



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

Why measure the impact of regulatory action?

Workshop: measuring the impact of pharmacovigilance activities
5-6 December 2016

June M Raine
Chair Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee



- Why current focus on measuring impact of regulatory action?
- What has been learnt from experience of measuring regulatory action impact?
- Where next – what is vision for the future?
- How will regulatory approach to impact measurement be strengthened?



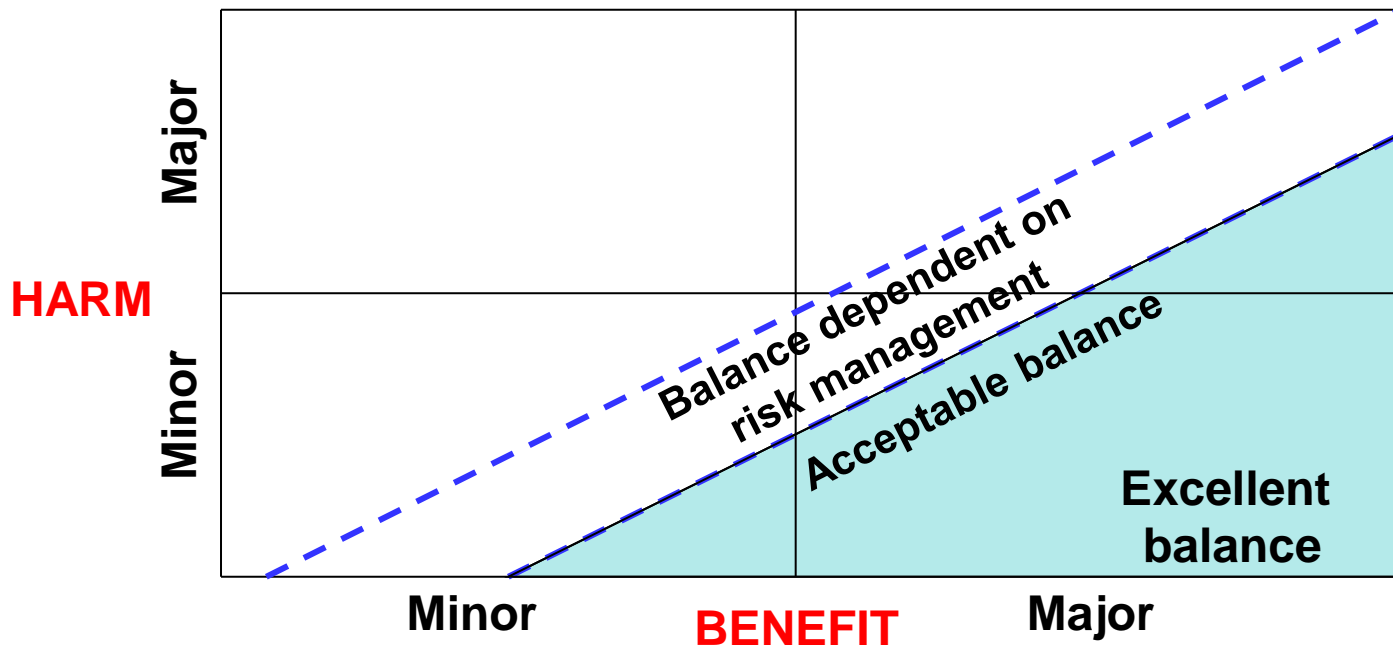
Monitoring benefit risk throughout medicinal product life-cycle

Taking action on safety issues in clinical use to manage and minimise risk

Communicating updated information to healthcare professionals and patients



Benefit harm balance



No effective medicine is without risk
so how much harm can be prevented?

It's all about benefit risk, so shouldn't
patients & public accept a certain
amount of risk?

Aren't healthcare professionals
responsible for impact of risk
management rather than regulators?



Have the major efforts to strengthen EU
pharmacovigilance systems had effect?

Do we need to measure impact when
regulatory action is agreed to be right?

Isn't regulatory resource better spent
improving systems for harm detection?

Whose impact?



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY



Measuring impact of regulatory action – your view?

- Not a routine regulatory responsibility
- Informative for important public health decisions
- All regulatory actions should be subject to systematic impact measurement



5% of all hospital admissions due to ADRs

5% of all hospital patients experience an ADR

5th most common cause of hospital death is ADRs

197,000 deaths per year in EU caused by ADRs

Total societal cost €79 billion

*5910 lives per year and
€237m could be saved*





Studies in EU member states estimated that **20% to 70%** of ADRs preventable

Success of risk minimisation measures needed to be evaluated

If ineffective, alternative strategies need to be evaluated



Pirmohamed et al 2004 BMJ 329; 15-19

8 Rottenkolber 2011, Pharmacoeperi & Drug Safety; 20: 626-634

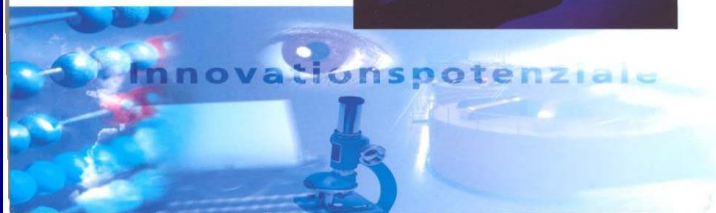
Drugs leading to hospital admission

Drug group/drug	No (%) of cases	Individual drugs	Adverse reactions
NSAIDs	363 (29.6)	Aspirin (218), diclofenac (52), ibuprofen (34), rofecoxib (33), celecoxib (8), ketoprofen (6) naproxen (5)	GI bleeding, peptic ulceration, haemorrhagic cerebrovascular accident, renal impairment, wheezing, rash
Diuretics	334 (27.3)	Furosemide (128), bendroflumethiazide (103), bumetanide (43), spironolactone (37), amiloride (19), metolazone (11), indapamide (6)	Renal impairment, hypotension, electrolyte disturbances, gout
Warfarin	129 (10.5)	—	GI bleeding, haematuria, high INR, haematoma
ACE inhibitors/All receptor antagonists	94 (7.7)	Ramipril (28), enalapril (25), captopril (12), lisinopril (9), irbesartan (6), losartan (5), perindopril (4)	Renal impairment, hypotension, electrolyte disturbance, angioedema
Antidepressants	87 (7.1)	Fluoxetine (17), paroxetine (14), amitriptyline (13), citalopram (9), lithium (8), venlafaxine (8) dosulepin (7),	Confusion, hypotension, constipation, GI bleed, hyponataemia
{beta} blockers	83 (6.8)	Atenolol (69), propranolol (6), sotalol (3), bisoprolol (2), metoprolol (2), carvedilol (1)	Bradycardia, heart block, hypotension, wheezing
Opiates	73 (6.0)	Morphine (20), dihydrocodeine (20), co-codamol (8), tramadol (8), co-dydramol (6), fentanyl (5)	Constipation, vomiting, confusion, urinary retention



Assessment of the European Community System of Pharmacovigilance

Bernhard Bührle
Thomas Reiß
Christiane Beckmann
Ulrich M. Gassner
Christoph H. Gleiter



European Commission “Fraunhofer” review of pharmacovigilance actions and activities in EU

Independent pan-EU assessment
of activities, strengths and
weaknesses



“Fix it while you fly”

Benefit risk throughout product lifecycle

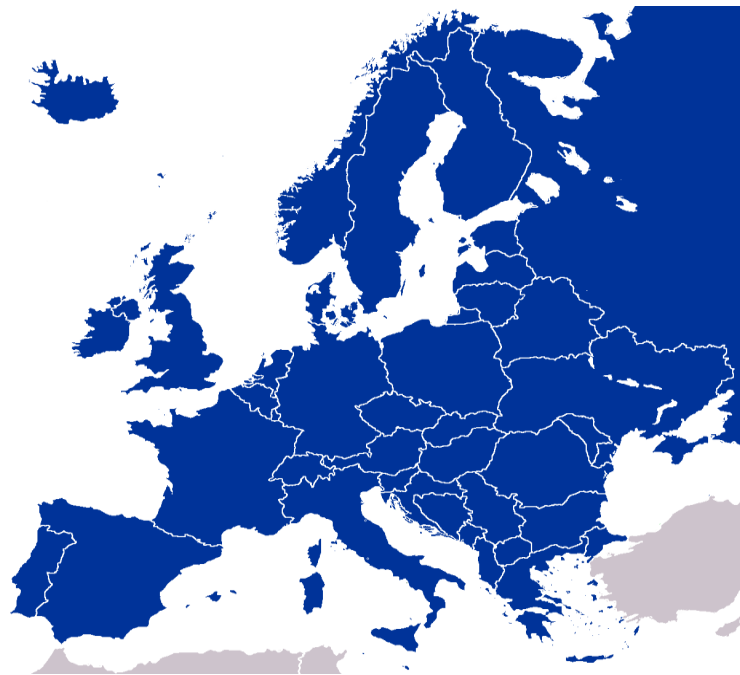
Proactive risk management planning

Effectiveness of risk minimisation

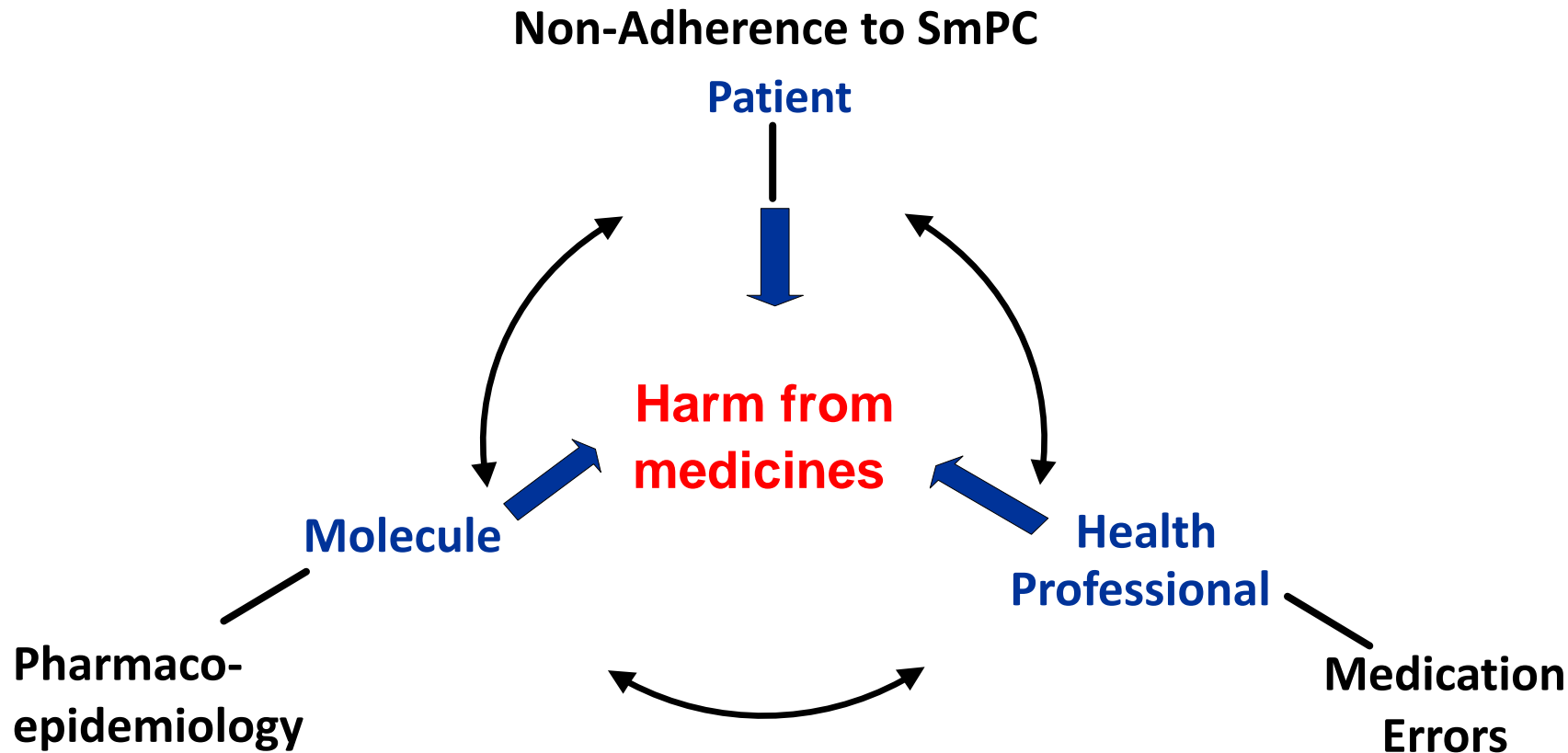
Additional monitoring scheme

Patient reporting of ADRs

Quality systems & audits



Strengthened pharmacovigilance systems





15 April 2014
EMA/204715/2012 Rev 1*

Guideline on good pharmacovigilance practices (GVP) Module XVI– Risk minimisation measures: selection of tools and effectiveness indicators (Rev 1)

Draft finalised by the Agency in collaboration with Member States and submitted to ERMS FG	21 March 2013
Draft agreed by ERMS FG	27 March 2013
Draft adopted by Executive Director	6 June 2013
Released for consultation	7 June 2013

Good Vigilance Practice XVI



All aspects of the risk management of the use of medicinal products including the detection, assessment, minimisation and communication relating to the risk of adverse reactions, having due regard to the therapeutic effect of the medicinal product, the design and evaluation of post-authorisation safety studies and pharmacovigilance audit





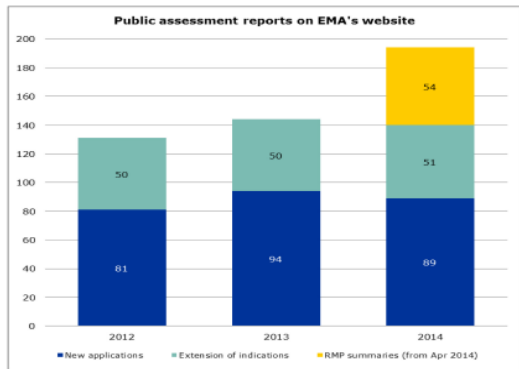
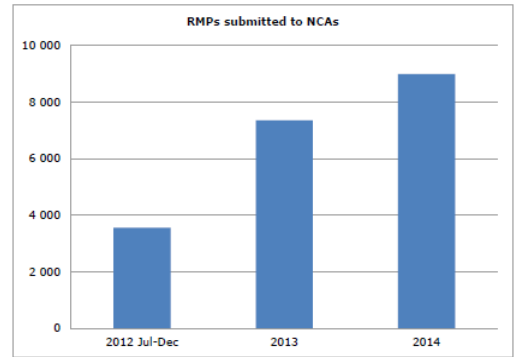
EUROPEAN COMMISSION

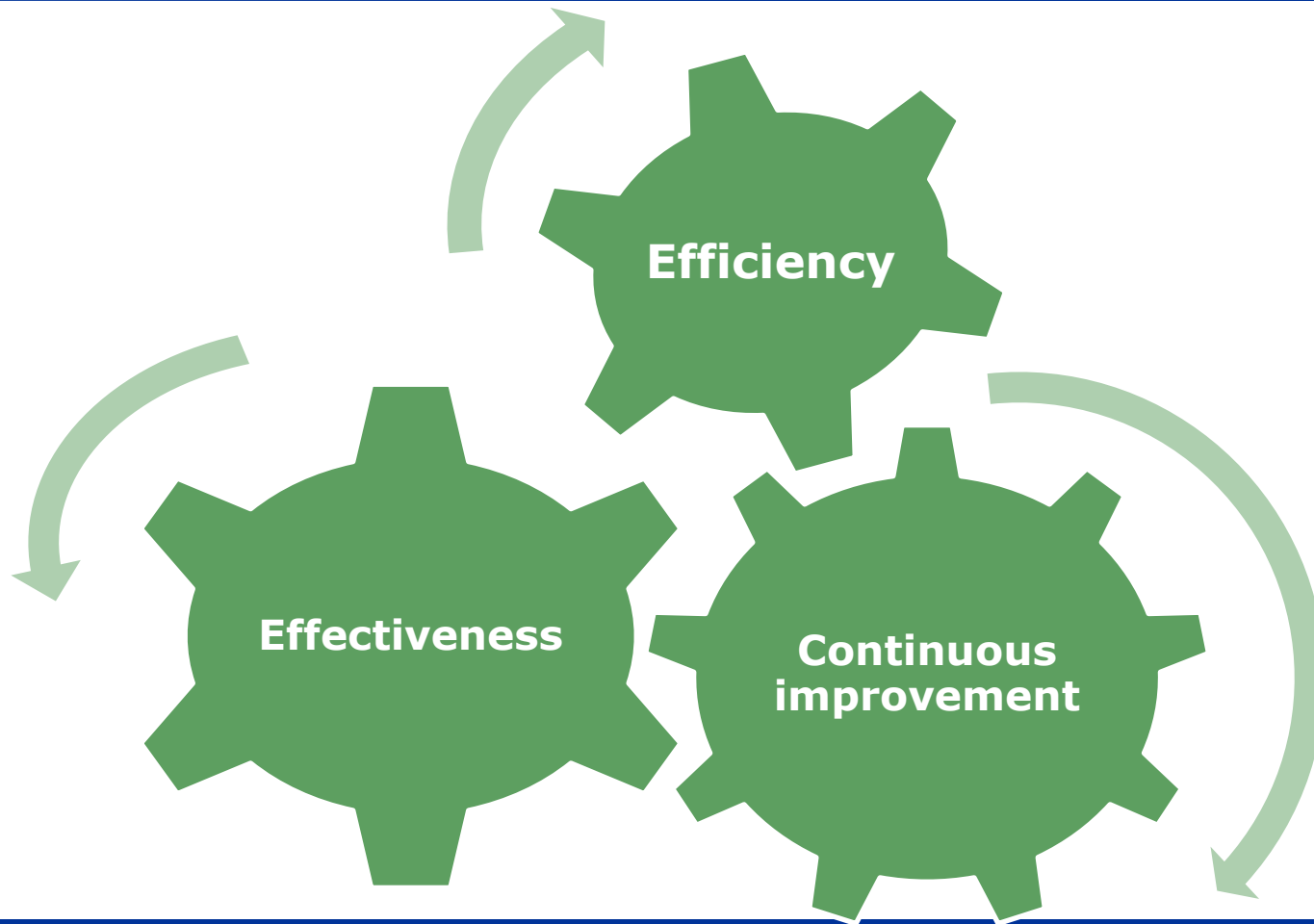
Brussels, 8.8.2016
SWD(2016) 284 final

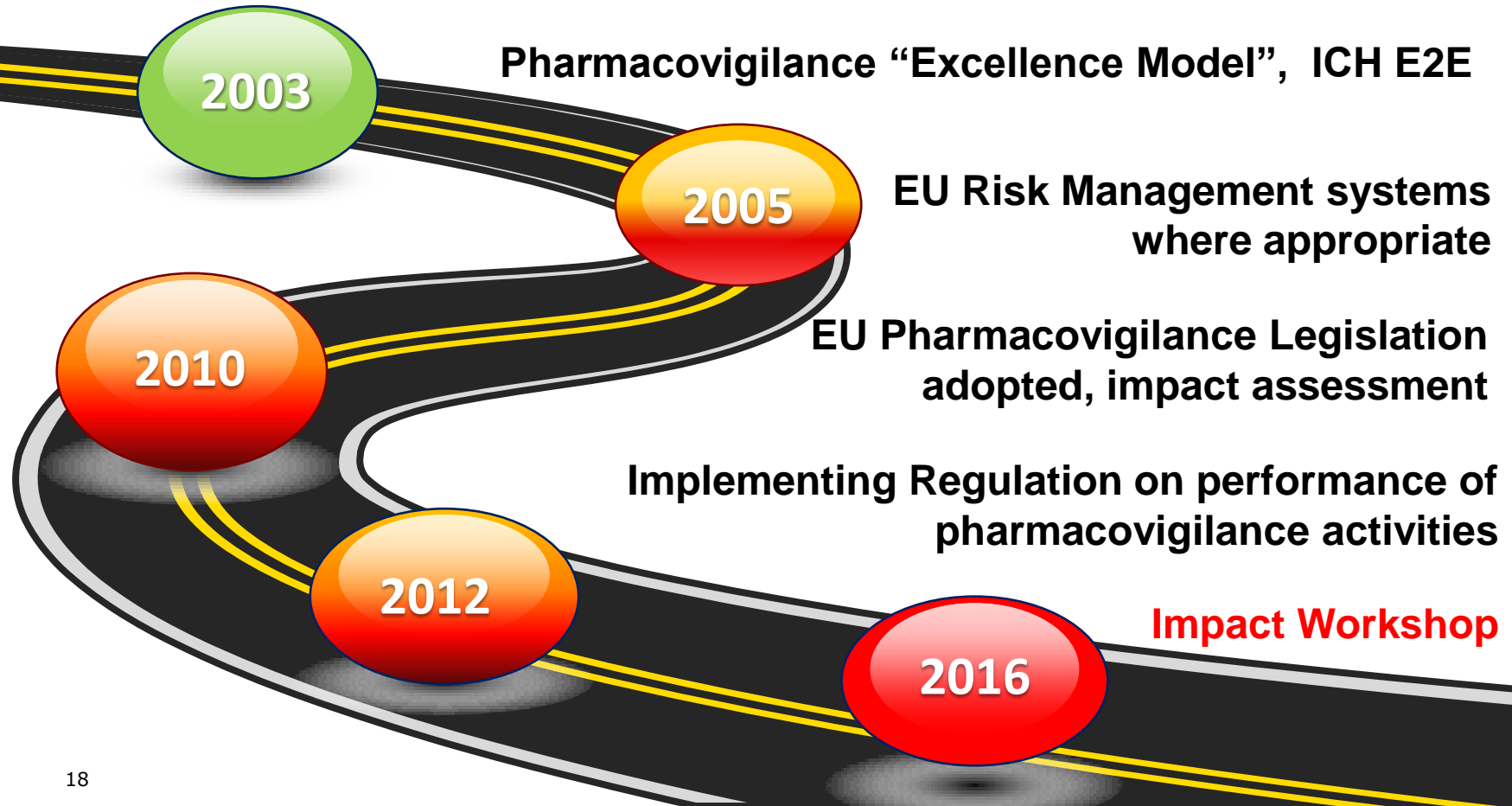
COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT
Accompanying the document

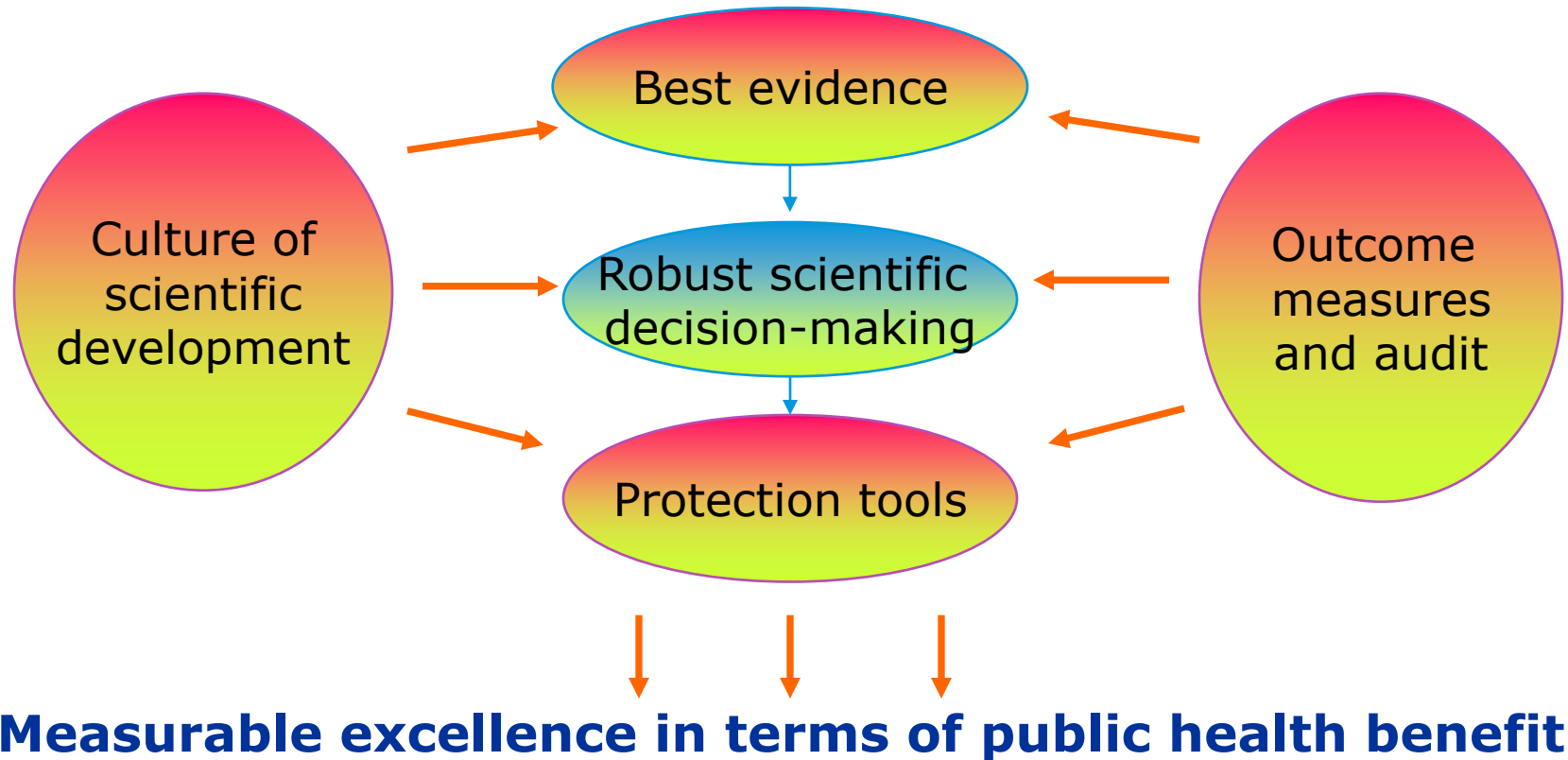
Commission Report

**Pharmacovigilance related activities of Member States and
the European Medicines Agency concerning medicinal products for human use
(2012 – 2014)**

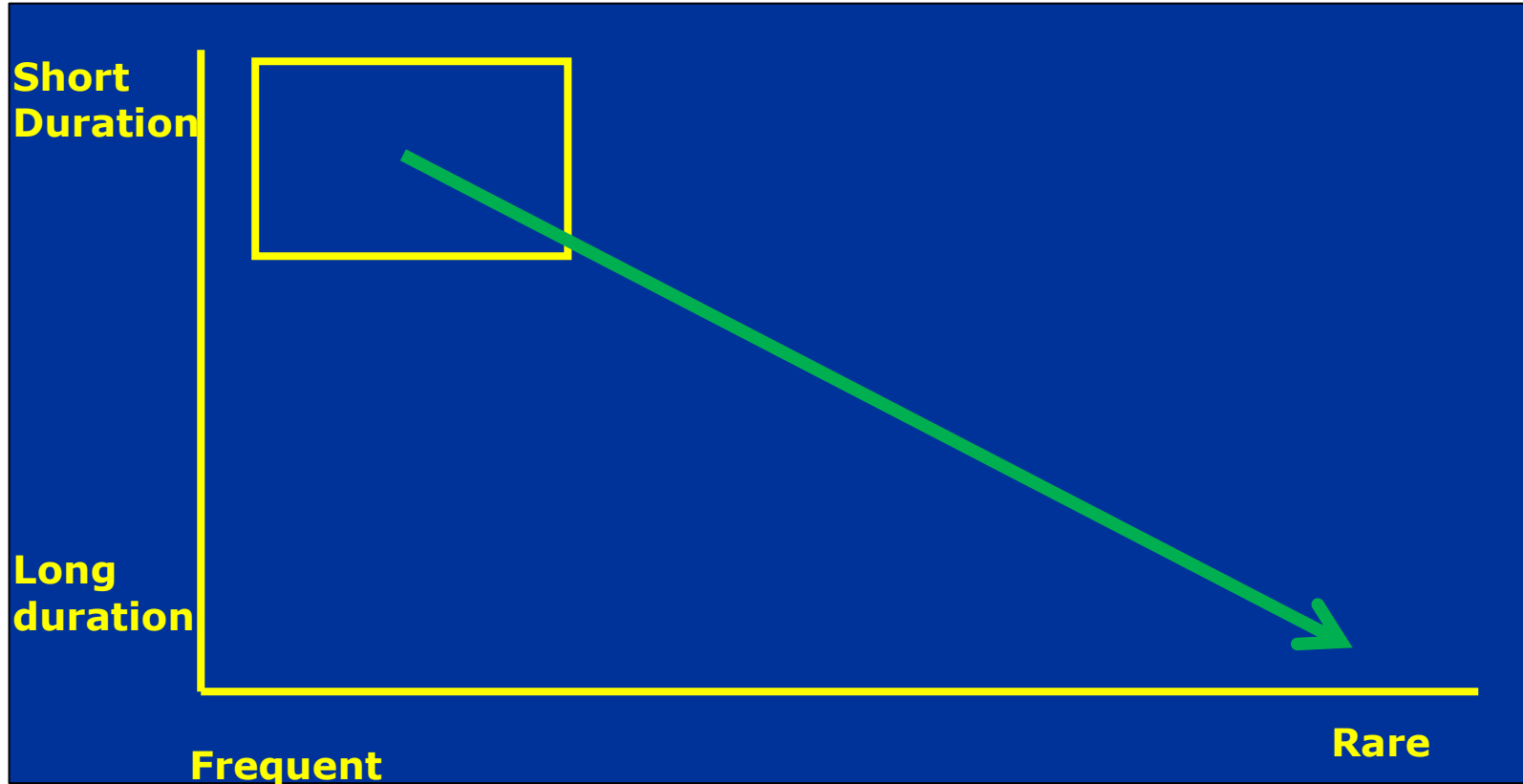








Demonstrating a greater degree of safety



Ad hoc regulatory risk minimisation measures & effectiveness monitoring

Clozapine and agranulocytosis 1989

Population studies on impact of key regulatory warnings and restrictions

Aspirin & Reye's Syndrome in children 1990s

HRT and breast cancer 2001

Paracetamol in overdose 2004

Monitoring impact of regulatory action has been undertaken followed significant EU decisions

Withdrawal of rosiglitazone 2007

Withdrawal of co-proxamol 2010

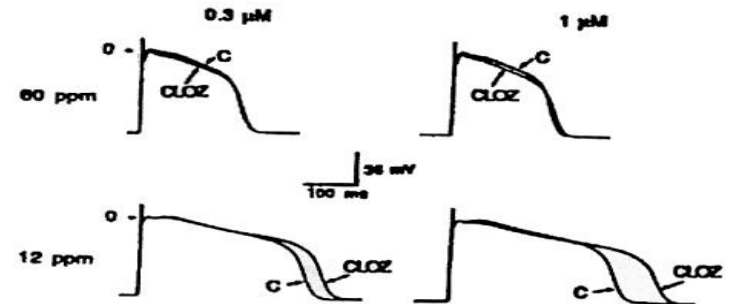
No blood no drug database

Data from over 12,000 subjects

Neutropenia cumulative incidence 2.7%
with peak risk at 6-18 weeks

Risk factors - age, ethnicity, baseline
WBC, dose (inverse)

No haematological fatalities



Uptake and effect of measures?

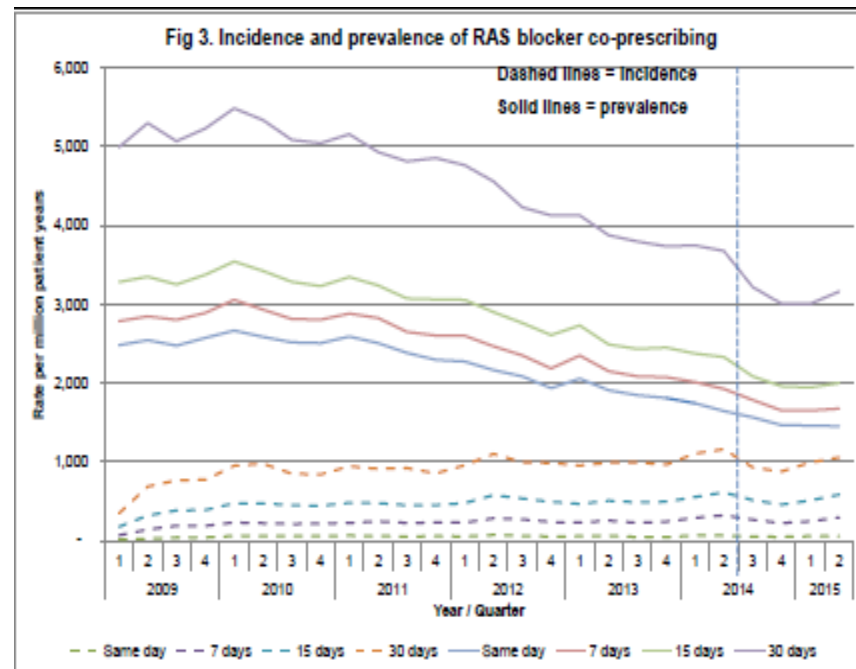
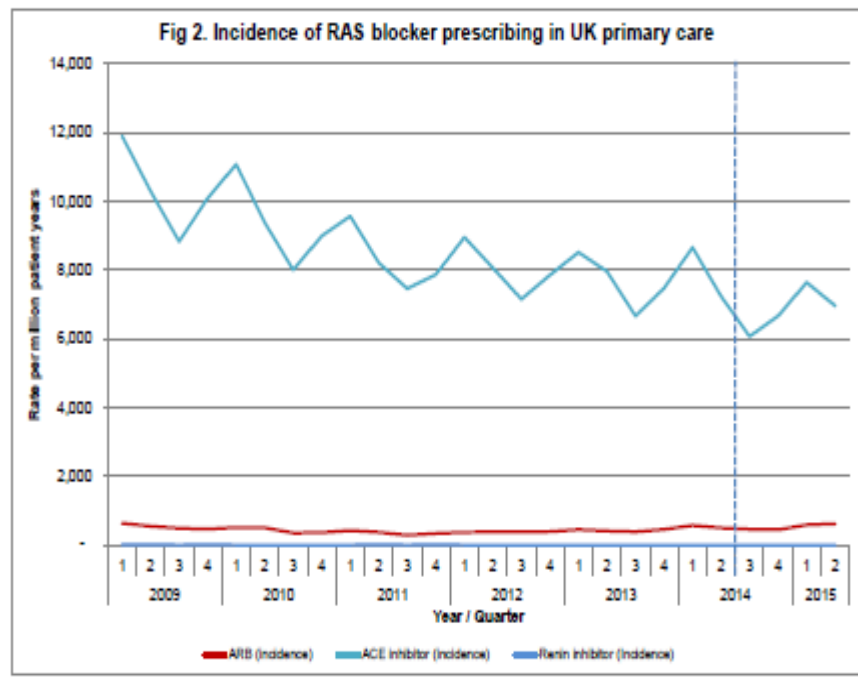
Concomitant RAS agents
Benzodiazepines Rx duration

Measurable public health impact?

HRT and breast cancer

Therapeutic consequences?

Thioridazine and CVS risk
SSRIs in children



Allen C and Donegan K, 2016



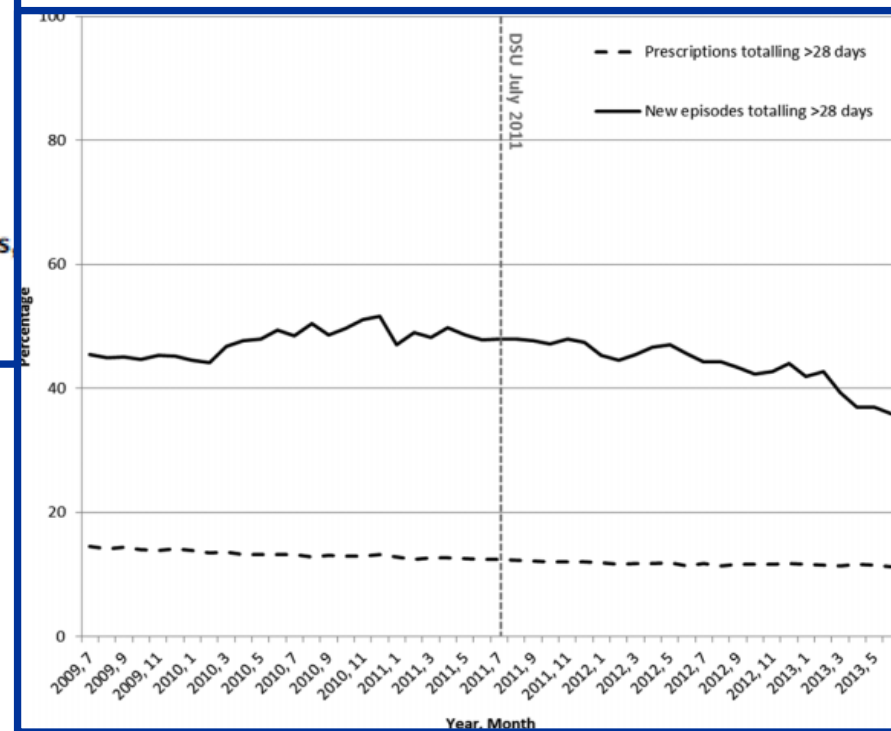
Analytical Report

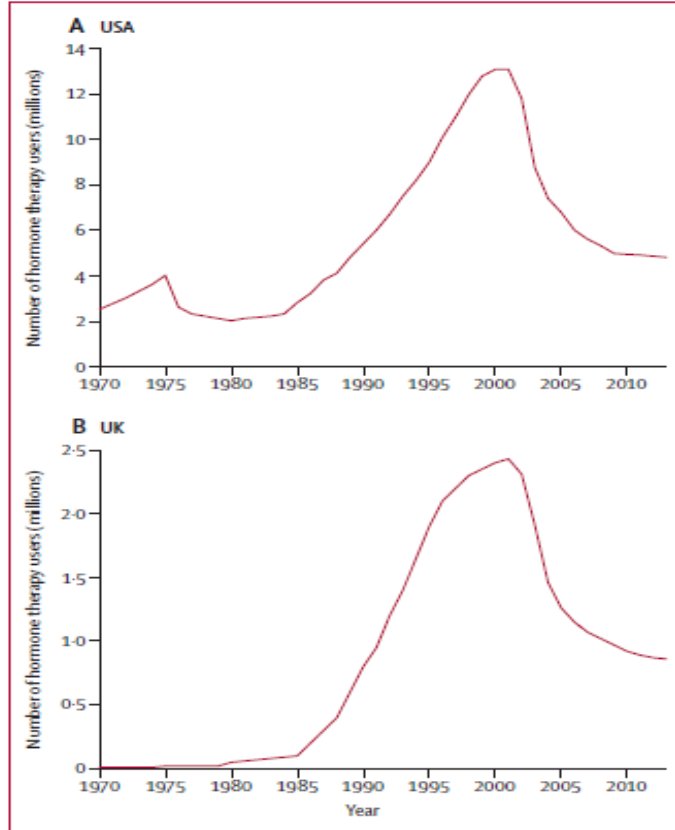
Monitoring and Evaluating the Effect of Regulatory Action: Some Recent Case Studies

Andrew Thomson, MA, MSc, PhD^{1,2}, Wilhelmine Hadler Meeraus Jenny Wong, BSc¹, and Rafe Suvarna, MBBS, BSc, FFPM¹

Trends in proportion of benzodiazepine prescription longer than 28 days in UK primary care

Thomson et al. Therapeutic Innovation and Regulatory Science 2015, 49 (4) 473-482





Impact of removal of first-line HRT indication in osteoporosis in 2001 after WHI study showed evidence of harms

Trends in use of hormone therapy for menopause since 1970, USA and UK

Ref- Harrison-Woolrych 2015

Figure 1: Trends in hormone therapy use in the USA and the UK since 1970
For source of data, see appendix p 4.

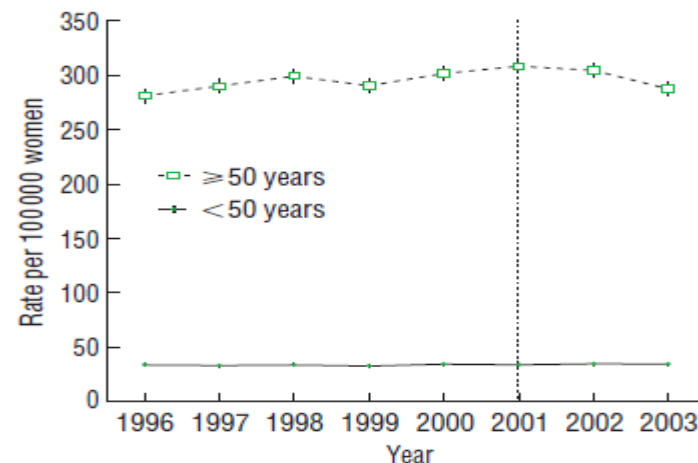
1 Hormone replacement therapy (HRT) prescriptions among concession cardholders in Australia, 1996–2003



Vertical dotted line indicates commencement of the period over which HRT prescriptions were expected to decline.



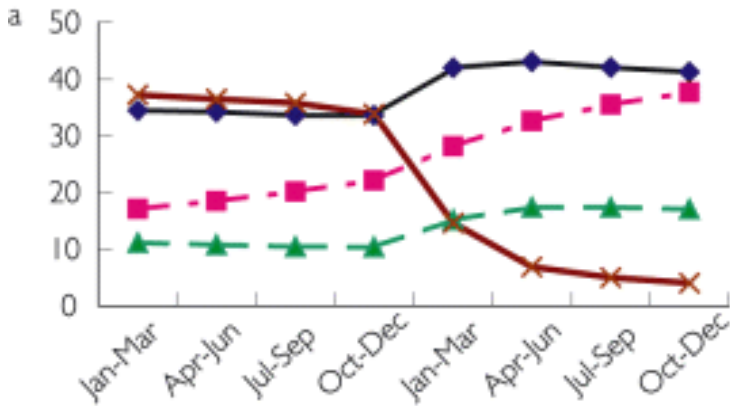
2 Age-standardised incidence of invasive breast cancer in women in Australia, 1996–2003



Vertical bars represent 95% CIs (confidence intervals are very small for women aged <50 years). Vertical dotted line indicates commencement of the period over which there was a hypothesised decrease in breast cancer incidence in women aged ≥ 50 years but not in women aged <50 years.

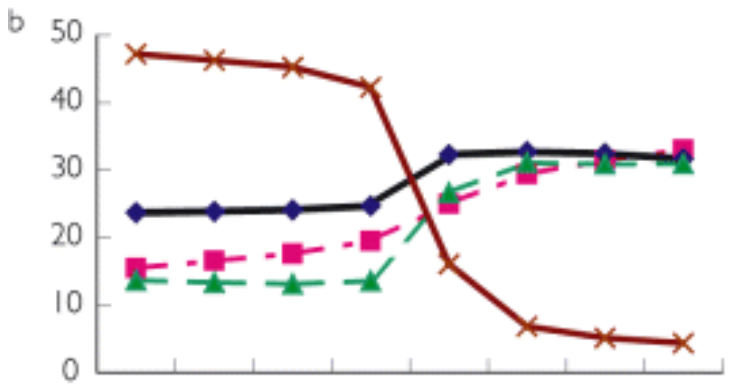


Prescribing of antipsychotics after thioridazine action



Prescribing of antipsychotic drugs per QTR 2000–2001 expressed as % of total antipsychotics

a, **Percentage England** Others ■ risperidone, olanzapine ▲ chlorpromazine × thioridazine



b, **Percentage Scotland** ■ risperidone, olanzapine; ▲ chlorpromazine; × thioridazine



Effects of licence change on prescribing and poisons enquiries for antipsychotic agents in England and Scotland

D. N. Bateman ✉, A. M. Good, R. Afshari, C. A. Kelly

Article

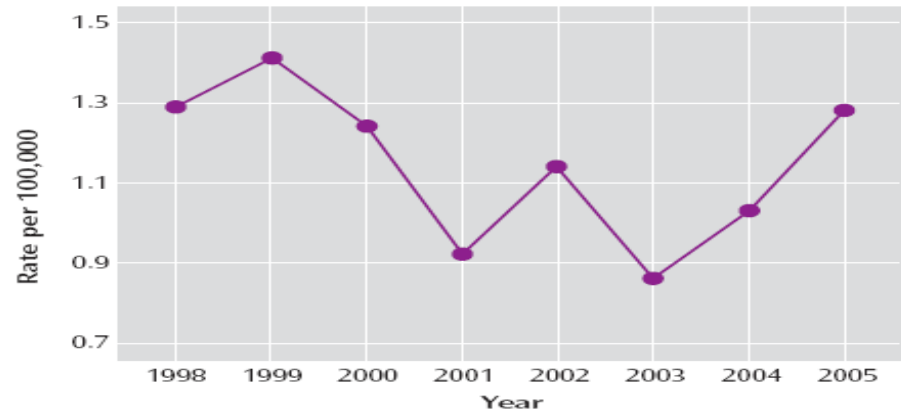
Early Evidence on the Effects of Regulators' Suicidality Warnings on SSRI Prescriptions and Suicide in Children and Adolescents

Robert D. Gibbons, Ph.D.

Objective: In 2003 and 2004, U.S. and European regulators issued public health

Results: SSRI prescriptions for youths decreased by approximately 22% in both

FIGURE 5. Suicide Rate in Children and Adolescents (Up to Age 19) in the Netherlands, 1998–2005



Gibbons et al 2007 Am J Psych 164:1356-1363

thebmj Research ▾ Education ▾ News & Views ▾ Campaigns Archive

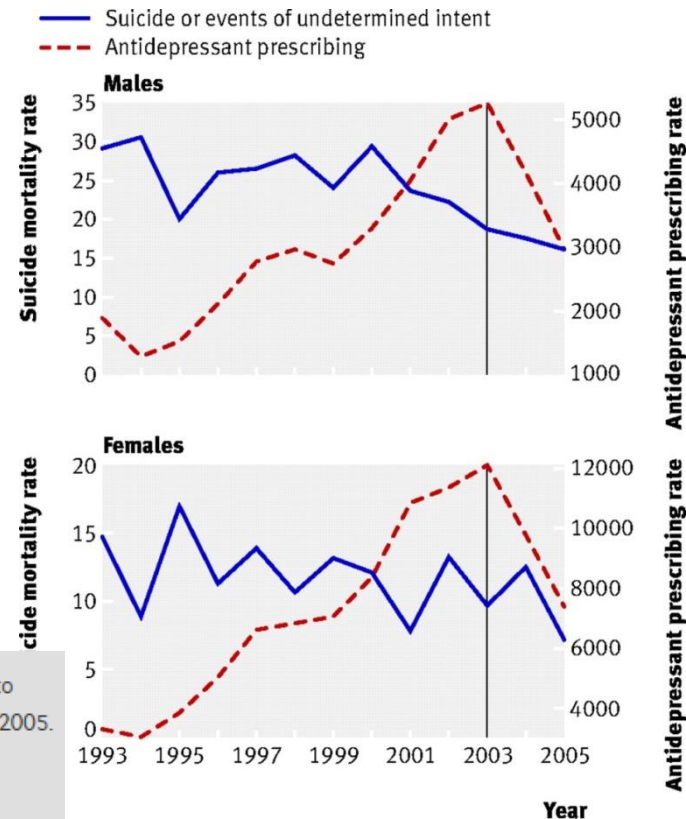
Research

The population impact on incidence of suicide and non-fatal self harm of regulatory action against the use of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors in under 18s in the United Kingdom: ecological study

BMJ 2008 ; 336 doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmj.39462.375613.BE> (Published 06 March 2008)
Cite this as: *BMJ* 2008;336:542

Wheeler, B. W et al. BMJ 2008;336:542-545

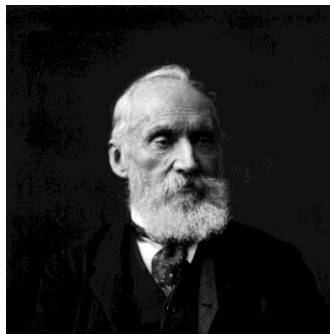
Fig 1 Trends in rates of antidepressant prescribing in 12-19 year olds per 100 000 population in UK⁹ and mortality due to suicide or events of undetermined intent in 12-17 year olds per one million population in England and Wales,¹⁰ 1993 to 2005. Vertical lines indicate year in which regulatory action was taken against prescriptions for selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors in under 18s





What is Vision for regulatory action impact evaluation?

*If you cannot measure it,
you cannot improve it*



*William Thomson
Lord Kelvin
1824-1907*

$$\text{Effectiveness} = \frac{\text{Achieved}}{\text{Desired}}$$

Robust scientific methodology

Paracetamol toxicity in overdose

Decision-relevant data

Valproate and pregnancy harms

Timely results – even real time

Pertussis vaccine in pregnancy

Clarity of roles

Bisphosphonates and ONJ

Regulatory action in UK aimed to balance access by normal users with toxicity in overdose

Combination of pack limits and explicit warnings to patients and public

Inclusion of all OTC analgesics (paracetamol, aspirin and ibuprofen) equally in the measures

British Journal of Psychiatry (1996), 168, 43–48

Paracetamol Self-Poisoning Characteristics, Prevention and Harm Reduction

KEITH HAWTON, CHRISTOPHER WARE, HAMANT MISTRY, JONATHAN HEWITT,
STEPHEN KINGSBURY, DAVE ROBERTS and HEATHER WEITZEL

Background. Paracetamol is now the most common drug used for self-poisoning in the UK and is associated with potentially fatal liver damage. Patients admitted to hospital because of paracetamol overdoses were studied in order to determine factors which might have deterred them from taking a paracetamol overdose.

Method. Eighty patients were studied in hospital. Measures of depression and suicidal intent, information on the System for Attempted Suicide, and the results of a survey of paracetamol availability were obtained. **Results.** Acute liver dysfunction (25 patients) was associated with 25 tablets (odds ratio 4.46, 95% CI 1.31 to 17.41 from blister packs (60%) and loose preparations (40%) in relation to their general availability. More of those who took 25 or more tablets (69%) than those who used fewer tablets (31%) were deterred from taking a paracetamol overdose (odds ratio = 3.0, 95% CI 1.12 to 9.95, $P=0.028$). Only one patient who used a paracetamol label would have deterred them from taking a paracetamol overdose. **Conclusions.** Establishing a maximum number of tablets per individual preparation is likely to reduce the potential effects of other measures are uncertain.



BMJ

BMJ 2013;346:f403 doi: 10.1136/bmj.f403

Page 1 of 9

RESEARCH

Long term effect of reduced pack sizes of paracetamol on poisoning deaths and liver transplant activity in England and Wales: interrupted time series analyses

OPEN ACCESS

Keith Hawton *professor of psychiatry and director centre for suicide research*¹, Helen Bergen *researcher*¹, Sue Simkin *researcher*¹, Sue Dodd *scientific assessor*², Phil Pocock *principal statistician*³, William Bernal *reader in hepatology*⁴, David Gunnell *professor of epidemiology*⁵, Navneet Kapur *professor of psychiatry and population health*⁶

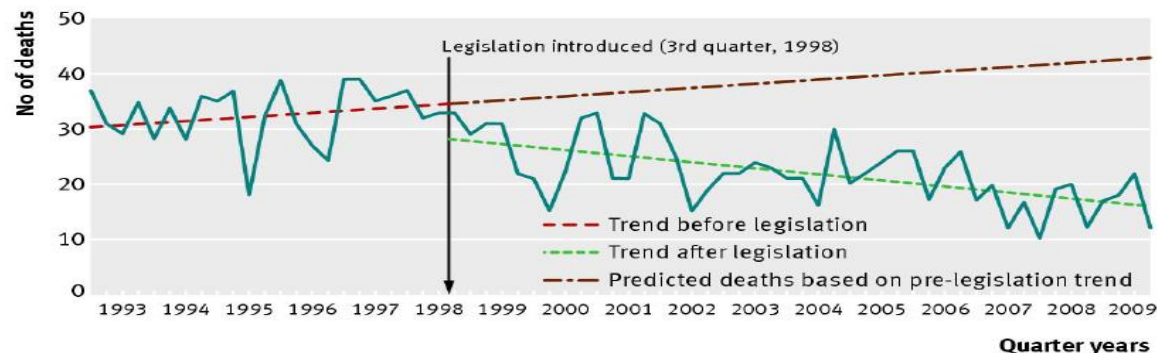


Fig 1 Suicide and open verdict deaths involving paracetamol only, in people aged 10 years and over in England and Wales 1993-2009, and best fit regression lines related to 1998 legislation



The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

APRIL 16, 2009

VOL. 360 NO. 16

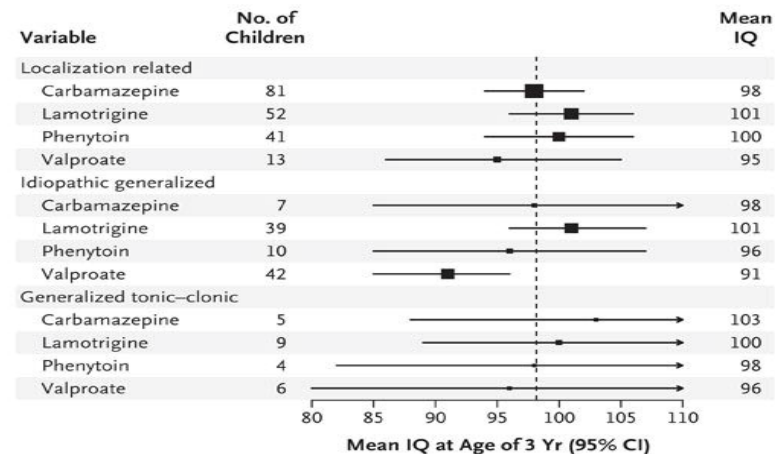
Cognitive Function at 3 Years of Age after Fetal Exposure to Antiepileptic Drugs

Kimford J. Meador, M.D., Gus A. Baker, Ph.D., Nancy Browning, Ph.D., Jill Clayton-Deborah T. Combs-Cantrell, M.D., Morris Cohen, Ed.D., Laura A. Kalayjian, M.D., and Joyce D. Liporace, M.D., Page B. Pennell, M.D., Michael Privitera, M.D., and David W. for the NEAD Study Group*

ABSTRACT

Figure 2. IQ Scores of Children Who Were Exposed to Antiepileptic Drugs In Utero, According to Drug and Type of Maternal Epilepsy.

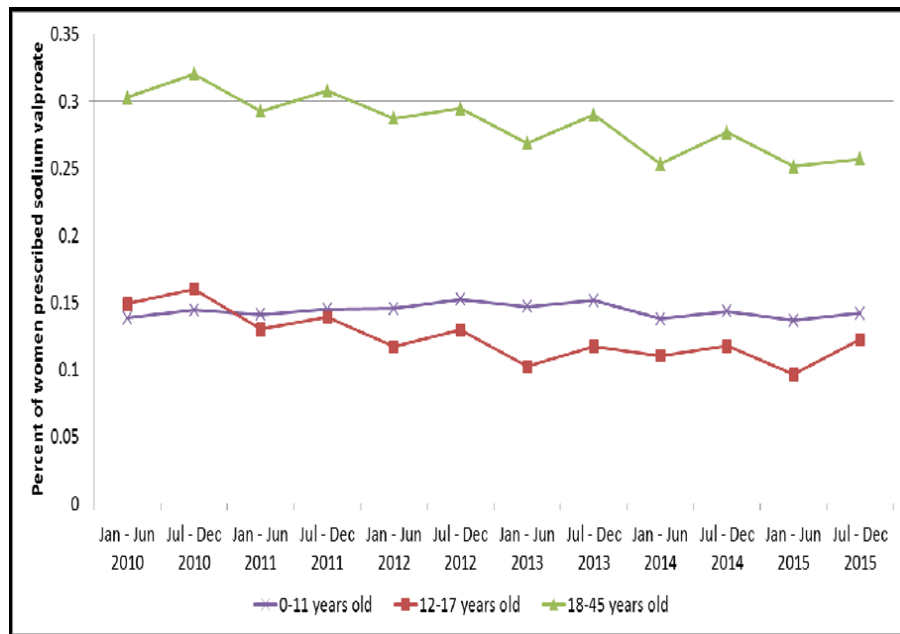
Meador et al NEJM 2009



Sodium Valproate patient exposure in EU

	From 2010 to 2012				
MSs	Epilepsy	Bipolar disorder	Migraine	Other	Total
UK	42 409 (43.7%)	17 232 (17.7%)	740 (0.8%)	36 745 (37.8%)	97 125
France	7 432 (4.8%)	98 286 (63.1%)	402 (0.3%)	49 650 (31.9%)	155 770
Germany	19 410 (70.7%)	120 (0.4%)	348 (1.3%)	7 566 (27.6%)	27 444
Italy	46 222 (46.4%)	17 481 (17.5%)	204 (0.2%)	35 716 (35.9%)	99 623
Spain	21 545 (42.9%)	15 877 (31.6%)	352 (0.7%)	12 455 (24.8%)	50 229
Total	137 018 (31.9%)	148 995 (34.6%)	2 046 (0.5%)	142 132 (33.0%)	430 191

Treatment-years by country & indication females 15-49 years



Rate of prescribing in younger females relatively consistent

Suggestion of flattening of expected increase in prescribing in women 18-45yrs Jul-Dec 2015

Valproate ▼
Patient Guide



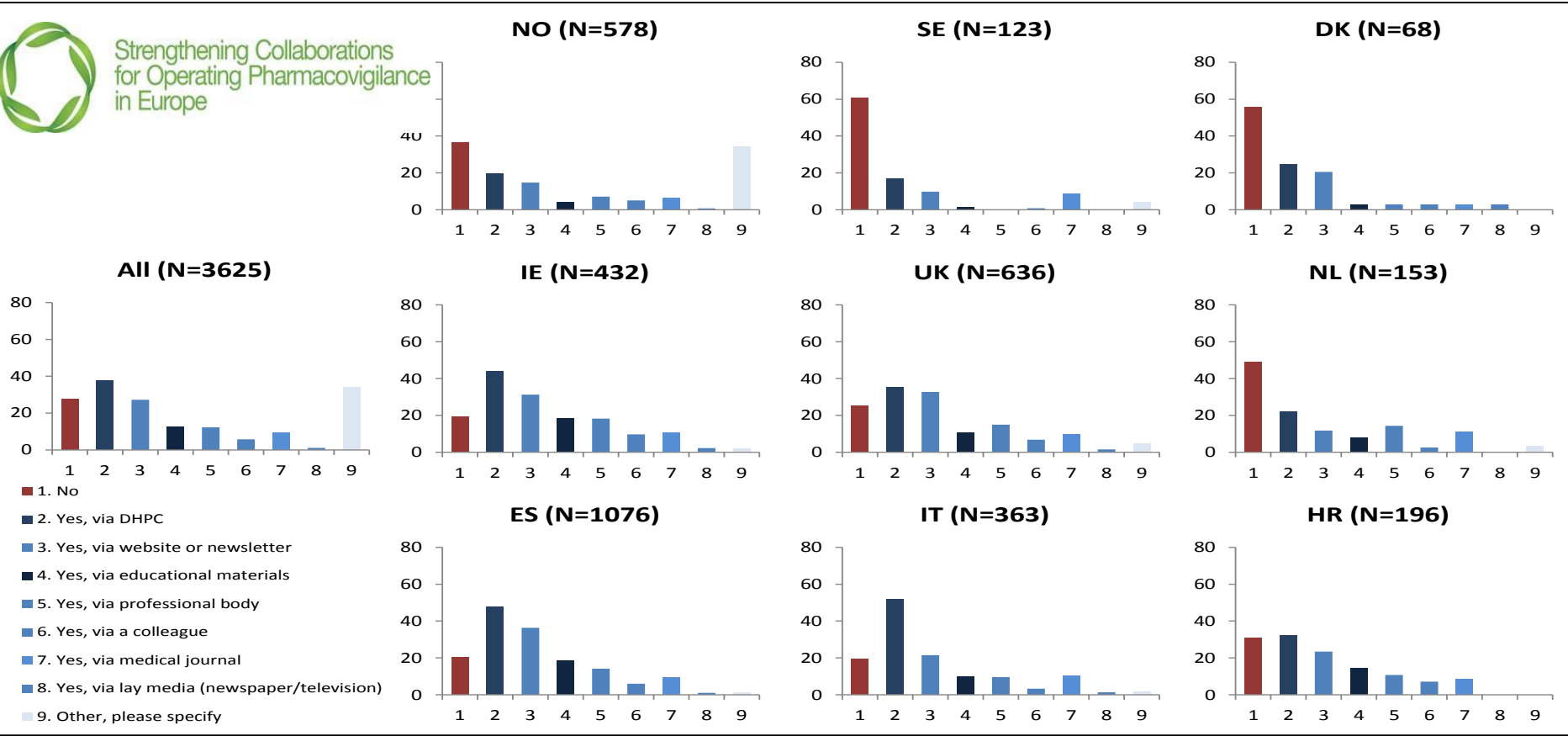
Strengthening Collaborations
for Operating Pharmacovigilance
in Europe

	GPs	Cardiologists	Pharmacists	Others	Total	p-value (Chi2)
1. No	445 (25%)	145 (65%)	283 (22%)	122 (36%)	995 (27%)	<0.001
2. Yes, via DHPC	759 (43%)	40 (18%)	465 (36%)	102 (30%)	1366 (38%)	<0.001
3. Yes, via website or newsletter	470 (27%)	21 (9%)	415 (32%)	81 (24%)	987 (27%)	<0.001
4. Yes, via educational materials	272 (15%)	7 (3%)	140 (11%)	30 (9%)	449 (12%)	<0.001
5. Yes, via professional body	191 (11%)	11 (5%)	216 (17%)	29 (9%)	447 (12%)	<0.001
6. Yes, via a colleague	104 (6%)	5 (2%)	87 (7%)	15 (4%)	211 (6%)	0.043
7. Yes, via medical journal	170 (10%)	11 (5%)	129 (10%)	22 (7%)	332 (9%)	0.031
8. Yes, via lay media (newspaper/television)	20 (1%)	1 (0%)	16 (1%)	5 (1%)	42 (1%)	0.717
9. Other, please specify	29 (2%)	4 (2%)	41 (3%)	8 (2%)	82 (2%)	0.046

Analysis of HCP survey responses by member state



Strengthening Collaborations
for Operating Pharmacovigilance
in Europe





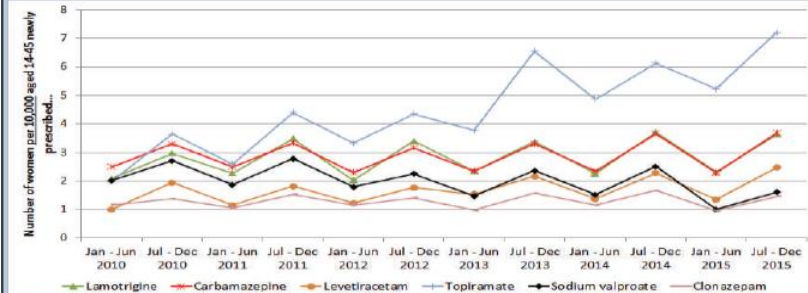
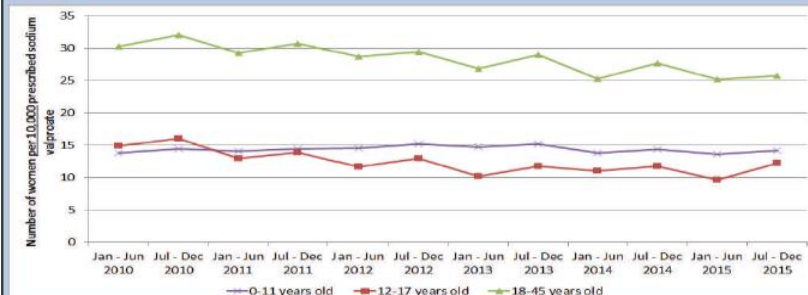
Supporting the safe use of sodium valproate

Aims/objectives:

- That sodium valproate is only provided to women who may become pregnant when there is no safe and effective alternative
- That all women who need valproate fully understand the risks associated with pregnancy

Prescribing by GPs *

Target - To reduce use in women aged 14-45 by ~80%



In July—December 2015 for every 10,000 women aged 14-45* at least...

- 15** were prescribed sodium valproate and had epilepsy
- 4** were prescribed valproate and had bipolar disorder
- 4** were prescribed valproate and had migraines

5/10,000 pregnancies
Rate of exposure to sodium valproate in pregnancy in 2015 *

Patient awareness †

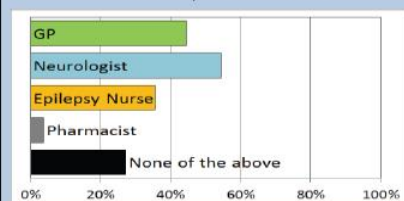
Target - 100% awareness & communication

Of 620 epileptic women aged 16-50 currently taking valproate...

80% are aware of any effects on development and/or physical health of a child born to a woman taking sodium valproate

Have ever discussed pregnancy and sodium valproate with a....

Have received the following information...



† Data from a survey conducted by Epilepsy Society, Epilepsy Action, and Young Epilepsy

* Data from the UK Clinical Practice Research Datalink (www.cprd.com)

thebmj



BMJ 2014;349:g4219 doi: 10.1136/bmj.g4219 (Published 11 July 2014)

Page 1 of 6

RESEARCH

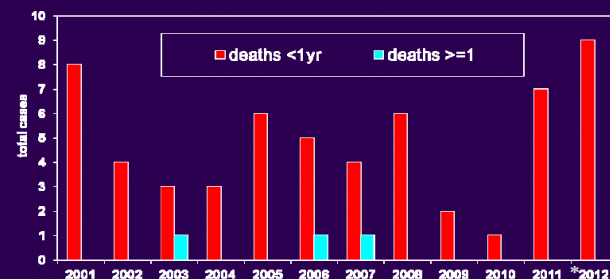
Safety of pertussis vaccination in pregnant women in UK: observational study

OPEN ACCESS

Katherine Donegan *pharmacoepidemiologist*, Bridget King *scientific assessor*, Phil Bryan *scientific assessor*

Vigilance and Risk Management of Medicines, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, London SW1W 9SZ, UK

Reconciled deaths - all sources



* 2012 until week 34

Observational cohort study using CPRD data in 20,074 pregnant women median age 30 who received pertussis vaccine and matched historical unvaccinated controls

No evidence of increased risk of stillbirth in 14 days post-vaccine (incidence rate ratio 0.69 95% CI 0.23-1.62) or later in pregnancy (0.85, 0.44-1.61)

No evidence of an increased risk of range of other adverse effects

Donegan K et al
41 BMJ 2014

Whooping cough and pregnancy

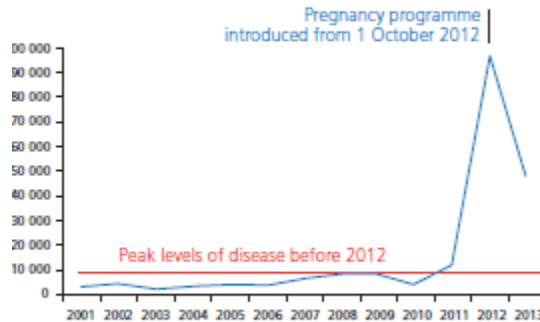
Your questions answered on how to help protect your baby



 mmunisation

EU Marketing Authorisation for Repevax updated to remove recommendation against use in pregnancy

Laboratory confirmed cases of pertussis, England and Wales



all cases



cases in infants under 3 months of age

3.26pm take-off

3.27pm engine trouble

9 min 3.36pm first picture on TwitPic

“There's a plane in the Hudson. I'm on the ferry going to pick up the people. Crazy.”

12 min 3.48pm: NY Times 'breaking'



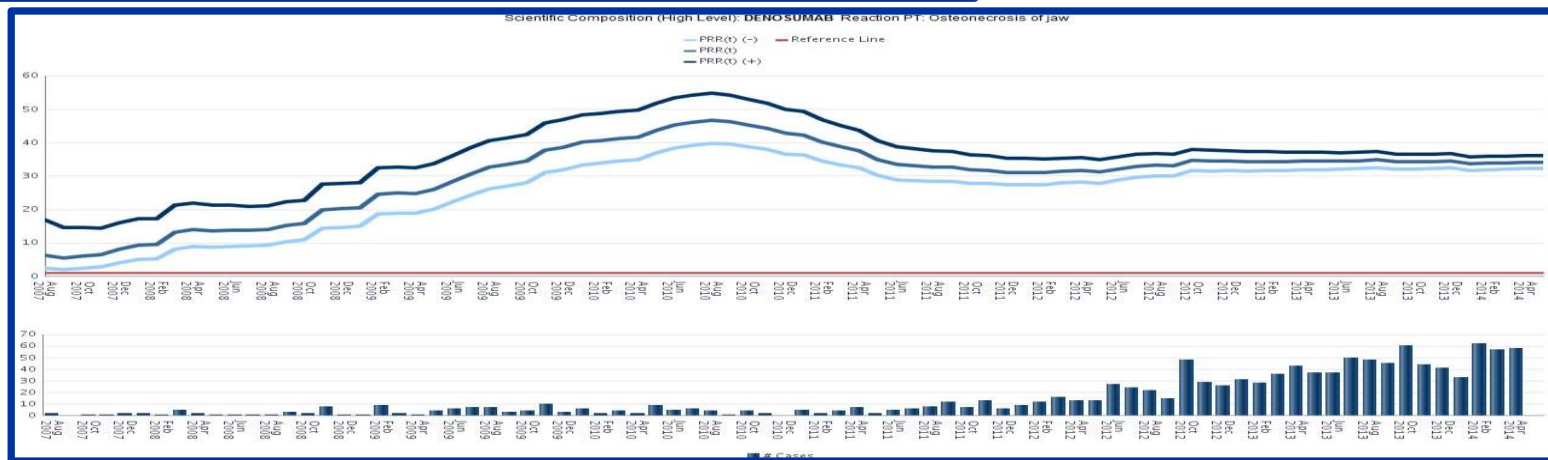
Denosumab (Xgeva ▼, Prolia); intravenous bisphosphonates: osteonecrosis of the jaw—further measures to minimise risk

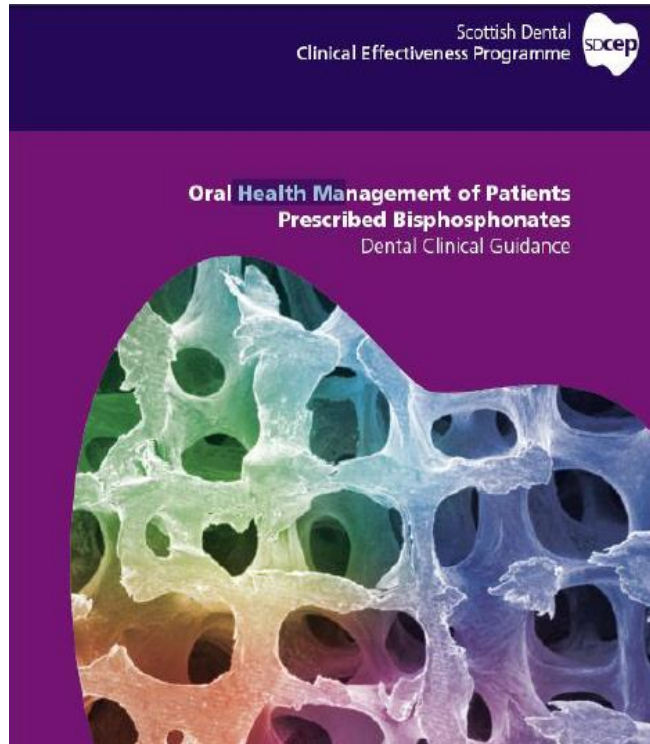


From: [Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency](#)
Published: 20 July 2015
Therapeutic area: [Cancer](#), [Dentistry](#), [Endocrinology, diabetology and metabolism](#), [Obstetrics, gynaecology and fertility](#),
and [Rheumatology](#)

Patient reminder cards about the risk of osteonecrosis of the jaw are being introduced;

EudraVigilance
reporting
monitored
over time





This reminder card contains important safety information that you need to be aware of before and during treatment with zoledronic acid (Zometa) injections for cancer-related conditions

OSTEONECROSIS OF THE JAW (ONJ)

Your doctor has recommended that you receive zoledronic acid (Zometa) injections to help prevent bone complications (e.g. fractures) caused by bone metastases and/or to reduce the amount of calcium in the blood in adult patients where it is too high due to the presence of a tumour.

A side effect called osteonecrosis of the jaw (ONJ) (bone damage in the jaw) has been reported uncommonly in patients receiving zoledronic acid (Zometa) injections for cancer-related conditions. ONJ can also occur after stopping treatment.

In order to reduce the risk of developing ONJ, there are some precautions you should take:



Scientific methodologies development

Build a sustainable infrastructure for real world monitoring of impact of regulatory action

Systematic incorporation of impact evaluation in regulatory guidance and procedures

Evaluation of performance of regulatory “tools” eg patient alert cards, materials



Best use of available scientific methodologies and development of new methodologies

Incorporation of methodologies from behavioural science

Systematic application at time of regulatory action including epidemiological modelling

Routine application in scientific advice to marketing authorisation holders

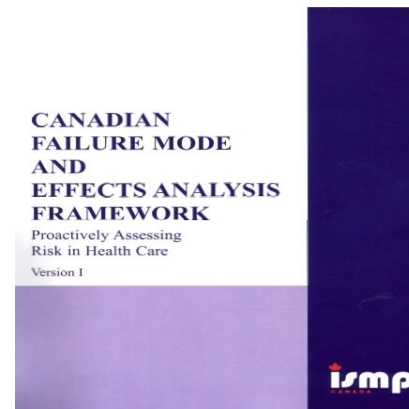
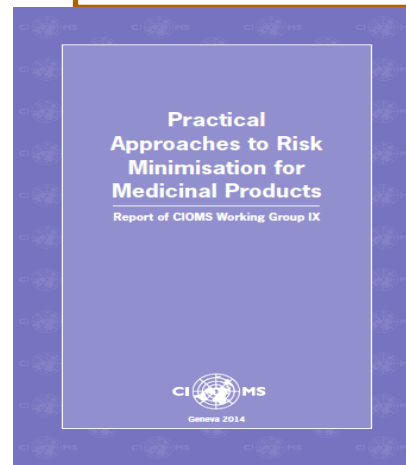
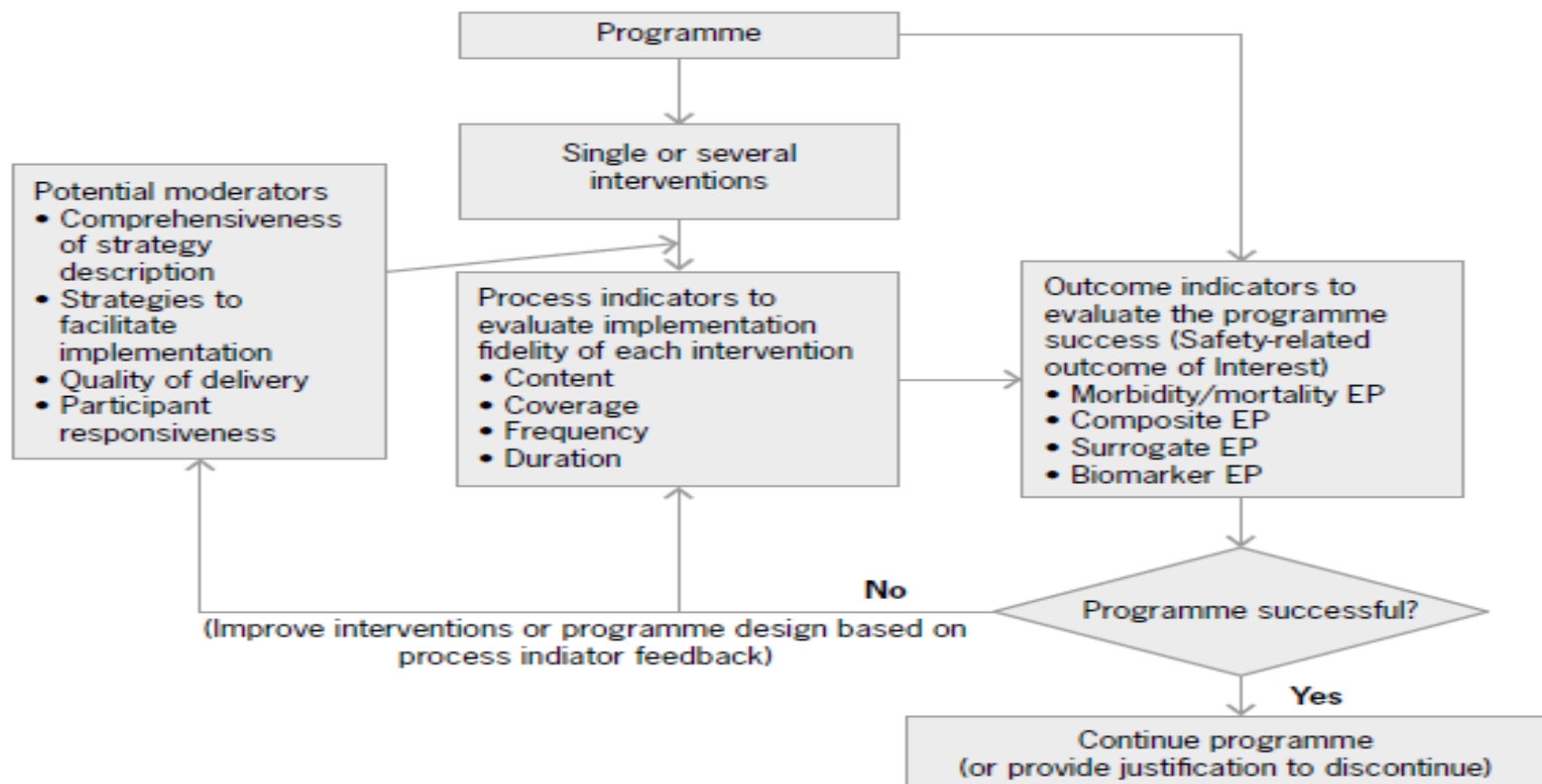


Fig. 5.1: CIOMS IX risk minimisation evaluation framework



Note to Fig. 5.1: EP = endpoint. The 'CIOMS IX risk minimisation evaluation framework' outlines elements to be considered for the evaluation of a risk minimisation programme (modified from Carroll (25).)

PHARMACOEPIDEMIOLOGY AND DRUG SAFETY 2014; 23: 572–579
Published online 24 February 2014 in Wiley Online Library (wileyonlinelibrary.com) DOI: 10.1002/pds.3596

REVIEW

Methodological gaps in the assessment of risk minimization interventions: a systematic review

Inna Gridchyna¹, Anne-Marie Cloutier^{1,2}, Lenhangmbong Nkeng^{1,2}, Camille Craig^{1,2}, Sarah Frise^{3,4} and Yola Moride^{1,2*}

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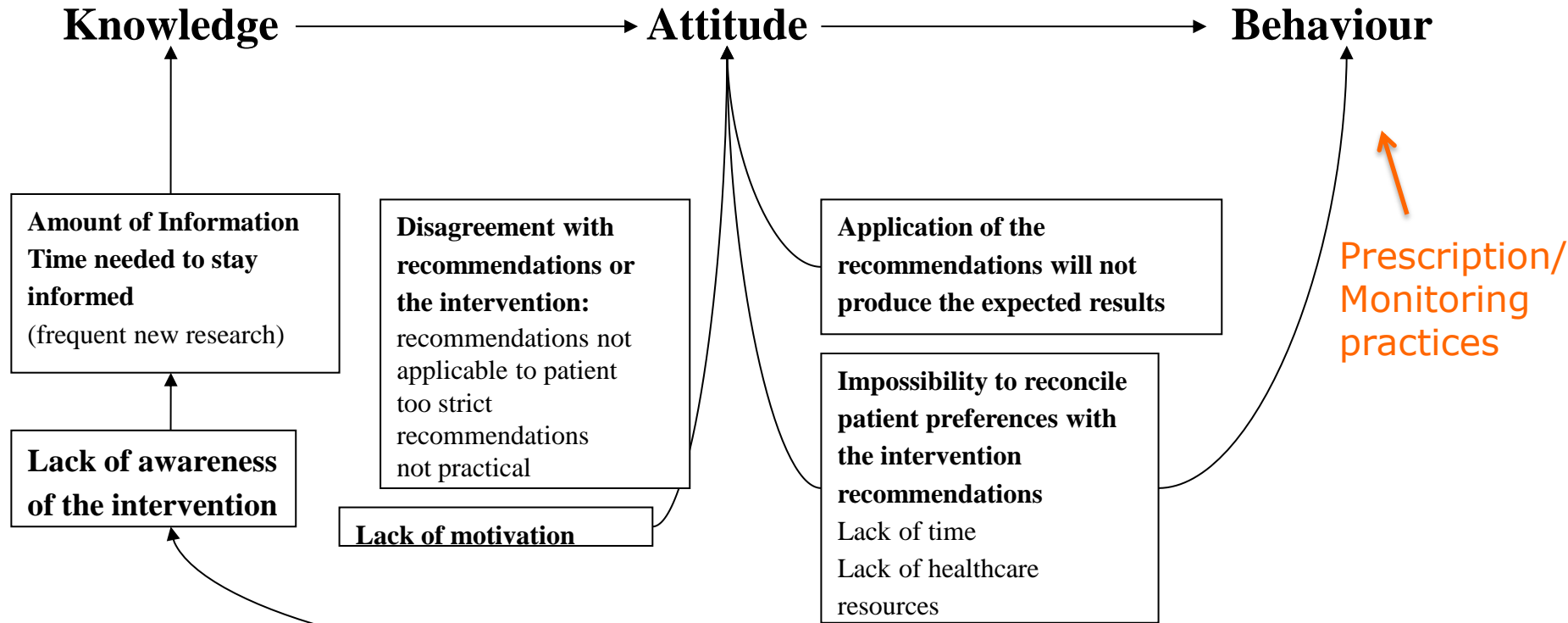
³Department of Patient Safety and Medical Information, AstraZeneca Canada, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

⁴Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

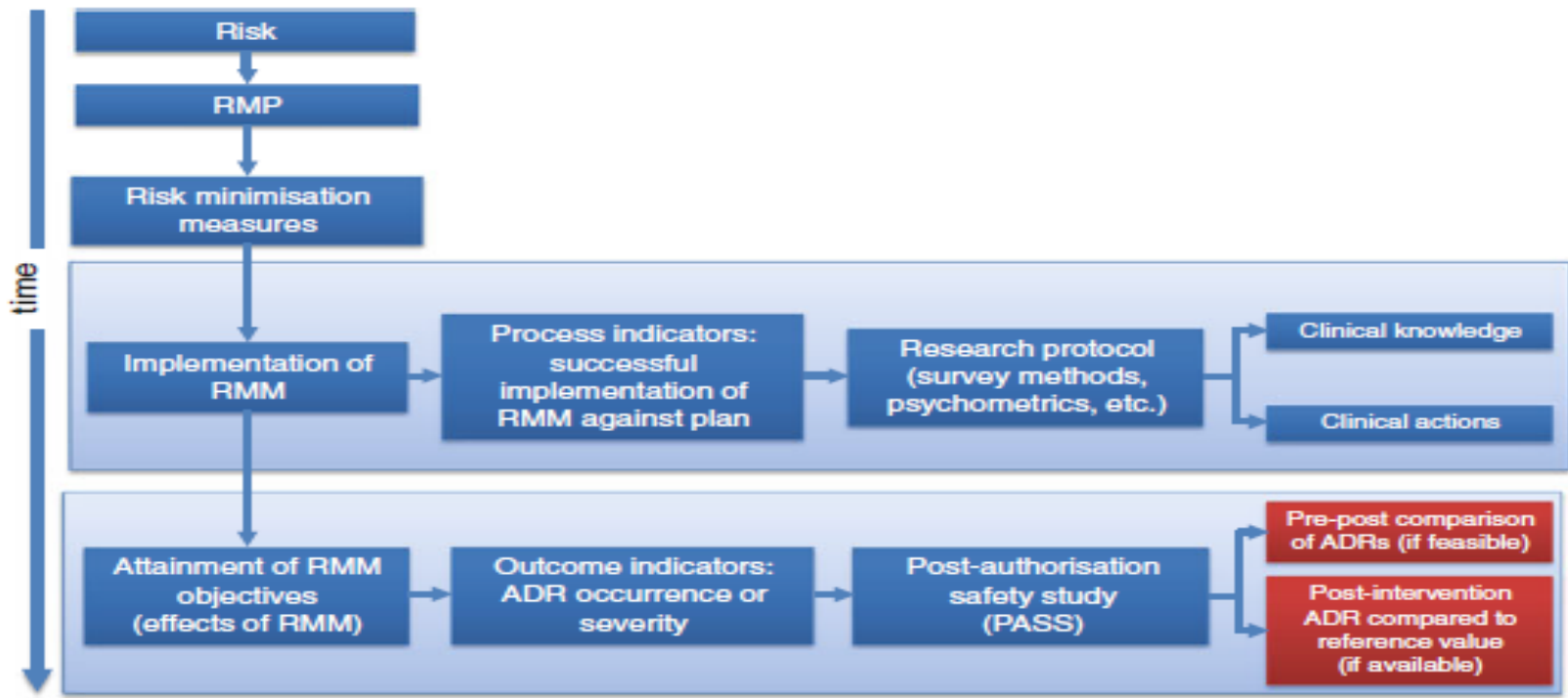
In one third of studies, the effectiveness measure did not correspond to aim of intervention

Study not supported by theoretical framework

Lack of robust designs



Gridchyna I, ..., Moride Y., PDS, 2014. Adapted from Cabana et al. (1999) and Hudon et al. (2004)





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ENCePP Special Interest Group on Measuring the Impact of Pharmacovigilance Activities

Objective to develop methods for modelling health outcomes of pharmacovigilance activities based on epidemiological parameters and identification of relevant data sources

Work Plan adopted 1/07/2016



Infections

Before treatment with Remicade

- Tell your doctor if you have an infection, even if it is a very minor one.
- It is very important that you tell your doctor if you have ever had TB, or if you have been in close contact with someone who has had TB. Your doctor will test you to see if you have TB. Ask your doctor to record the type and date of your last screening(s) for TB on the card.
- Tell your doctor if you have hepatitis B or if you know or suspect you are a carrier of the hepatitis B virus.

During treatment with Remicade

- Tell your doctor straight away if you have signs of an infection. Signs include a fever, feeling tired, (persistent) cough, shortness of breath, weight loss, night sweats, diarrhoea, wounds, dental problems, burning sensation when urinating, or 'flu-like' symptoms.

Heart failure

Before treatment with Remicade

- Tell your doctor if you have any heart problems, such as mild heart failure.

During treatment with Remicade

- Tell your doctor straight away if you notice signs of a heart problem. Signs include shortness of breath, swelling of the feet or changes in your heartbeat.

Please make sure you also have a list of all other medicines that you are using with you at any visit to a healthcare professional.

Keep this card with you for four months after your last dose of Remicade. Side effects may occur a long time after your last dose.

09-15 GAST-1095635-0000
Date of preparation: September 2013

This Alert Card contains important safety information that you need to be aware of before and during treatment with Remicade.

Show this card to any doctor involved in your treatment.

Please read the Remicade 'Package Leaflet' carefully before you start using this medicine.

Date of Remicade therapy initiation:

Current administrations:

When starting a new card, please keep this card as a reference for four months after this date.

Ask your doctor to record the type and date of last screening(s) for TB below:

Test: _____

Date: _____

Result: _____

Test: _____

Date: _____

Result: _____

List of allergies:

List of other medicines:

Patient Alert Card

Patient: _____

Doctor: _____

Telephone: _____

Percentage of specialist physicians responding "true" to statement
"HCPs should hand Patient Alert Card to patient before treatment"

Data from all countries surveyed - 2012			
Rheumatologists	Dermatologists	Gastroenterologists	All specialties
(n=225)	(n=237)	(n=225)	(n=678)
80%	81%	63%	75%
Data from the UK - 2012			
Rheumatologists	Dermatologists	Gastroenterologists	All specialties
(n=30)	(n=30)	(n=30)	(n=90)
87%	80%	77%	81%

Focus on **improvement of PIL** rather than on the SmPC

Guidelines should be revised

Further strengthen **patient input** during PIL development

Showcase **best practice** examples of leaflet design

Explore use of **electronic media**

Consider countries with more than one official language in electronic media strategy



EU ADR Awareness Week 7 -11 November



SCOPE

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SCOPE Joint Action

The Strengthening Collaboration for Operating Pharmacovigilance in Europe (SCOPE) Joint Action aims to help medicines regulators operate pharmacovigilance systems to the EU legislative requirements. Regulators are collaborating to improve skills and capability in the network which will help safeguard public health in both national territories and the EU as a whole.

[Find out more](#)

Latest news: SCOPE Stakeholder Event 21 September 2015

Work Packages

Work Package 1 - Governance

Lead: Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), United Kingdom

Work package 1 delivers the coordination and project management functions for SCOPE

[Package details](#)

Work Package 2 - Dissemination

Lead: Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), United Kingdom

This work package aims to effectively disseminate information about SCOPE and its deliverables

[Package details](#)

Work Package 3 - Evaluation

Lead: National Authority of Medicines and Health Products, I.P. (INFARMED), Portugal

This work package focuses on the evaluation of SCOPE to verify that the project is delivering what was planned to achieve the objectives

[Package details](#)

Work Package 4 - Communication

Lead: Agen...

This work package focuses on communication and public engagement, including patient education and improving awareness of medicines safety

[Package details](#)



Strengthening Collaborations
for Operating Pharmacovigilance
in Europe



As a patient, you have the right to report unwanted side effects of medicines directly to the authorities. You can also report a side effect on behalf of someone in your care, such as a child or relative.

Remember to speak to your doctor or pharmacist if you are worried about any suspected side effects.

Why report a side effect?

We are always learning more about medicines. Although they are tested extensively in clinical trials before they are authorised, not everything can be known about their side effects.

How do I report a side effect?

If you think a medicine has caused a side effect, please check the package leaflet that comes with the medicine for information on how to report it.

Policy and
Strategy

Substantial accrued experience in
measuring impact of regulatory action

Scientific
Methodology

PRAC has a strategic plan to take forward
leveraging existing resources

Epidemiology
Resources

Methodological and strategic questions
remain to be addressed

Stakeholder co-ordination and
collaboration essential to progress

Monitoring benefit risk throughout medicinal product life-cycle

Taking action on safety issues in clinical use to manage and minimise risk

Communicating updated information to healthcare professionals and patients



Systematically monitoring impact of regulatory action



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

11 January 2016
EMA/790863/2015
Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee

PRAC strategy on measuring the impact of
Pharmacovigilance activities
Adopted

Workshop: measuring the impact of pharmacovigilance activities

Call for expressions of interest

5 - 6 December 2016
European Medicines Agency, London, United Kingdom

