

*Fake data for illustration only*

# Improving probability of success: the impact of meetings on Biogen's portfolio

## Background

Scientists at Biogen spend a significant amount of their time in meetings, often at the expense of other tasks such as running analyses or conducting experiments. We sought to quantify the effect of meetings on the early R&D portfolio.

## Methods

We randomly selected 60 Biogen scientists working on projects currently at the Hit ID, Lead ID or Lead Op stages. We extracted their Outlook Calendar data for the period from 1/1/2018 to 6/1/2018 and counted the number of hours spent in meetings.

## Results

Scientists working on projects in Hit ID spend an average of 10 hours/week in meetings, while those working on projects in Lead ID and Lead Op spend an average of 19.5 and 26 hours per week in meetings respectively ( $P = 4.3e-10$ ).

## Conclusions

Scientists wishing to maximize their project's chances of moving through stage-gate criteria should aim to schedule as many meetings as they can.

