

Case study

Driving a high-adherence LTFU trial without an EDC

Therapeutic area: Obesity / Weight Management

Medable solutions used: Medable Platform, Total Consent

Scale: Global across 39 countries and 49 locales

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Overview

Medable partnered with a top contract research organization (CRO) to run a long-term-follow-up (LTFU) observational trial.

Phase II study

10 years, 10,500 patients



Understanding the challenge of LTFU

Long-term observational trials can often span multiple decades and countries. Traditional EDC systems, while effective for shorter, controlled trials, are many times too rigid for long timelines. For example, a trial starting in 2020 and ending in 2050 will face evolving technology and medical standards, but inflexible systems demand large specialist teams and often increase operational costs. Additionally, centralizing data from diverse sources and locations only adds to these expenses.

Thus, modern clinical research often requires solutions that are not only compliant but also agile and cost-effective for the realities inherent in decades-long trials.

Key outcomes

97%

Patient retention rate achieved

Eliminated the need for a traditional EDC system

Reduced future trial costs significantly over the duration of ten years

Enabled fully-decentralized, web and phone-based patient data collection

Medable's solution



Decentralized, EDC-free trial architecture

- Replaced the EDC with a web-based patient interface and site-led phone outreach
- Configured a three-month data entry window to allow scheduling flexibility
- Provided multi-country adaptability, supporting national coordination and site-led approaches



Sustainable, scalable design

- Embedded upgrade pathways to avoid technology obsolescence
- Prepared for future re-consent needs with built-in eConsent capabilities
- Avoided large capital investment in traditional data systems while maintaining data quality

“You have shown exceptional ownership, commitment, and team spirit approach. For us and (the) sponsor it’s clear that your efforts are making a significant difference in our progress. It’s truly a pleasure working with someone so dedicated and capable.”

- CRO Project Director

Conclusion

Medable's approach delivered a cost-efficient, scalable alternative to EDC, uniquely suited for long-duration, multinational trials.

With significant operational savings and a 97% patient retention rate, the trial sets a new standard for how observational research can be delivered at scale.