



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY  
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

# The PRAC – Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee

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An agency of the European Union





# New Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee PRAC

The Mandate shall cover...

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



# Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee

## Responsibilities:

The Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee shall be responsible for providing recommendations to the **Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use** and the **Coordination group** on **any question relating to pharmacovigilance activities** with respect to medicinal products for human use and on **risk management systems** and it shall be responsible for **monitoring the effectiveness of these systems**



# Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee

## Responsibilities:

For the fulfillment of its pharmacovigilance tasks, **approving risk management systems and monitoring their effectiveness, the CHMP and coordination group** shall rely on the scientific assessment and the recommendations of the Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee.



# Identified PRAC Activities (1/2)

## Activity

## Involvement

Risk Management Systems	Agreement on RMPs + monitoring their effectiveness
Periodic Safety Update Reports PSURs	List of harmonised submission frequencies and substances, assessment + recommendation
Eudravigilance + Periodic Safety Update Reports repository	Functional specifications, any substantial changes
Medicines subject to additional monitoring	Addition to/removal from list, extension of timeframe, symbol
Signal Detection	Initial analysis + prioritisation assessment + recommendations



## Identified PRAC Activities (2/2)

### Activity

### Involvement

Urgent Safety Procedures  
for the EU

Assessment, public hearings,  
recommendations

Post Authorisation Safety Studies

Consultations on requests (pre and post  
MA), assessment of protocols (incl.  
amendments) + recommendations,  
assessment of results +  
recommendations

Literature Adverse Drug Reactions  
monitoring

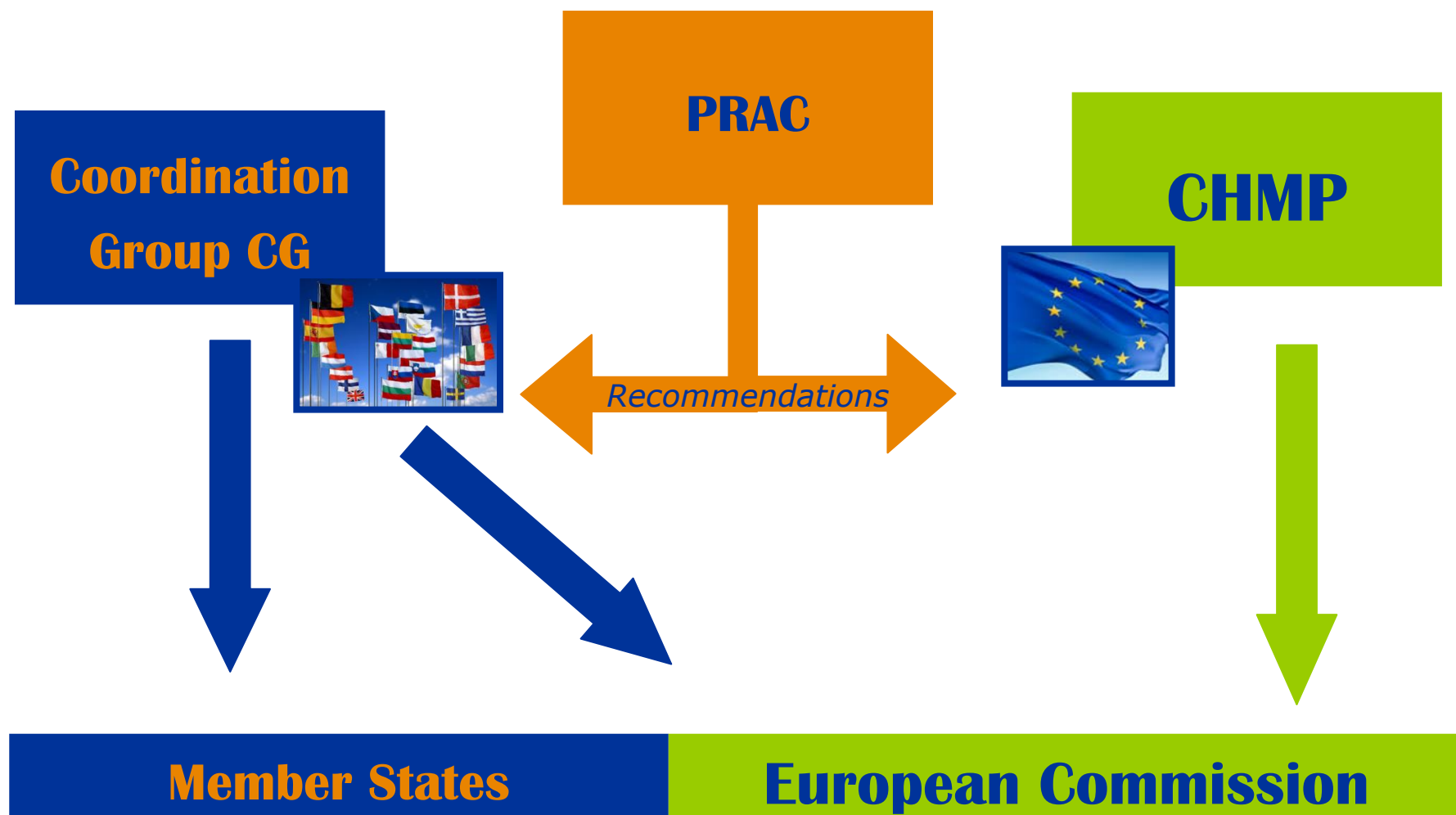
Consultation on list of active substances  
and medical literature subject to  
monitoring?

Safety announcements

Advice



# PRAC and the other Groups/Committees





# Role of PRAC in decision-making process



When at least one centrally authorised medicine is involved

Assessment report by a rapporteur appointed by PRAC

PRAC: adoption and recommendations

CHMP: opinion on regulatory action, based on PRAC recommendations

*CHMP ≠ PRAC*

Written explanation together with a decision

Decision transmitted to **EC**





# Role of PRAC in decision-making process



**Only nationally authorised medicine are involved**

Assessment report by  
rapporteur

PRAC: Adoption and  
recommendations

CG: Opinion on regulatory action,  
based on PRAC recommendations

*GC = PRAC*

**Consensus**

*GC ≠ PRAC*

**No Consensus,  
majority position**

*GC = PRAC*

Agreement sent  
to Member  
States

Written  
explanation  
annexed

Written  
explanation  
annexed

Position  
transmitted  
to EC



# PRAC membership

**Appointed by each Member State:**



- 1 member + alternate
- 27 + EEA countries non voting members



**Appointed by the European Commission following a public call for expressions of interest:**



- 1 patient organisations<sup>1</sup> rep + alternate
- 1 healthcare professionals<sup>1</sup> rep + alternate
- 6 members to ensure relevant expertise available

<sup>1</sup> *Criteria for involvement in EMA activities*



## PRAC membership – key points

- A Member State may **delegate** its tasks in the Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee to another Member State - *guidance*
- Members appointed for **3-year term**, which may be prolonged once and thereafter renewed - *guidance*
- Chairman – 3-year term, which may be prolonged once
- Member States shall **liaise with the Management Board and the Commission** in order to ensure that the final composition of the Committee covers the scientific areas relevant to its tasks - *guidance*



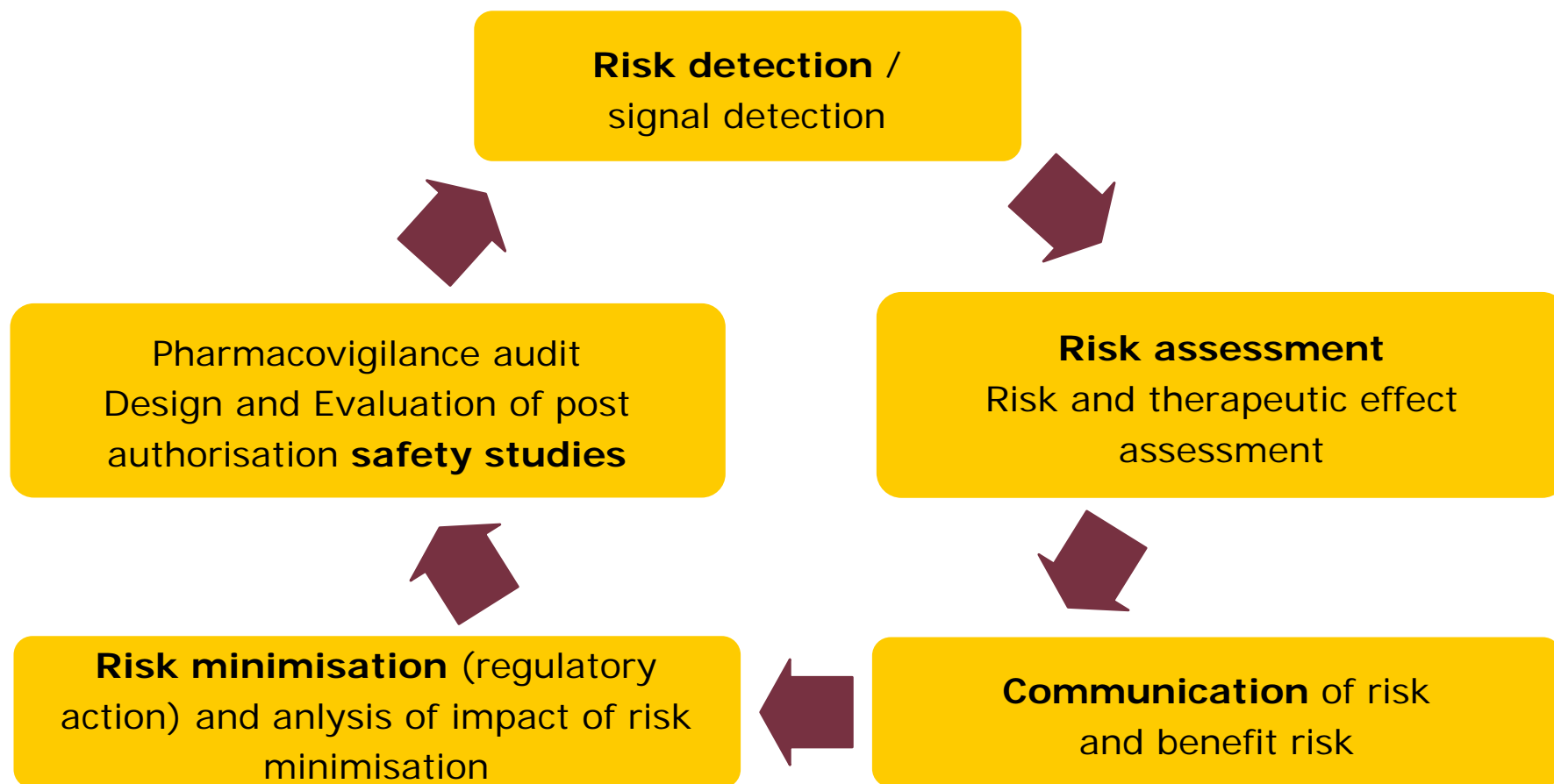
# Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee

## Appointment of Members

The members and alternate members of the Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee shall be appointed on the basis of their **relevant expertise in pharmacovigilance matters and risk assessment** of medicinal products for human use, in order to guarantee the highest levels of **specialist qualifications** and a **broad spectrum of relevant expertise**



# PRAC membership expertise – Core areas



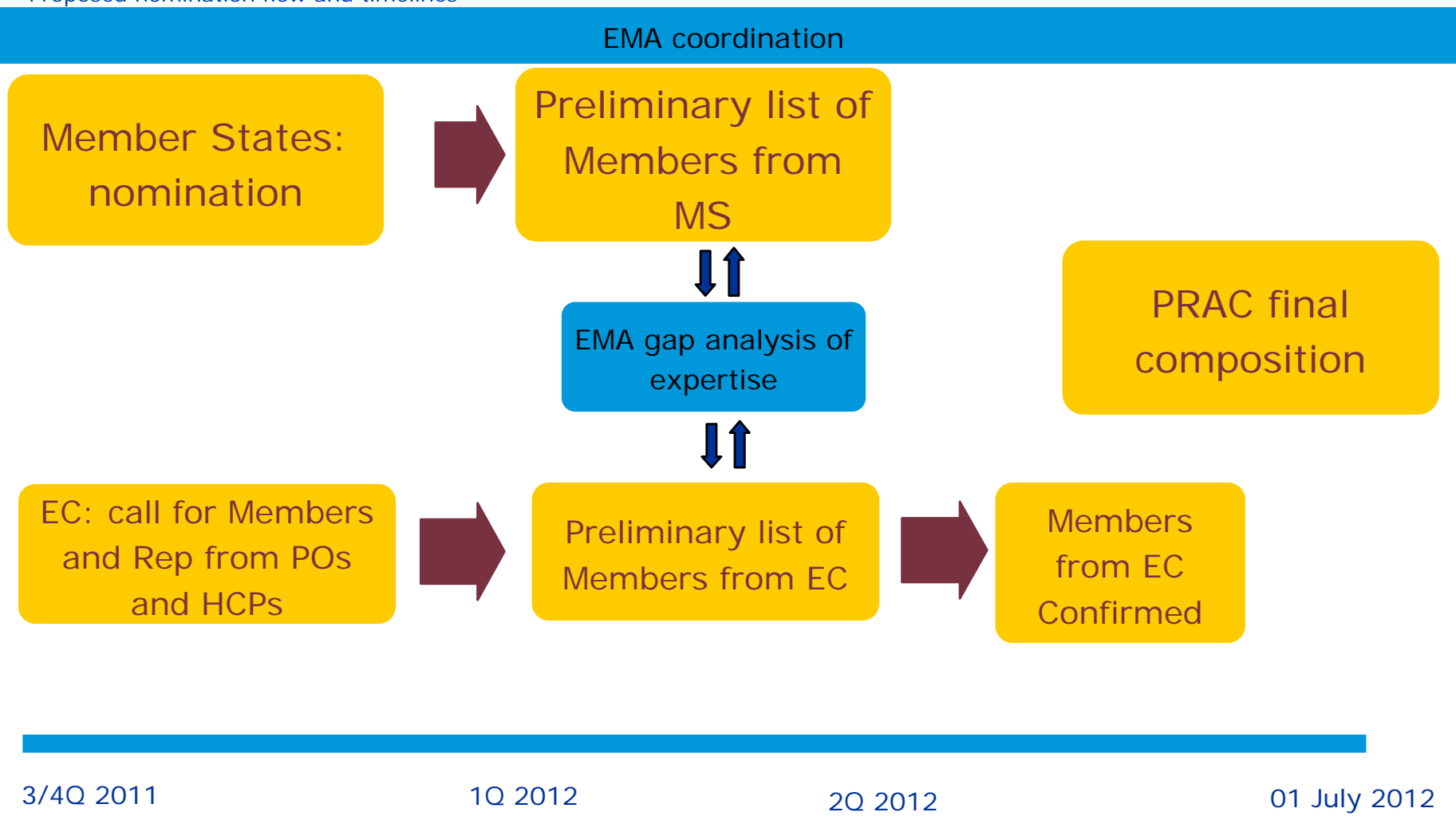


## PRAC membership expertise – Additional (specialised) Areas

- Drug safety in pregnancy and lactation
- Drug utilisation studies
- Medication errors leading to ADRs
- Pharmacogenetics and safety of medicines
- PhV in special populations (paediatrics, elderly)
- PhV of biological and biosimilar substances
- PhV and quality defects
- PhV of Vaccines
- Specialised clinical areas for Adverse Drug Reactions



Proposed nomination flow and timelines





## Proposed procedure for Implementation: summary

- Q3 – Q4 2011 – Launch of Commission Expression of interest
- Q1 2012 – Appointment of members and alternates by Member States
- Q2 2012 Liaison with Management Board and Commission on composition of PRAC
- 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of PRAC: July 2012







# PRAC and Transparency

Regulation EU 1235/2010 states that in order to increase transparency as regards as pharmacovigilance issues a European medicines web portal should be created and maintained by the Agency in collaboration with Members States and the Commission



**Agenda &  
Minutes**

**Assessments**

**Decisions**

**Opinions  
Agreements  
Positions**

**Recommendations**

Available  
to the public