



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY  
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

# How are medicines evaluated at the EMA

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Patient interaction / Stakeholders and communication Division

An agency of the European Union



# Overview of medicines development

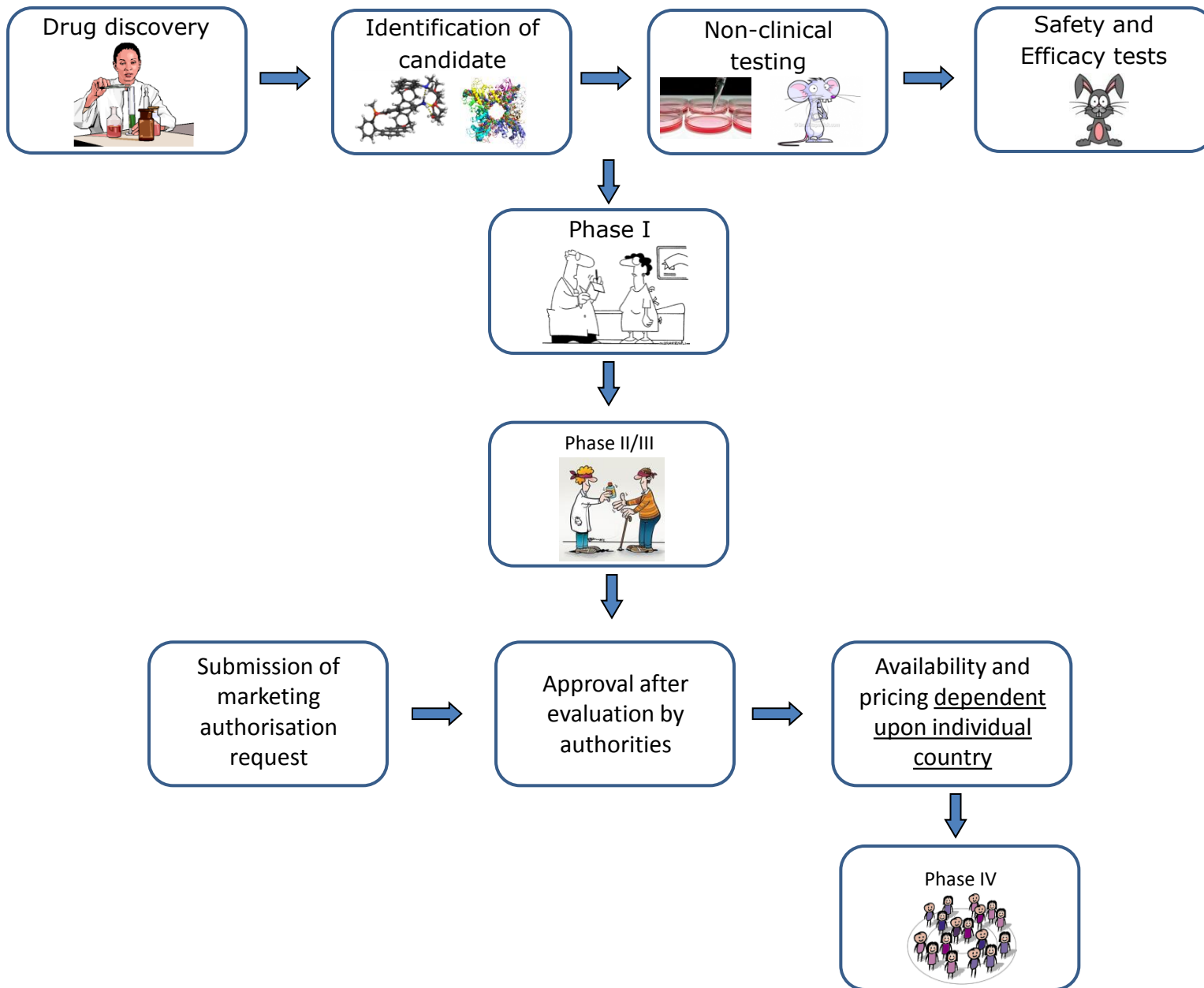


Non-clinical

Clinical

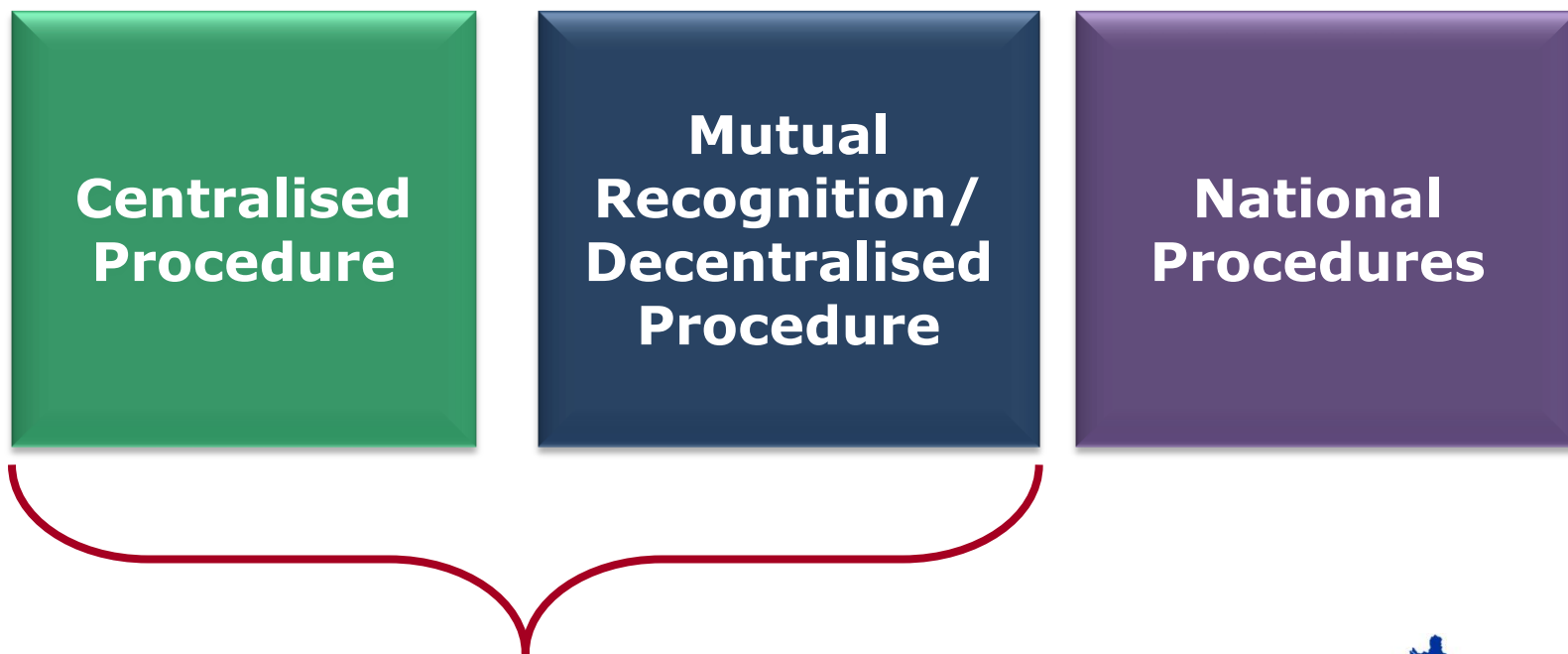
Regulatory

Post-Marketing





# The European System



**Optimised utilisation of resources**  
**Harmonised scientific opinions**  
**Harmonised information to healthcare professionals & patients**





# EMA: focal point of the centralised procedure

ONE

Marketing Authorisation application

Evaluation

Authorisation in all EU

Invented name

Product information

(Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC), Labelling, Package Leaflet (PL))

ALL

EU languages





## Which medicines are **mandatory** for evaluation at the EMA?

- Rare diseases
- HIV, cancer, neurodegenerative disorders, diabetes
- Auto-immune diseases, viral diseases
- All biotech products
- Gene therapy
- Monoclonal antibodies
- ± Other innovative products

The EMA is **not** responsible for pricing or reimbursement



## Eligibility “Optional Scope”



Medicines outside the mandatory scope can also be evaluated at EMA if they meet certain criteria.



## The various roles of the EMA

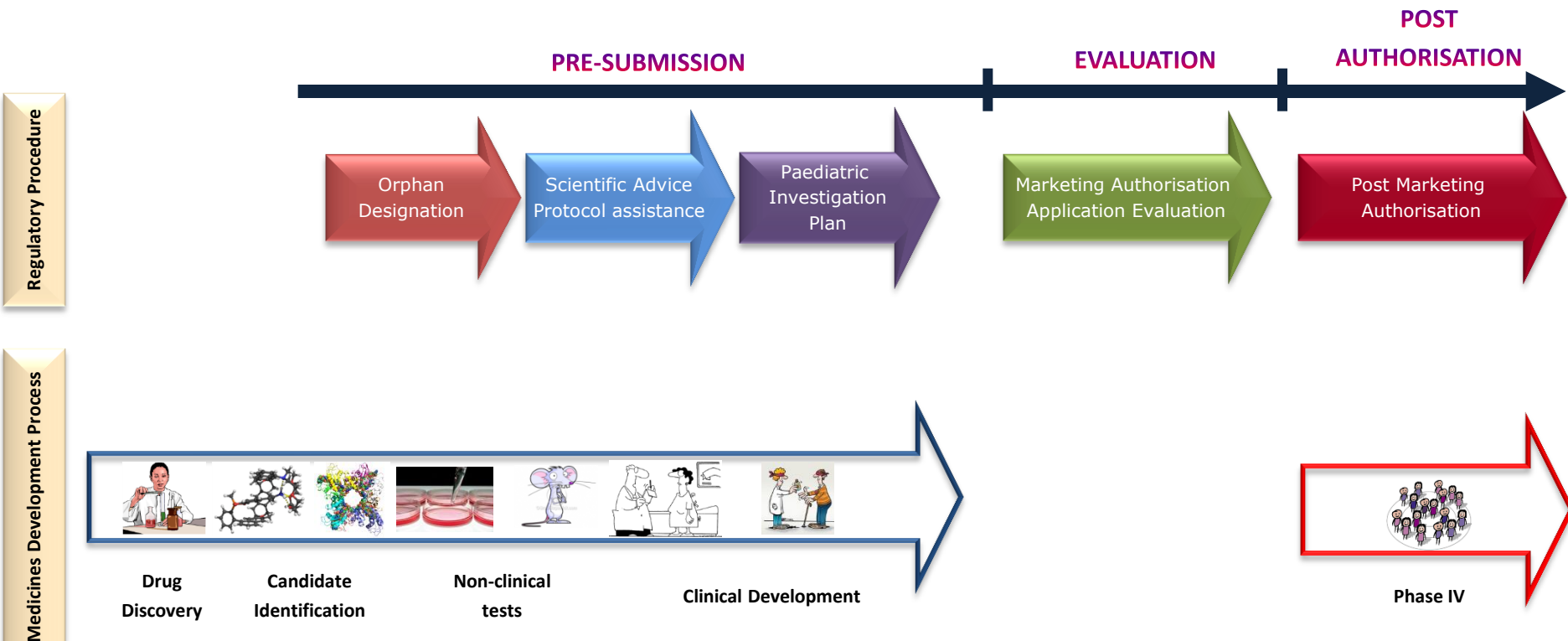


The Agency is responsible for:

- The **evaluation of marketing authorisation** for **human and veterinary** applications submitted by pharmaceutical companies
- The coordination of European **pharmacovigilance** (supervision of the medicines on the market)
- The provision of **scientific advice** on the development of medicines
- The evaluation of applications for **orphan** designation in EU
- The evaluation of **paediatric investigation** plans (or waivers)
- The evaluation of **arbitration** and **referral** procedures
- The provision of good quality and independent **information** on the medicines it evaluates to patients and healthcare professionals
- The coordination of Member States' **inspections**



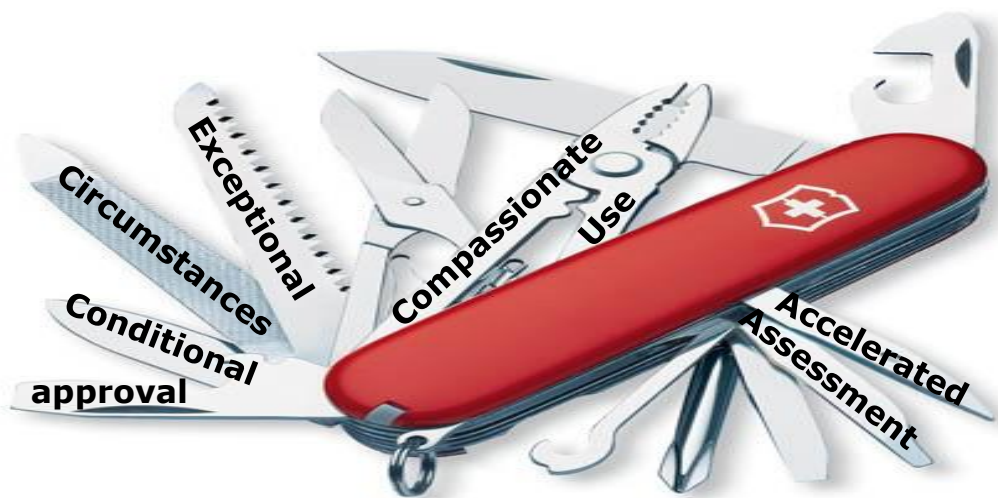
# Medicines Lifecycle: Development and Regulatory







## Type of Approvals



### **Normal:**

Comprehensive data

### **Exceptional Circumstances:**

- Comprehensive data not available and cannot be provided
- Must meet criteria (rarity, medical ethics, state of scientific knowledge)

### **Conditional Approval:**

- Comprehensive data not available; to be provided after approval
- Must fulfil scope (orphan drugs, emergency threats, serious and life-threatening diseases)  
Approval valid for 1 year, renewable



## EMA-EU Network



**28 EEA Member States  
+ 4,500 European experts**



**EU institutions:  
Commission - Parliament**

**Committee for Human  
Medicinal Products  
(CHMP)**

**Management Board**

**Committee for Veterinary  
Medicinal Products  
(CVMP)**

**Paediatric Committee  
(PDCO)**

**EMA  
Secretariat**

**Committee for Orphan  
Medicinal Products  
(COMP)**

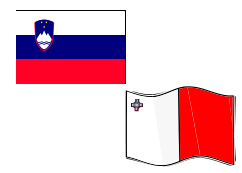
**Committee for Herbal  
Medicinal Products  
(HMPC)**

**Pharmacovigilance Risk  
Assessment Committee  
(PRAC)**

**Committee for  
Advanced Therapies  
(CAT)**



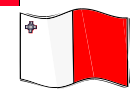
**CHMP\***



**1 scientific expert member nominated by  
each member state + 1 alternate  
5 co-opted members**

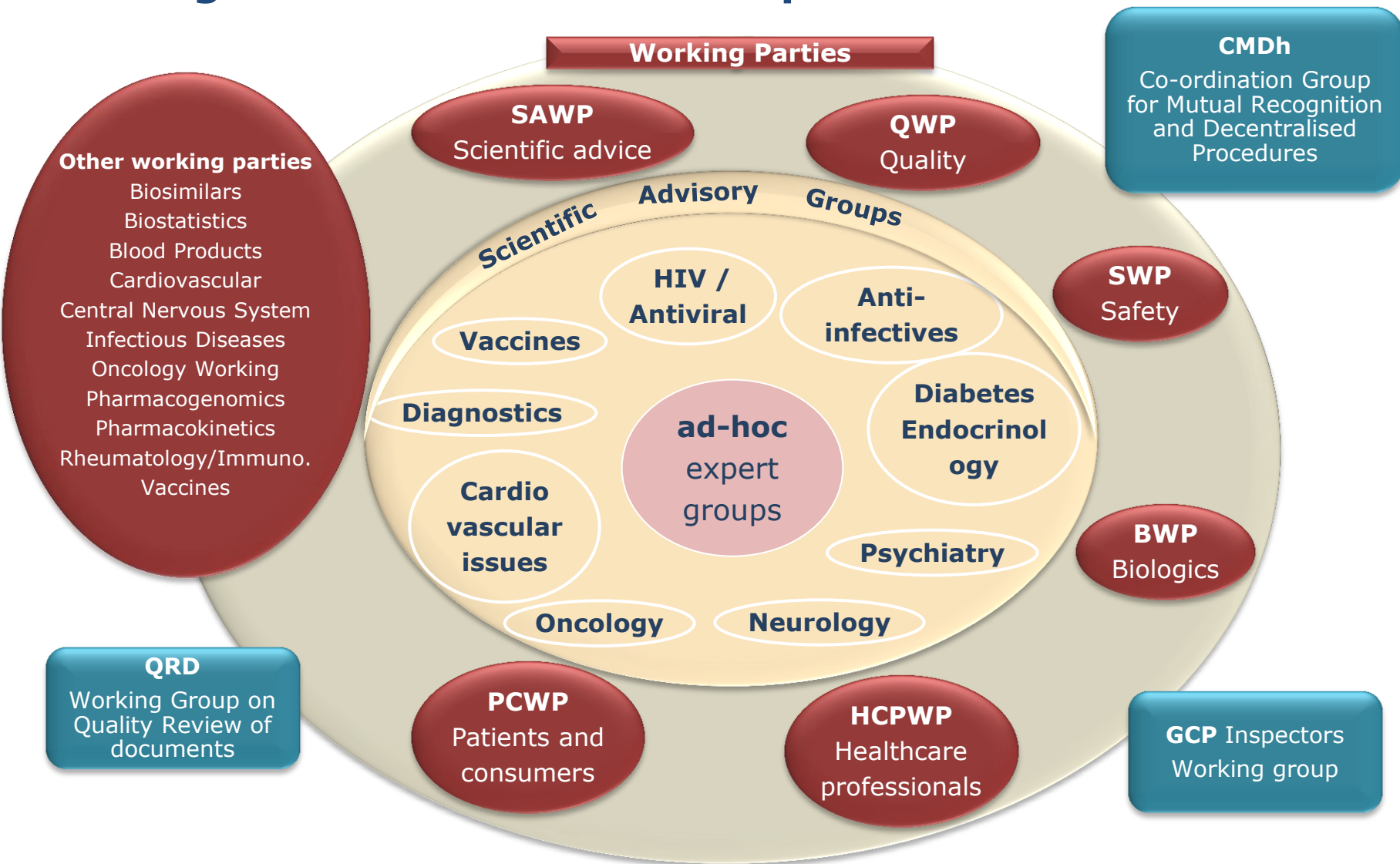


Chair: Tomas Salmonson



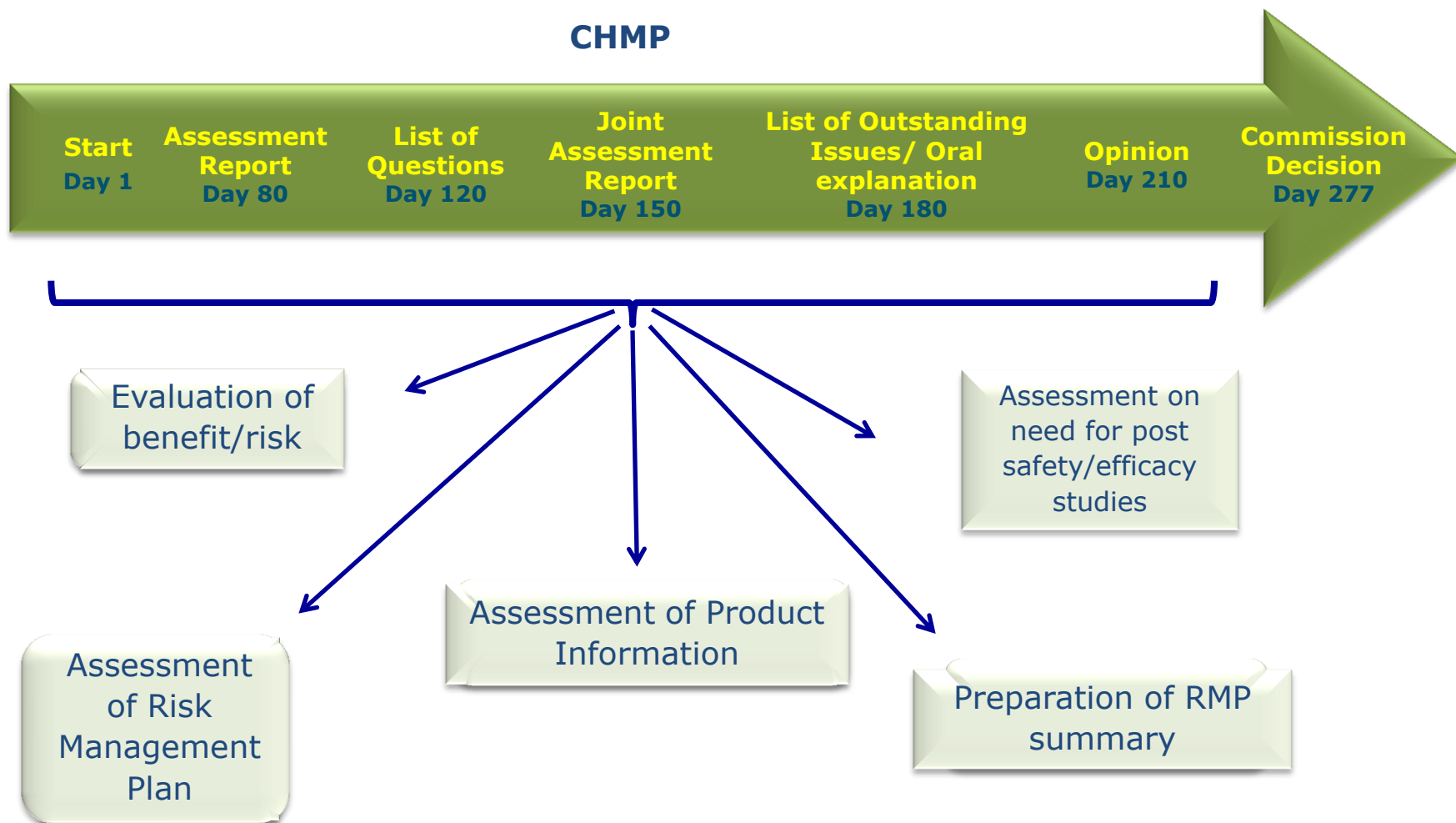


# Working Parties and other Groups





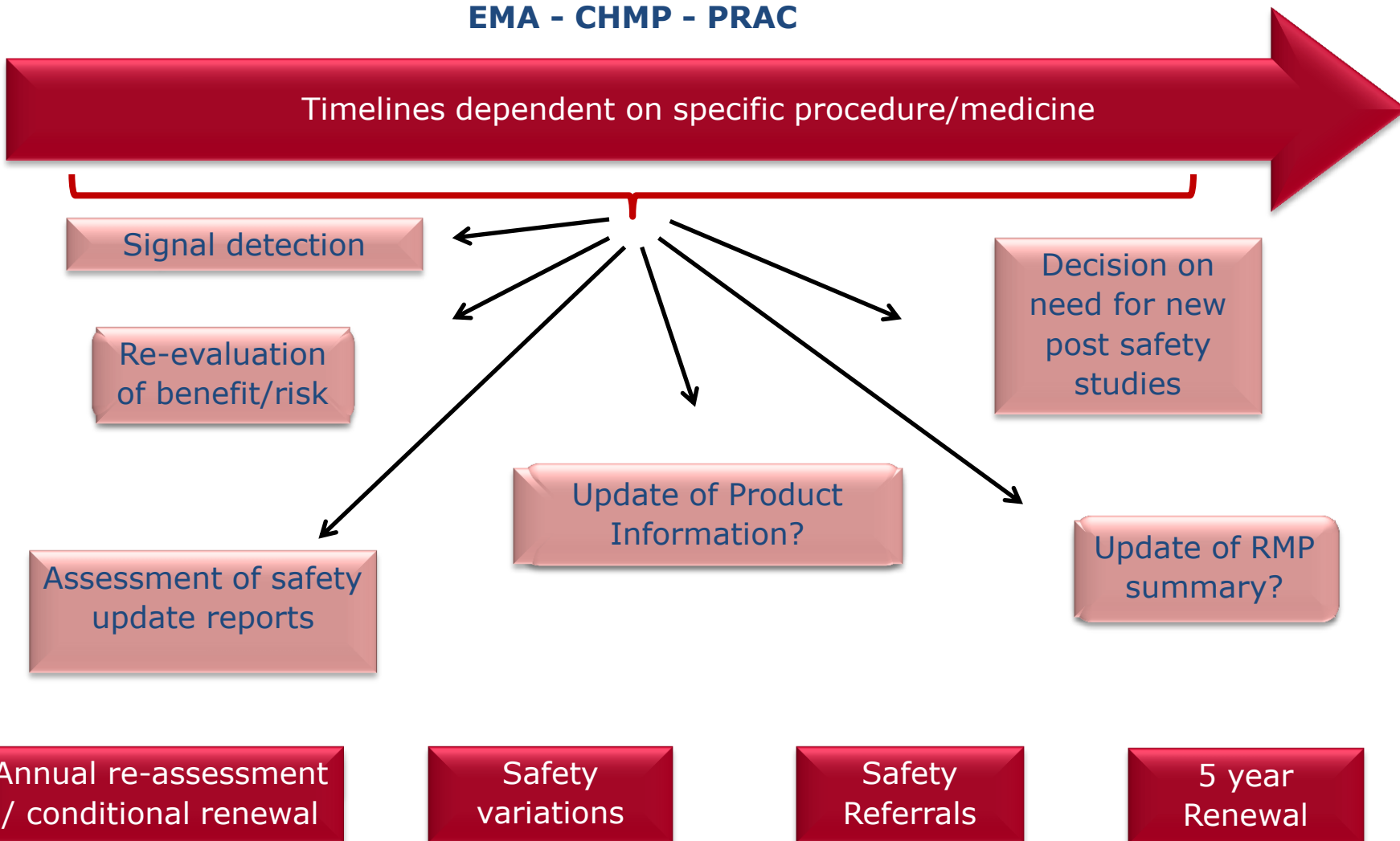
# EVALUATION OVERVIEW





# POST-AUTHORISATION OVERVIEW

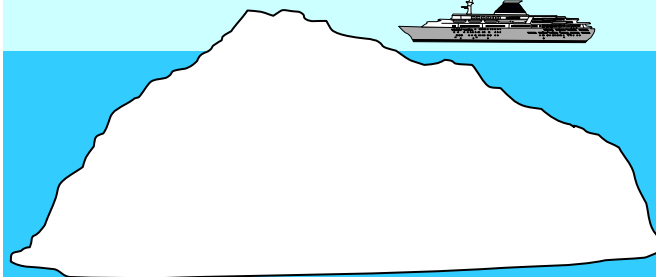
EMA - CHMP - PRAC





# Pharmacovigilance and Risk Management

What we know at the  
end of the clinical  
trial programme...



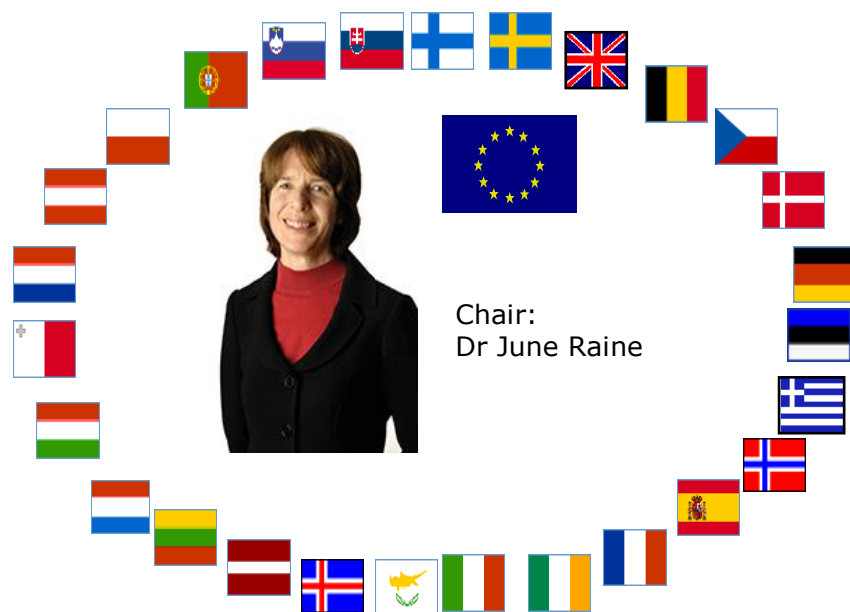
What we don't know!

- What happens when the medicinal product is used in normal practice?
- What is its adverse event profile?



# Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC)

Assesses aspects of risk management (detection, assessment, minimisation and communication of risk of adverse reactions)

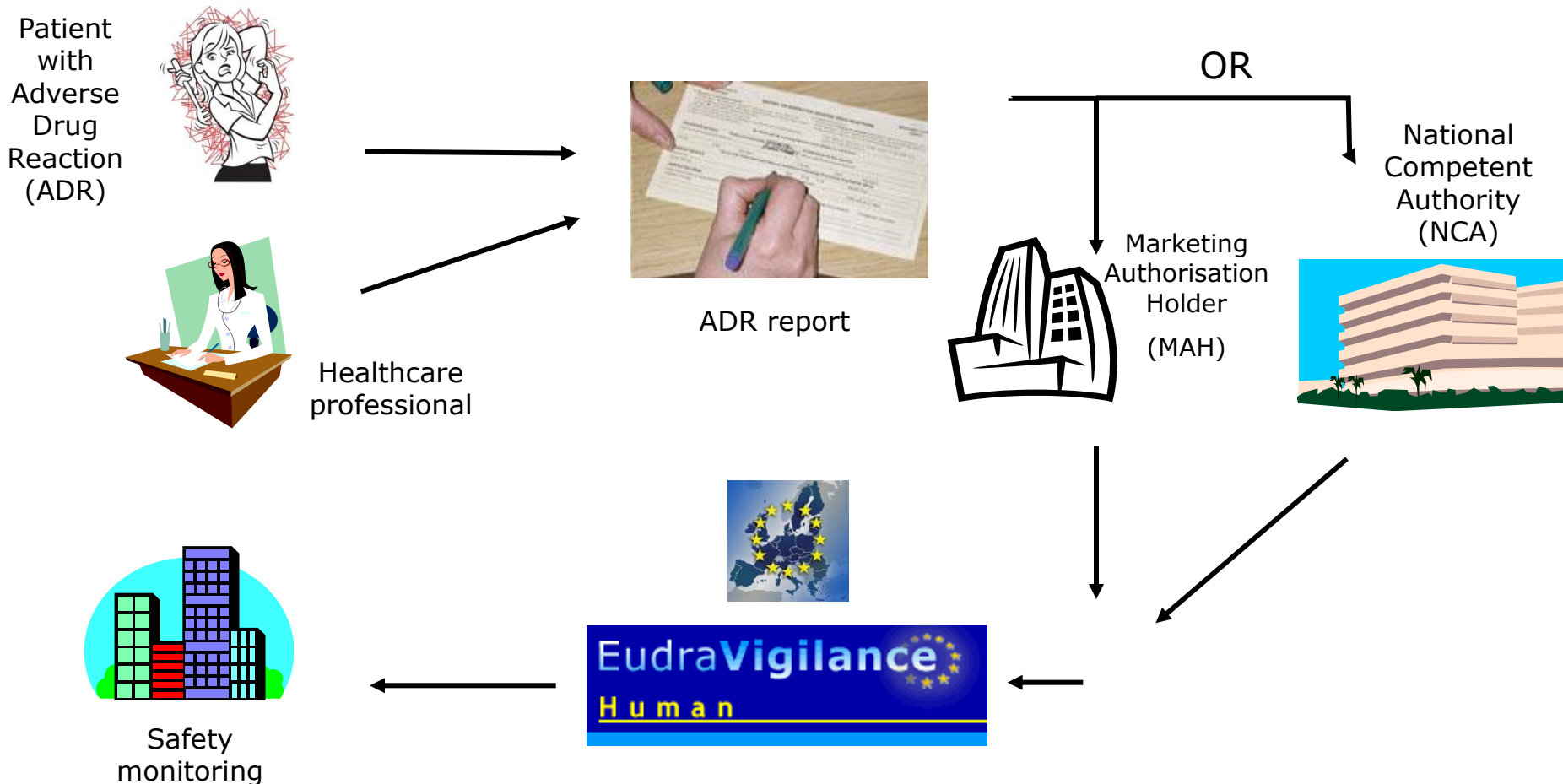


- 1 member (+ 1 alternate) per Member State
  - plus Norway & Iceland
- 6 experts nominated by EC
- 1 member (+ 1 alternate) healthcare professionals
- 1 member (+ 1 alternate) patients organisations



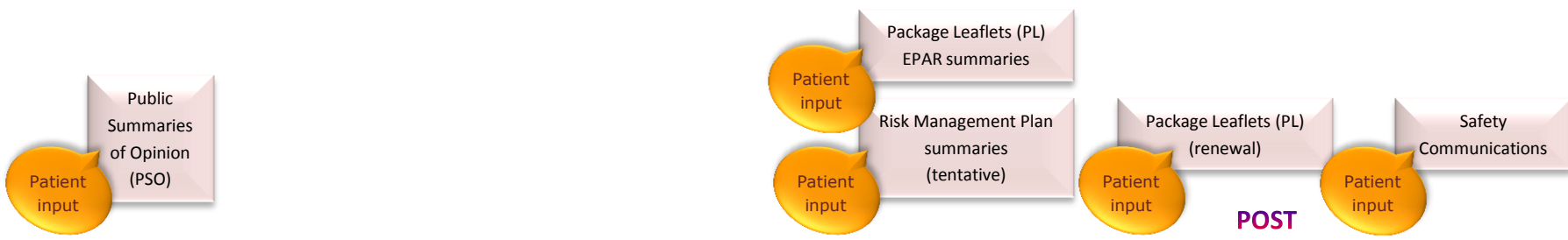


# Pharmacovigilance and Risk Management; Data Collection and Management

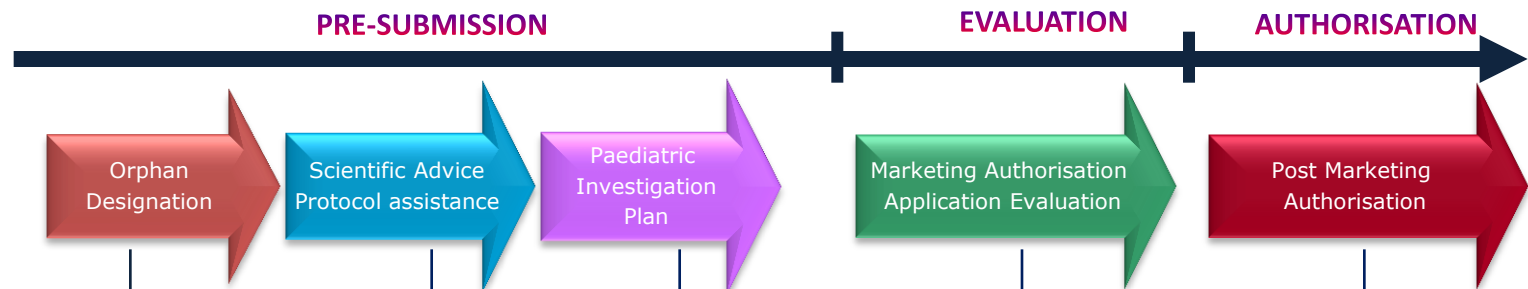




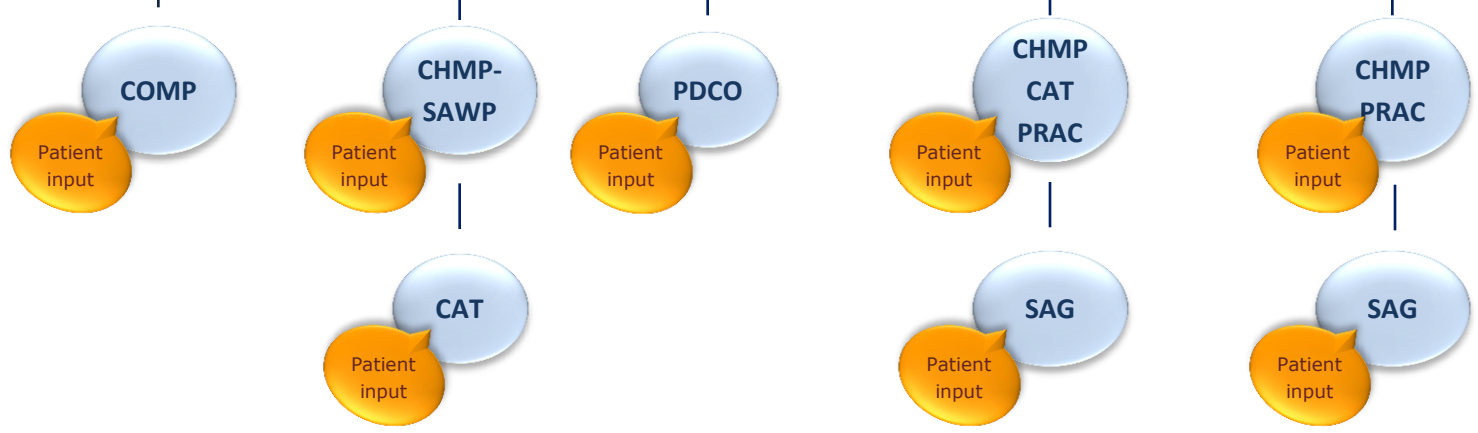
Documents for the Public



Regulatory Procedure



Committees and Working Parties





# Acronyms

- ADR = Adverse Reaction
- AR = Assessment Report
- CHMP = Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use
- CD = Commission Decision
- D1, etc = Day 1 (procedural timeline)
- GCP – Good Clinical Practice
- GLP = Good Laboratory Practice
- GMP = Good Manufacturing Practice
- LoQ = List of Questions
- LOOIs = List of Outstanding Issues
- MAH = Marketing Authorisation Holder
- MS = Member State
- OE = Oral explanation
- PASS = Post Authorisation Safety Study
- PI = product information
- PRAC = Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee
- PSUR = Periodic Safety Update Report
- RMP = Risk Management Plan
- SAG = Scientific Advisory Group
- SmPC = Summary of Product Characteristics