and reduces bias in our understanding of the medical evidence base.

**Yet trials often do not meet transparency standards.**

**Research funders** are uniquely positioned to drive improvement by setting policies, monitoring funded projects, and supporting compliance. At the same time, **other stakeholders** play a crucial role in promoting transparency and have taken steps towards this aim.

We present a collaborative approach to support trial transparency that leverages the unique position of funders and incorporates the expertise of the broader community. More concretely, we **aim to develop and implement novel tools for funders to drive trial transparency.**

## 1 INTERVIEW

We are conducting interviews with funders of clinical trials to explore their perceived role, activities, and needs around clinical trial transparency.  
Protocol: [osf.io/2wd8t](https://osf.io/2wd8t)



## 2 CO-CREATE

We will run co-creation workshops with funders and other stakeholders to co-develop tools for increased trial transparency based on the needs identified in the interviews.



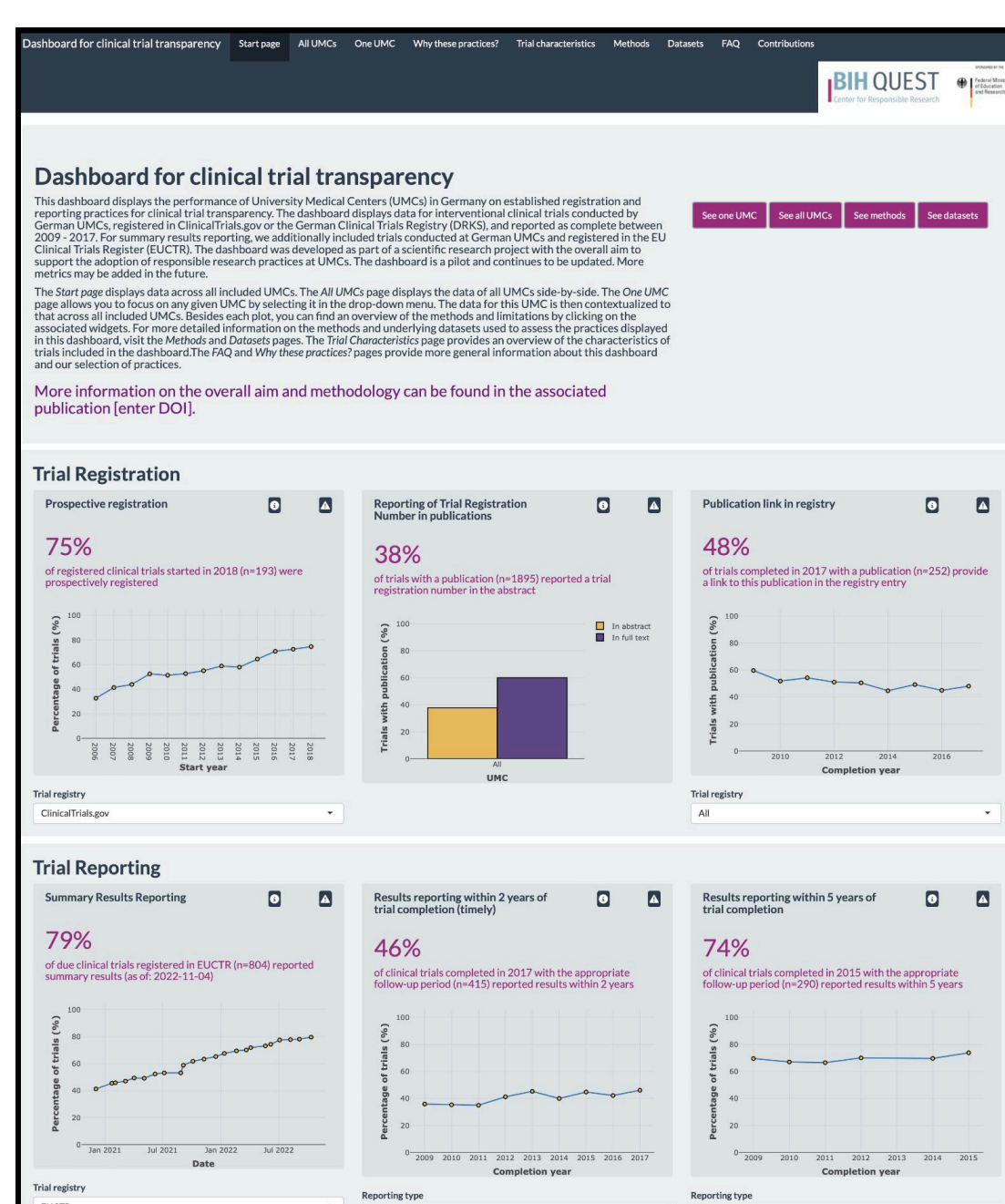
## 3 IMPLEMENT

We will develop tools for trial transparency based on the co-creation workshops. We will pilot the implementation of the tools together with a pioneering funder.



### MONITORING TOOLS?

institutional dashboard



available online at <https://quest-cttd.bihealth.org/>

### SUPPORT TOOLS?

report cards

Response/Practice	Your trial	Can you still improve your trial's transparency?
Prospective registration	✓ Your trial was registered before the trial start date (2016-01-15 in ClinicalTrials.gov)	
Reporting of summary results in the registry within 1 year	✗ Your trial does not have summary results in ClinicalTrials.gov	Post summary results in ClinicalTrials.gov by following <a href="#">Best Practices</a> . The WHO recommends posting summary results in the registry within 1 year of trial completion.
Reporting of results in a journal publication within 3 years	✓ The journal publication based for your trial (Prolonged subunit exposure therapy: meta-research) was timely, published within 3 years of trial completion (2018-09-11)	
Links between registration and publication	✗ A link to your publication was not found in the registry (NCT02450876) is in the publication abstract (NCT02450876) is in the publication main body	Link the results publication in the corresponding registry entry in ClinicalTrials.gov by following <a href="#">Best Practices</a> .
Open Access	✗ Your publication is not openly accessible in a journal or repository A publisher may have to make your publication openly available as an institutional repository	Archive the accepted version of your publication in a repository • Use <a href="#">CrossRef</a> to deposit in Zenodo, OR • Contact the <a href="#">Journal Open Access Team</a>
Consistent registration in a public registry	✓ Your trial was prospectively registered in <a href="#">EudraCT</a> ✓ Summary results were found in <a href="#">EudraCT</a>	

infosheet

Category	Checklist
REGISTRATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Register prospectively</li> <li>Upload summary results</li> <li>Link to results publication in the registry</li> </ul>
PUBLICATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public results in a journal</li> <li>Make publications openly accessible</li> <li>Include the trial registration number</li> </ul>
GENERAL RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where should I register a trial?</li> <li>How do I register a trial?</li> <li>How do I post summary results in the registry?</li> <li>How do I link a publication in the registry?</li> <li>How do I make a publication openly accessible?</li> </ul>

### OTHER IDEAS?



What tools are you aware of to support transparency?

Are you a **funder** of clinical trials, or does your **work relate to clinical trials**?

Do you have experience with **co-creation** or **implementation**?

Let's connect!



Delwen



Maia

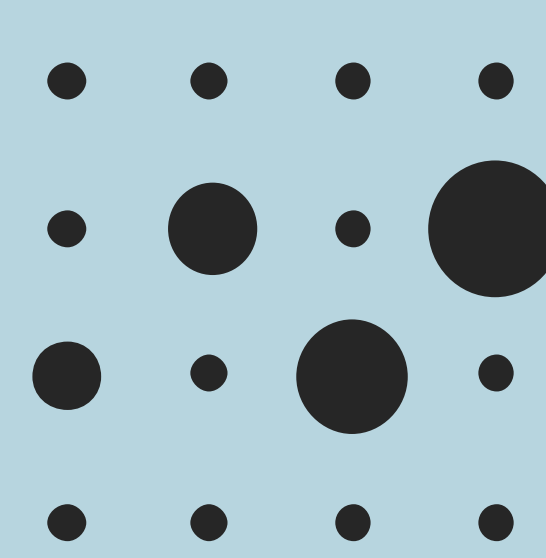


Friederike



Sam

Learn more about this project at **Poster 061** or at our **website**



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QUEST Unconference 2025

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<https://rr-in-action2025.org>