A Validation/Qualification Solution for R

Michael O'Connell¹, Ian Cook^{1,*}

1. Spotfire, TIBCO Software Inc. *Contact author: <u>icook@tibco.com</u>

Keywords: validation, qualification, regulatory compliance, FDA, clinical trial

To date, R is not widely used in regulated environments, e.g., clinical trials for pharmaceuticals and medical devices. A common misperception exists that R cannot support the various regulatory requirements for validation/qualification. We present a straightforward framework for successfully complying with regulatory software validation requirements including FDA 21 CFR Part 11 and other GxP documents. Recognizing that validation/qualification applies to the software and to its installation and operation, we present a solution that facilitates qualification of an R installation to meet IQ/OQ/PQ standards. We cite previous *useR*! proceedings on the topic, and discuss the combination of factors enabling growth in the use of R in regulated environments, including guidance from the R Foundation and the availability of tools supporting validation/qualification.

References

- FDA (2010). Code of Federal Regulations Title 21, Part 11, http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfcfr/cfrsearch.cfm?cfrpart=11.
- Harrell, Frank E Jr. (2007). R for Clinical Trial Reporting: Reproducible Research, Quality and Validation. useR! 2007 (Iowa State University), http://biostat.mc.vanderbilt.edu/twiki/pub/Main/FHHandouts/dmcreport.pdf.
- R Foundation for Statistical Computing (2008). R: Regulatory Compliance and Validation Issues, A Guidance Document for the Use of R in Regulated Clinical Trial Environments, <u>http://www.r-project.org/doc/R-FDA.pdf</u>.
- Schwartz, Marc (2007). Use of R in Clinical Trials and Industry-Sponsored Medical Research. *useR!* 2007 (*Iowa State University*), <u>http://user2007.org/program/presentations/schwartz.pdf</u>.