BUSINESS CHALLENGE

A rapidly growing and highly innovative large biotech company sought to improve how it tracks and manages its Research portfolio, from early discovery to preparation for submission of an investigational new drug (IND). The client’s challenges included: a non-intuitive stage-gate model used for tracking and progressing therapeutics; limited system functionality to track, analyze, and report on its Research portfolio; and the inability to easily access information resulting from disparate data sources and inconsistent data standards. These limitations, coupled with an evolving therapeutic landscape and growing organization, meant that the company needed to act quickly to stay competitive.

PROJECT APPROACH

The Accenture Scientific Informatics Services team conducted an assessment of numerous Research groups using agile and design thinking methodologies to enable business harmonization across the Research organization. In collaboration with the client, The Accenture team simplified the stage-gate model to provide flexibility across all modalities (e.g., monoclonal antibodies, antibody-drug conjugates, etc.) and defined how a therapeutic progresses through the Research pipeline. This involved creating:

- Standard definitions
- Business rules
- Source systems
- Processes
- All associated data, ontologies, operational activities and touchpoints

The team also developed a data governance framework to drive consistency across the Research organization. To communicate a unified message to the broader business, the team developed a change management strategy and communication plan.

RESULTS

The Accenture team helped the client improve the way it manages, tracks and shares therapeutic information across its Research portfolio. The simplified and flexible stage-gate model provides the client with a holistic view of all therapeutics across Research, which supports informed decision making and allows for modifications to be made as science evolves. The streamlined operational activities across the stage-gates provide the client with better planning and forecasting capabilities. Lastly, the identification and definition of data types and standards enable the client to tap into a corpus of knowledge across the organization.