



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

Patient engagement at the European Medicines Agency

8 September 2022

National Association of Patient Organisations (NAPO) Conference

Maria Mavris

Public and Stakeholders Engagement Department

An agency of the European Union





What we do

Protect human and animal health



Facilitate development and access to medicines



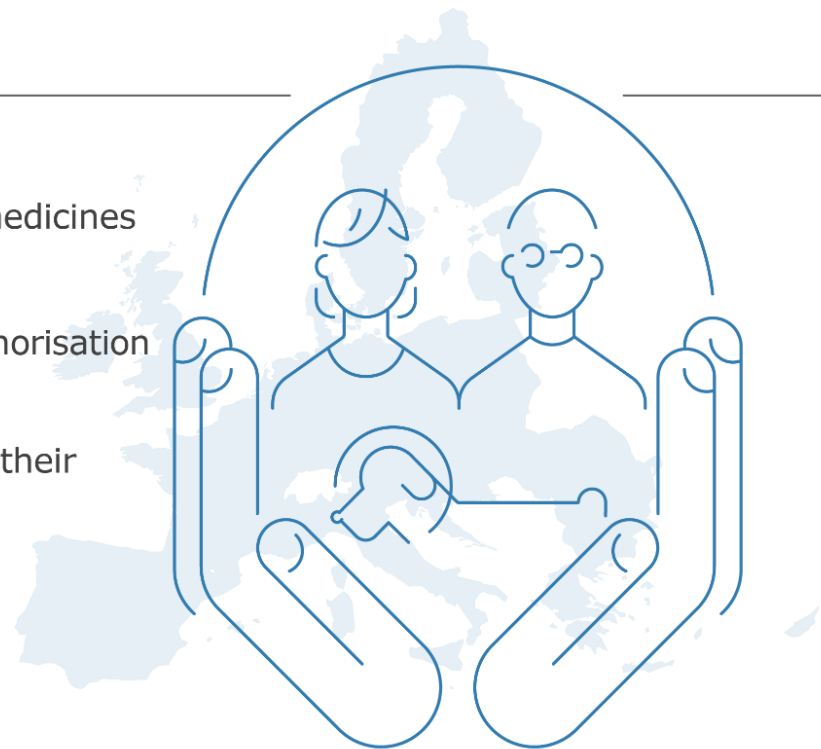
Evaluate applications for marketing authorisation



Monitor the safety of medicines across their life cycle



Provide reliable information on human and veterinary medicines to patients and healthcare professionals



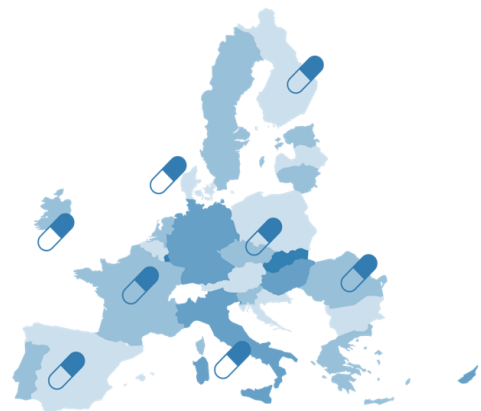
What is the benefit of the centralised procedure for EU citizens?

How are medicines approved?

Different authorisation routes: one set of common rules



Centralised procedure (via EMA)



National procedures (via Member States)



Medicines are authorised in all EU countries at the same time



Centralised safety monitoring



Product information available in all EU languages at the same time



Access to the largest network of experts in medicines regulation

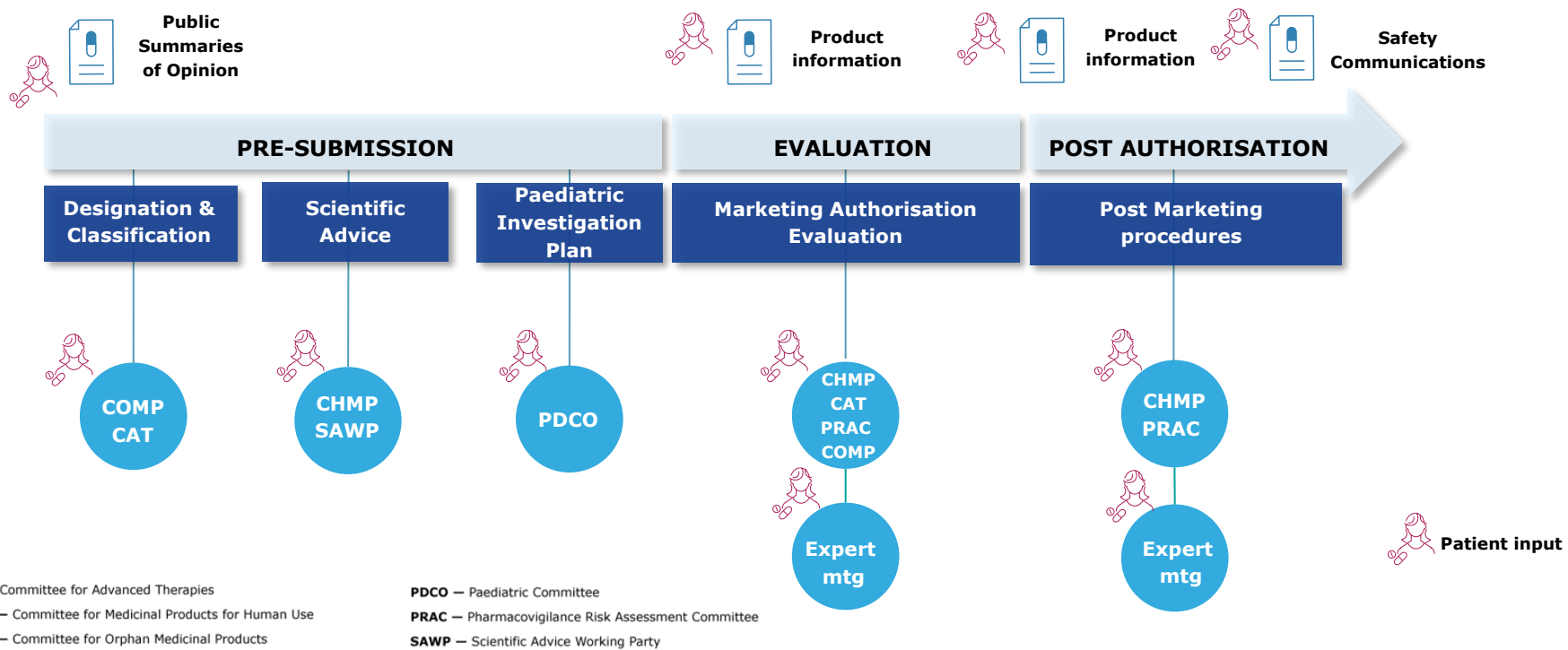
Patient engagement at EMA



Interaction with patients and consumers: a progressive journey...



Patient involvement in the medicines regulatory lifecycle



Who does EMA interact with?

**International/European organisations
– EMA stakeholders database**

Eligible organisations

Organisation representatives	Individual Experts
EMA 'eligibility' criteria	Declaration / assessment of Interests
<p>Transparent on the funding of the organisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Legitimacy ▶ Mission/activities ▶ Representation ▶ Structure ▶ Accountability ▶ Transparency 	<p>Confidentiality undertaking</p> <p>Identification through European network of registered organisations and EMA database of individuals</p>





Patients representing their community

7 Scientific Committees

1 Management Board

CHMP

27 Member States' representatives

CVMP

4 Civil society representatives 



COMP

2 European Commission representatives

HMPC

2 European Parliament representatives



PDCO



CAT



PRAC



*Management Board
EMA Scientific Committee Members*

~800 staff members



Patient membership



Patients representing their organisations



Patients and Consumers Working Party (PCWP)

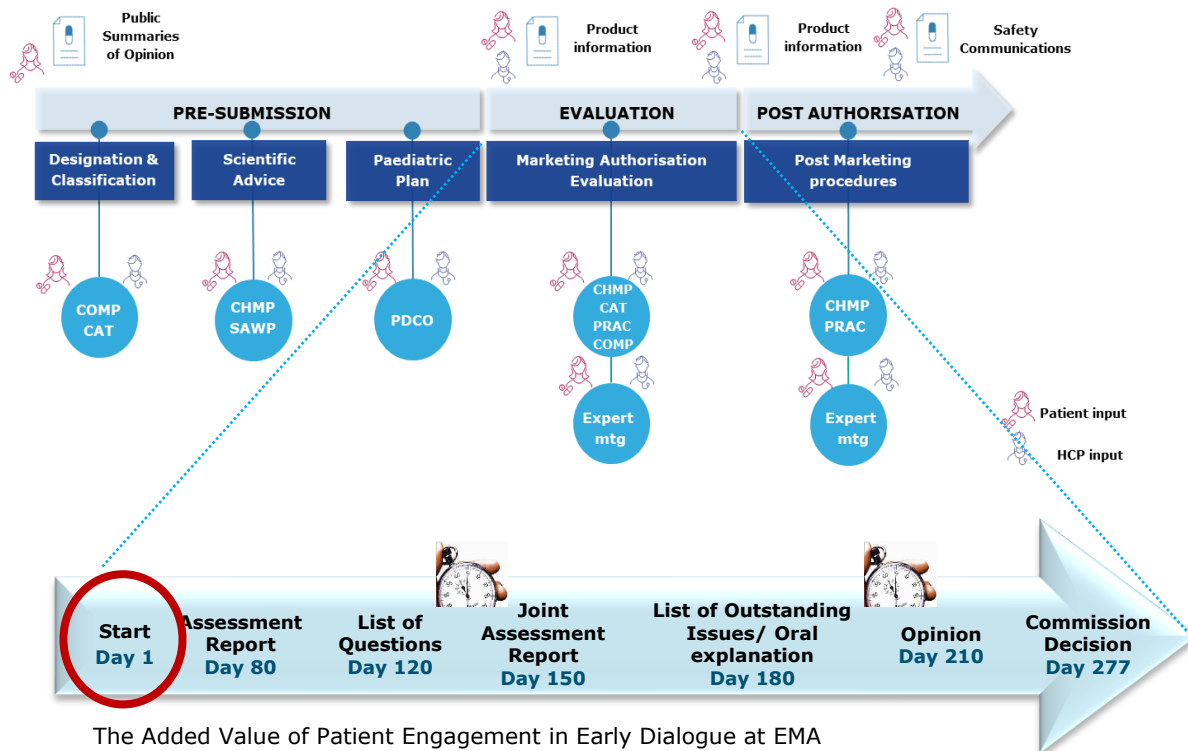


Healthcare professional working party (HCPWP)

- ❖ Act as filter and generator of activities at EMA
 - ❖ Workshops
 - ❖ Information sessions
 - ❖ Training
 - ❖ Topic groups

*Working Party (PCWP or HCPWP)
EMA consultations
Workshops*

Patient organisations in medicine-specific activities



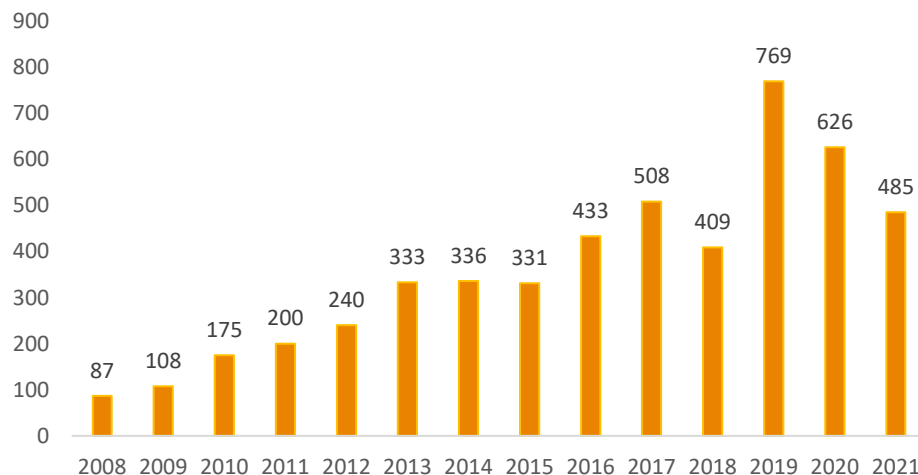
- ❖ Relevant organisations contacted at **start of orphan MAA's**
- ❖ Patient organisations invited to share key aspects from their perspectives of **living with the condition** (3-4 weeks to respond) (in advance of first AR).
- ❖ Information shared with **(Co-) Rapporteurs** (and company for transparency) - Rapps decide if information provides added value, is useful for assessing the dossier, and if merits being included in AR.
- ❖ **Value of patient input** received during pilot assessed by short **questionnaire**

The Added Value of Patient Engagement in Early Dialogue at EMA



Patients as individual experts in medicine-specific activities

Individual patient experts



*Scientific Advice / Protocol Assistance Procedures
Scientific Advisory/ad hoc expert Groups
Scientific Committee consultations
Review of documents*





Challenges of patient engagement

- Finding suitable patients (e.g. language barrier, availability)
- Ensuring comprehensive, tailored training to facilitate and enhance participation
- Provide a clear definition of patients role in the different activities / committees to manage expectations from all angles
- Managing potential conflicts of interest
- Representativeness
- Measuring the value / impact of patients



Conclusions

- Engaging with patients and their organisations:
 - Brings **everyday aspects** of living with a disease **into scientific discussions**
 - Helps **bridge the gap** between clinical trial data and real world data
 - Increases **transparency, awareness and understanding: TRUST**
- Engage in a **stepwise approach; learn together** what format works best;
 - **Define roles** - manage expectations
 - Ensure engagement is **mutually beneficial**



Everyone has a role to play to ensure engagement happens



Engaging with patients leads to **more meaningful outcomes** for everyone!



Any questions?

Further information

Maria Mavris

Patient Liaison - Public and Stakeholder Engagement Department

maria.mavris@ema.europa.eu

Official address Domenico Scarlattilaan 6 • 1083 HS Amsterdam • The Netherlands

Send us a question Go to www.ema.europa.eu/contact

Telephone +31 (0)88 781 6000

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