

Avoca Quality Consortium Announces 2015 Summit

For Immediate Release

Media Contact:

Ashley Petersen

Community Manager/ Associate Marketing Manager

ashley.petersen@theavocagroup.com

908.304.3435

General Information:

Caryn Laermer

Associate Director, Avoca Quality Consortium

caryn.laermer@theavocagroup.com

609.799.0511

Clinical Executives Will Convene to Discuss Leading Practices for Bridging Clinical Trial Innovation and Quality at The Avoca Quality Consortium 2015 Summit

PRINCETON, NJ (April 13, 2015) – The Avoca Group, a leading integrated research and consulting firm focused on clinical outsourcing in the pharmaceutical industry, will hold [The Avoca Quality Consortium's](#) 4th Annual [Summit](#) this spring in Princeton, New Jersey.

Scheduled for May 13th and 14th at the Westin Princeton at Forrestal Village in Princeton, New Jersey, this year's Summit theme is, "*Bridging Clinical Trial Innovation and Quality*." The Platinum Sponsor for the meeting is inVentiv Health, and supporting sponsors are Acurian, BioClinica, ICON, and PPD.

The Summit is an industry-wide symposium that brings together 150+ Senior-Level clinical professionals working in operations, quality, and outsourcing to discuss the latest leading practices for improving proactive quality management in outsourced clinical research.

"The focus of this year's Summit is connecting innovation throughout key areas within the pharmaceutical industry, specifically related to clinical trials and quality," explained Patricia Leuchten, President and CEO of The Avoca Group. "We are pleased to have Craig Lipset as the event's MC, as well as our keynote speaker, Nicholas Webb.

"Wednesday, May 13th is a closed session, open to representatives from the 45+ sponsors, CROs, and specialty service provider organizations that are members of The Avoca Quality Consortium. Participants will have a chance to have in-depth discussions centered on topics such as establishment of a holistic quality management framework; Protocol Quality, including opportunities for patient engagement; and an update on the AQC Prequalification of Technical Suppliers initiative."

Additionally, there is much enthusiasm around the Consortium's launch of its new Member-only online community that will allow Members to exchange leading practices and experiences, and enhance collaboration and engagement on the Consortium's initiatives throughout the year.

The second day, Thursday, May 14th, is an industry-wide symposium open to all professionals. This will include a full day with keynote speakers, executive panels, and interactive audience and small group discussions. Key topics of engagement will include Quality Management Systems; Sponsor/CRO Relationship Management and Impact on Quality; Leading practice approaches to Risk Assessment; Bridging Clinical Trial Innovation and Quality via Clinical Trial Execution; and Strategic Innovation around Protocol Design, Site and Patient Engagement, and Protocol Quality. There will also be a mid-day session from keynote speaker, [Nicholas Webb](#).

Webb is a world-renowned business futurist and innovation thought leader. He is the author of *The Innovation Playbook* and *The Digital Innovation Playbook*. He is also a successful inventor with a wide range of patented technologies, ranging from one of the world's smallest medical implants to consumer and industrial products. His talk will cover bridging innovation and quality and will provide an innovator and quality leader's view of how both clinical trial innovation and quality may be integrated and used to collaborate with patients, investigators, and other customers to deliver better value for all.

About The Avoca Quality Consortium:

Led by [The Avoca Group](#) and sponsored by Eli Lilly and Company and Pfizer Inc., [The Avoca Quality Consortium](#) brings together quality, outsourcing, and operational professionals from Member pharma, biotech, niche clinical service providers, and CRO organizations to accelerate the development of leading practices and industry standards for proactive quality management and risk mitigation in clinical research. The Consortium currently has over 45 Member companies.

To inquire about [The Avoca Quality Consortium](#) membership, please contact Danya.Burakoff@theavocagroup.com or 609-759-2856. To register for the Summit, please contact Caryn.Laermer@theavocagroup.com at (609) 799-0511.

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