Surgical Services: Preimplantation Enables Researchers to Focus on Studies

Researchers at a large Pharmaceutical company required a consistent cadence of studies to maintain momentum in driving pipeline innovation and development of groundbreaking technologies.

**THE CHALLENGE.** Surgically implanting complex devices requires both proficiency and a great deal of time to ensure the procedures yield high quality signals. The customer had a skilled on-site surgical staff who were capable of performing difficult surgeries. However, as their skill set included specialized scientific expertise, their time was more valuable focusing on their pending experiments vs performing surgical procedures.

**THE SOLUTION.** By collaborating with DSI for pre-implanted small animals, the customer receives routine delivery of animals to meet ongoing study demands. The customer’s Veterinarian and Animal Welfare Officer visited DSI to audit the program, ensuring the standards of care and quality were sufficient. DSI’s solution included all upfront organization including ordering animals, securing surgical space, devices, pre- and post-operative care and shipment of healthy, pre-implanted animals ready for study acclimation.

DSI’s animal replacement warranty program reduced risks for the customer’s overall investment. With the warranty program, DSI guarantees success in wild-type strains of animals with previously described (by DSI) implantations of transmitters.

**THE OUTCOME.** Success! The decision to work with DSI paid off with efficiency gains. Still used today, the customer receives high quality animals, pre-implanted with telemetry devices, on a regular basis to maintain the colony. Animals were monitored closely by DSI’s experienced surgeons and veterinary team throughout their stay at DSI.

DSI’s surgeons monitored telemetry signals for quality throughout surgery and during the recovery period. After surgery, telemetry signal qualities were evaluated by DSI’s Data Services team. Animals with signals that were not suitable for use on-study were replaced prior to shipment. By continually using this service, the following benefits are realized:

- Cost savings based on higher surgical success rates
- Protected investment using DSI’s strong warranty program
- Surgery time savings of 90 man hours per order of 30 animals
- Space and time savings for all animal care and husbandry for two weeks while not on-study
- Increased efficiency as DSI handles all upfront coordinating to ensure healthy animals with high quality signals are delivered ready to acclimate for use on-study

DVM and Animal Welfare officers continue to support DSI’s high quality animal health care program. The principal investigator is relieved to focus on science to foster innovation rather than animal preparation and surgeries.