

# Patients @ EMA

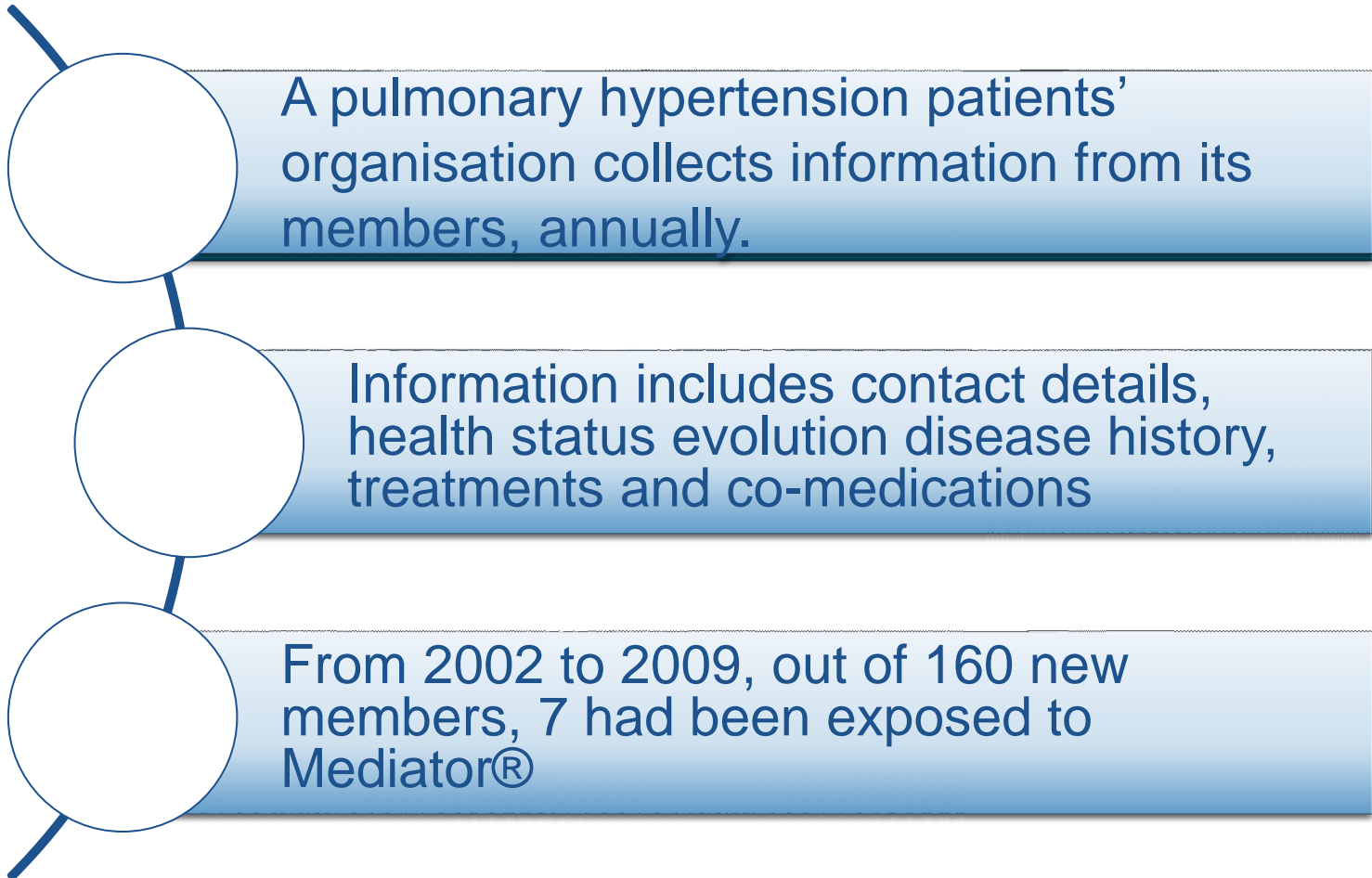


François Houyez

Director of Treatment Information & Access  
Eurordis Summer School 2012, Barcelona



# Please comment (fictitious case)





# Are you prepared? How would your organisation respond to:

Quantitative data you have on the use of the medicine

And also qualitative data (by MS...)

Whether patients are aware of the increased risks

Whether they are reporting benefits & which ones

How pts would react to a market withdrawal

Which off-label uses are reported by patients



# The benefit-risk is a matter of



Constrains  
and ease  
of use



Frequency  
of side  
effects



Efficacy  
including  
quality of  
life



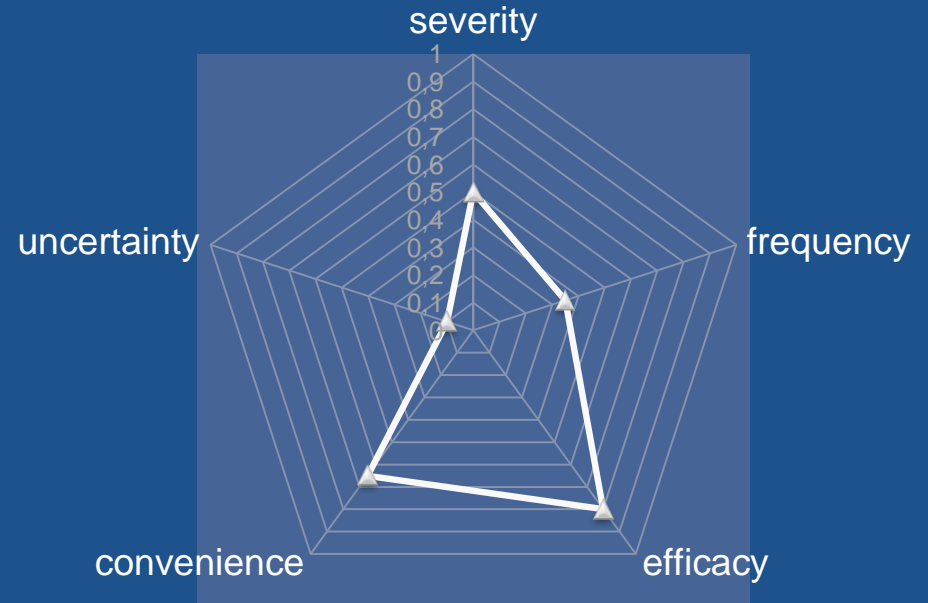
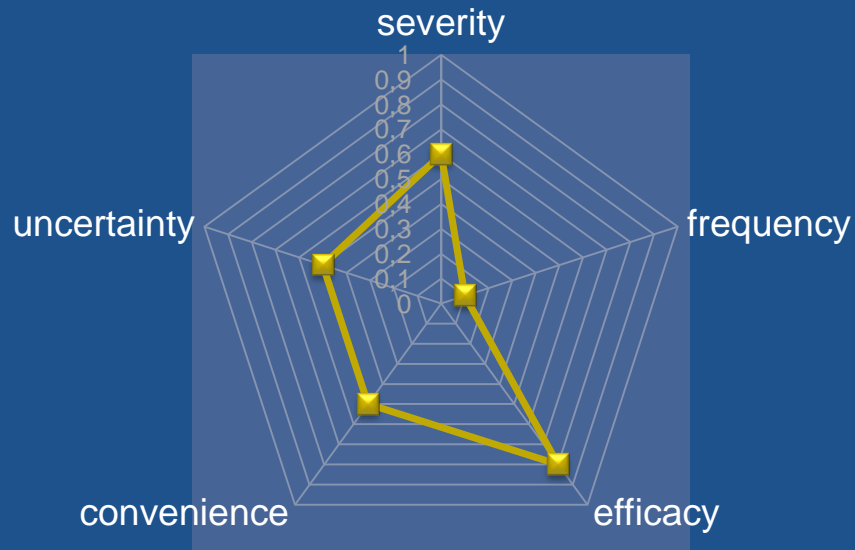
Severity  
of side  
effects



Uncertainty  
what is  
unknown  
as of  
today?



# In fact a 5D balance model







# Agencies and Democratisation workshop, Liege, 2007

## The Independence and Efficiency of EMA

- Although EMA is formally not independent, it dominates the authorisation process for innovative pharmaceuticals. This is not due to procedural, but to substantive rules of decision-making.
- EMA meets the interests of industry, because it establishes the preconditions for a single market.
- EMA is also accepted by consumers, who favour the centralised vis-à-vis the decentralised authorisation procedure.



Chair for International Relations  
Dr. Sebastian Krapohl

Feldkirchenstraße 21, 96052 Bamberg  
E-Mail: [sebastian.krapohl@uni-bamberg.de](mailto:sebastian.krapohl@uni-bamberg.de)



## European Governance: Transparency and democracy in European Agencies

- Horizontal decentralisation involves the delegation of some tasks to **agencies**.
- Which guarantees do we need in terms of
  - transparent decision-making,
  - high-quality expert advice,
  - unbiased consultations,
  - independence,
  - legitimacy,
  - accountability



# Transparency: legal basis

- EU Treaty (Declaration 17 of the Annex)
  - “(...) Transparency of the decision-making process strengthens the democratic nature of the institutions and the public’s confidence in the administration.”
- Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2309/93
- Public assessment reports
- Information on experts/declaration of interests





# Transparency: limitations

- confidentiality constraints
  - protection of commercial and industrial secrecy,
  - protection of individuals and of privacy



# Identified stakeholders

- patients / patients' groups / public
- healthcare professionals
- pharmaceutical companies
- Academia (e.g. IMI projects, ENCEPP...)
- regulatory authorities
- Health technology assessment bodies
- scientific media
- lay media

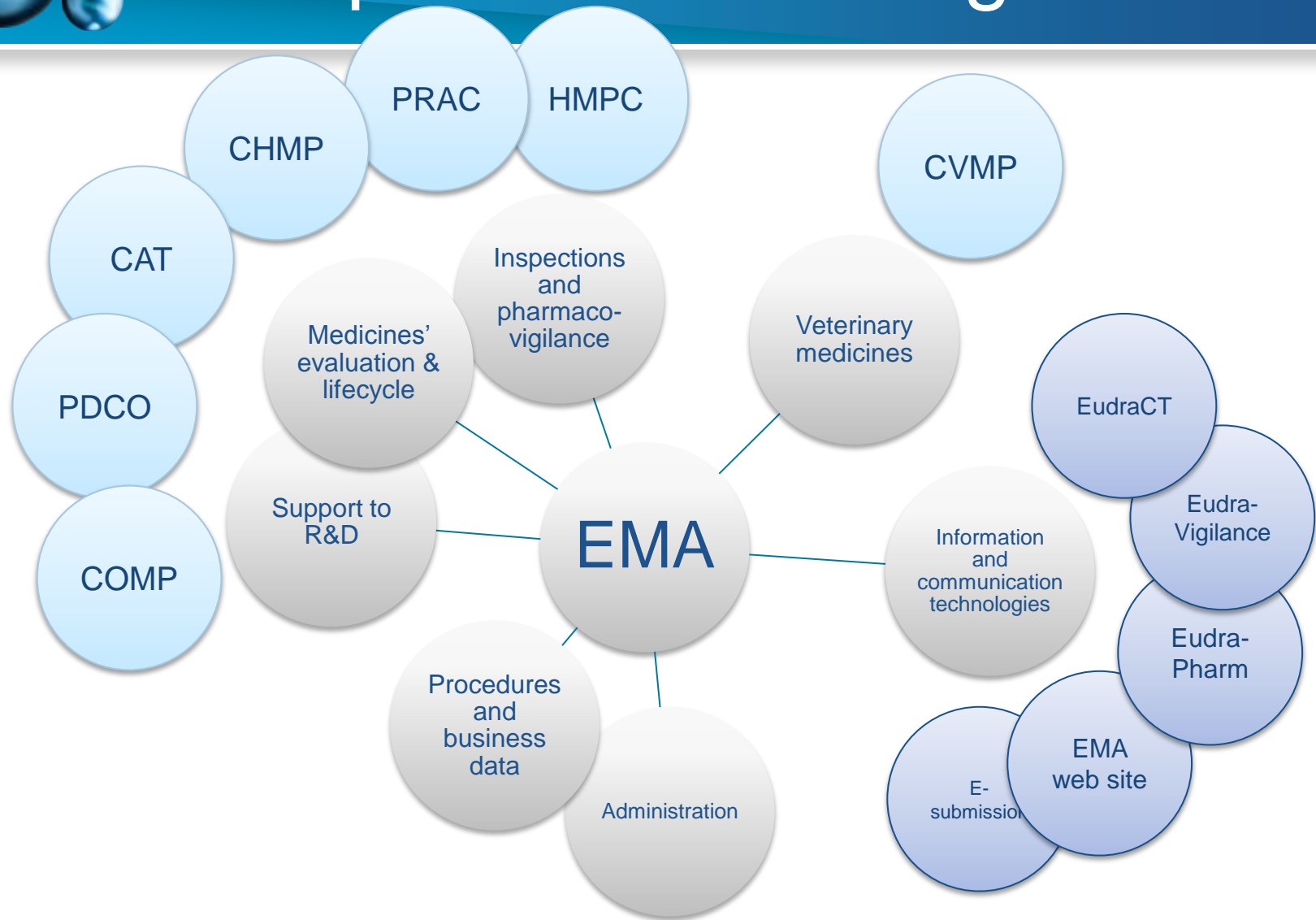


# Available tools

- EMA press releases
- Scientific committees agendas and monthly reports
- Summaries of CHMP & COMP opinions
- EPARs (European Public Assessment Report) with SmPC
- EMA/CHMP public statements
- Annual reports
- Work programmes
- SOPs
- Committees guidance documents
- Dialogue with stakeholders
- Workshop reports
- ...



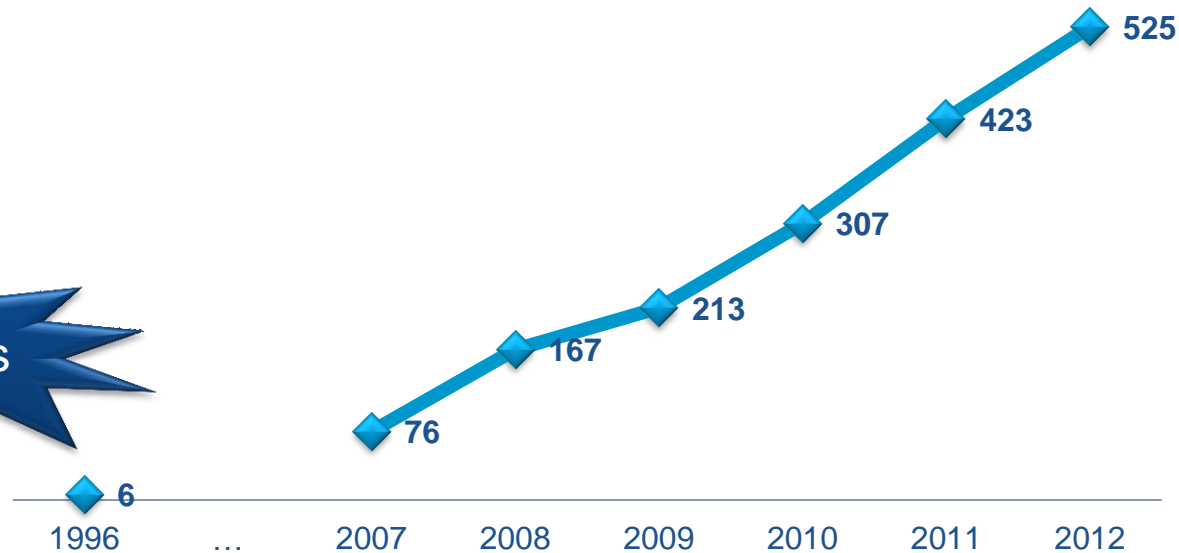
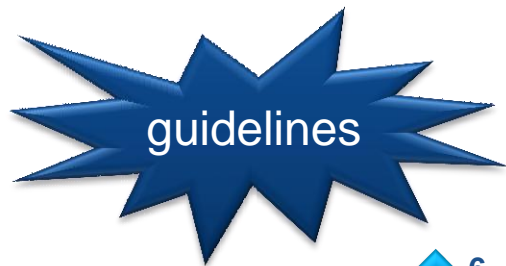
# Simplified EMA reorganisation





# A constant progress

Overall occasions when  
patients/consumers are involved in EMA  
activities, pey year



From EMA Sixth report on the progress of the interaction with patients' and consumers' organisations (2012)



# The PCWP

- Basically: the platform of exchange where we discuss together “how do we work with such an agency?”
- Dialogue between patients, consumers and all scientific committees at EMA
- Established 2007 (working group 2004-2007)
- Chaired by Isabelle Moulon (EMA) & Lise Murphy (EURORDIS)
- With Juan Garcia, Nathalie Bere and other colleagues
- New membership in progress (up to 20)
  - new co-chair election September 2013

All 34

PCWP





# Patients as representatives/experts

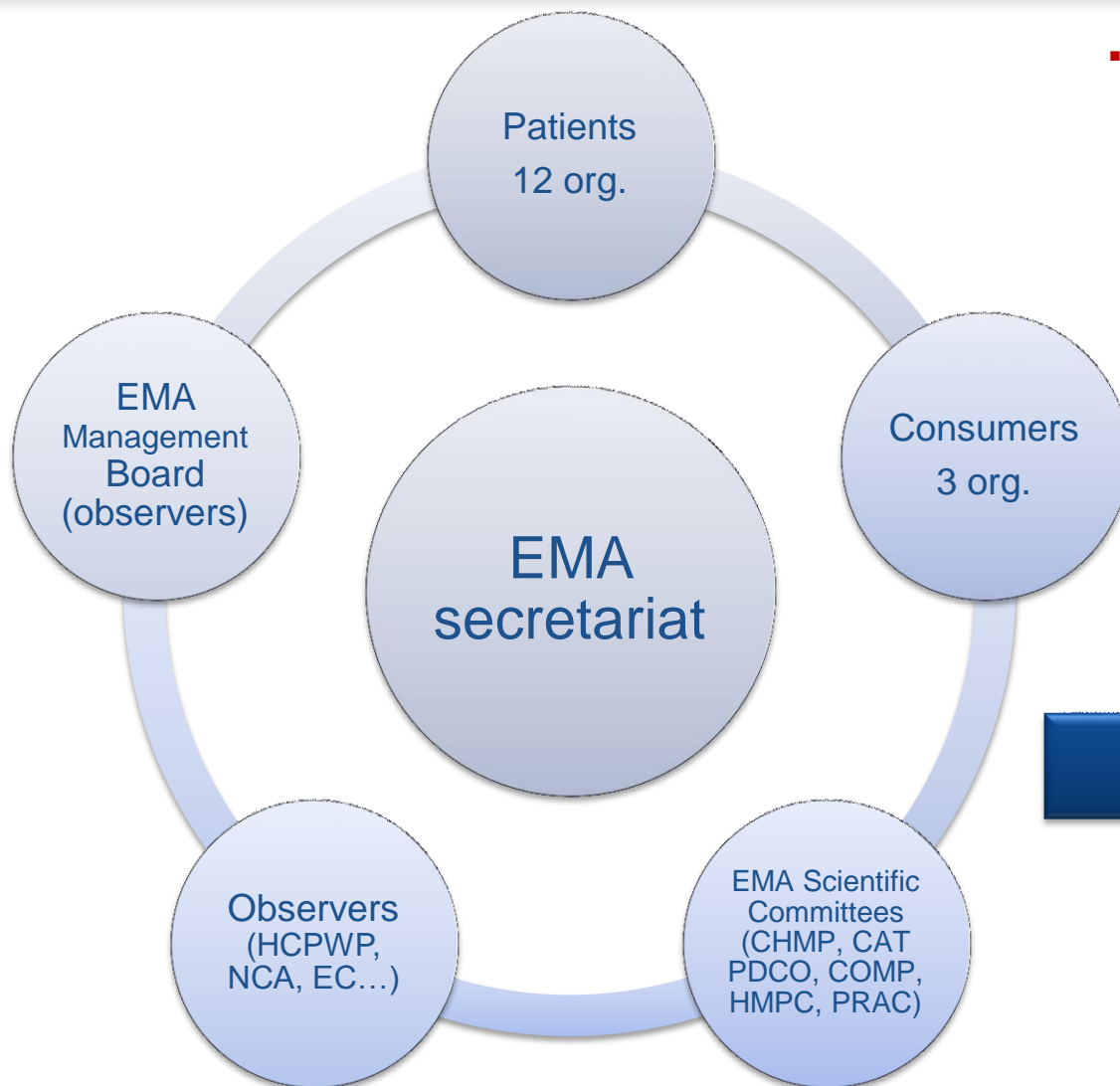
As representatives (e.g. PCWP)	As experts
Consulted on issues of general interest: the opinion of the organisation e.g. on the new logo for additional monitoring of medicines ▼	Consulted on product or disease specific issues e.g. guidelines for the evaluation criteria, scientific advice for benefit/risk evaluation
Can liaise with their organisation in order to deliver the position of the organisation, or give their own	Invited as individual expert Does not represent the organisation Personal expertise
Usually no confidential matter, but in the case: MAH will be informed, and can agree or not to disclose confidential data	Should inform EMA if consulted by applicant/sponsor/MAH
	Confidentiality undertaking
	Conditions to consult with other patient experts
	Adheres to same rules as all other experts
<i>Personal view: should have a mandate and a decision making capacity</i>	Name entered in the EMA EU experts' database



# The patients' and consumers' working party (PCWP) is made up of:

- Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP),
- Pharmacovigilance and Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC),
- Committee for Orphan Medicinal Products (COMP),
- Committee for Advanced Therapies (CAT),
- Co-ordination Group for Mutual Recognition and Decentralised Procedures–Human (CMD(h)),
- Healthcare Professionals' Working Party (HCPWP),
- Paediatric Committee (PDCO),
- Committee on Herbal Medicinal Products (HMPC)

- Number of patients/consumers organisations will increase to 20 as of September 2013



**PCWP**



# The patients' and consumers' working party (PCWP) addresses:

**How to best work with the EMA**

**Expectations from each other working together**

**Transparency of the regulatory process**

**Including the patient's views in EMA processes**

**Training needs**

**Information to the public**



# PCWP @ EMA

- 34 patients' and consumers' organisations eligible to work with EMA (eligibility criteria)
  - 8 for rare diseases, including EURORDIS
  - 15 are member of the PCWP
    - Meet 4 times a year with representatives of all EMA scientific committees
    - Mandate
    - Action plan
    - Evaluation and report



# EURORDIS and PCWP

- We have a task force: Drug Information, Transparency and Access (DITA)
- Follows the PCWP work flow
  - Plus off-label use, NATC products, QofL, members' own issues, working with national authorities...
- Currently 13 members
- Meets 2x / year, and conference call
- 4-5 new members expected among you!





# Our activities (summarised)

## Interaction

- Rules for the involvement of patients
- Policy on conflicts of interest

## Pharmacovigilance

- Pilot self-reporting
- Implementation of new legislation

## Information

- EPAR summary for the public, package leaflets
- Risk communication
- Information on benefit/risk

## Transparency

- Dissemination of EMA decisions and documents
- Public hearings
- Medicine Supply shortages





# Example 1: a comment to PL

## 1. What X is and what it is used for

X contains the active substance Z. X is  
Therapy and is given to adults with Gau

### How X works

Signs of this disease are one or more of

- spleen or liver enlargement
- a low number of red blood cells
- a tendency to bleed easily caused by a low platelet count. (Platelets stop blood from  
plug in a hole in a vessel)
- bone disease

*Comment:*

*Why are neurological or dermatological symptoms not mentioned? It gives the impression that X is only for type I Gaucher disease.*










*A bullet point “sometimes other signs such as yellowish-brown skin colour or neurological symptoms exist” should be added.*



## Example 2: Consultation Pharmacovigilance & Additional monitoring

### Selection of the black symbol Outcome consultation with the stakeholders

(3) Would you have any **other suggestions** for the 'black symbol'?

Black triangle with an eye inside	
Traffic lights	
Capsule behind magnifying glass	
Non-inverted triangle with capsule inside	
Vigilant eye with capsule inside	
Banner (indicating 'work in progress')	
Traffic cone (indicating 'work in progress')	
Video surveillance	
Hand icon	



## Example 3: Joint EMA / university of Groningen study on disease outcome preferences

- EMA Project on Benefit-Risk Methodology
- Values and Preferences for Health States Among Patients (efficacy and safety)
- 3 therapeutic areas (research phase)
  - Cardiovascular, central nervous system, oncology
  - Study launched with UK MS society – November 2011
- Presented by: Andrea Beyer, EMA/UMCG Collaboration



# Treatment attributes and levels in MS study

Treatment attribute	Levels
Number of relapses during next 5 years	No relapse
	1 relapse
	3 relapses
	4 relapses
Time (from today) until your disease worsens	8 years
	5 years
	3 years
	1 year
Chance of dying from liver failure within 10 years	None would die
	5 patients out 1000
	20 patients out 1000
	50 patients out 1000
Chance of dying or severe disability from PLM within 10 years	None would die
	5 patients out 1000
	20 patients out 1000
	50 patients out 1000
Chance of dying from leukaemia within 10 years	None would die
	5 patients out 1000
	20 patients out 1000
	50 patients out 1000



# Example of comparing treatment option

Treatment features	Treatment A	Treatment B
Number of relapses during the next 5 years	4 relapses	2 relapses
Time (from today) until your MS gets worse	3 years	3 years
Chance of dying from liver failure within 10 years	None would die	20 patients out of 1000 (2%) would die
Chance of dying or severe disability from PML within 10 years	5 patients out of 1000 (0,5%) would die	None would die
Chance of dying from leukaemia within 10 years	None would die	None would die
Which treatment would you choose?	Treatment A?	Treatment B?
	50%	50%



# CHMP consultation with POs

- Pilot phase
  - ⌘ Can't be systematic: too many products, too many regulatory decisions
  - ⌘ First identify topics where CHMP will consult with POs
- E.g. benefit/risk re-evaluation
  - ⌘ benefit not fully demonstrated with increasing risks
    - ⌘ Onsenal®/celecoxib for Familial Adenomatous Polyposis
  - ⌘ CHMP may ask which quantitative/qualitative data we have regarding the use of the medicine
  - ⌘ Whether patients are aware of the increased risks
  - ⌘ Whether patients are reporting benefits and which ones
  - ⌘ How patients would react to a possible market withdrawal
- Are we prepared?





# Other activities

- To communicate on the risks and benefits of medicines together
  - With equal emphasis on efficacy than on risks
- To follow-up the implementation of the legislation on pharmacovigilance
- User testing for all EMA IT projects
- All EMA workshops (medication errors, patient support programmes...)
- Clinical trial data and transparency
- Newly: medicines supply shortages



# Some cases

- **Supply shortage**
  - Myozyme® - March 09
  - Thyrogen – March 2011- continues
  - Cerezyme® and Fabrazyme® June 09 – continues
  - Increlex – April 2013 – continues
- **Product defect** (with or without supply shortage)
  - Norvir® capsules - October 98
  - Viracept® 2007
  - All products Ben Venue Laboratories since December 2011 (Angiox, Busilvex, Caelyx, Cayston, Ceplene, Ecalta, Luminity, Mepact, Soliris, Torisel, Velcade, Vibativ, Vidaza and Vistide)
- **Adverse drug reaction**
  - Cox 2 inhibitors 2005
  - Biphosphonates/ osteonecrosis of jaw 10/2010
- **Sudden market withdrawal**
  - Dextropropoxyphene September 09



# To help you:

- Is a medicine designated as orphan?
- When is a MAA submitted?
- New safety alerts
- Safety referrals
- EudraVigilance
- EudraCT register
- New PASS/PAES
- Trainings

