14 December 2017
EMA/CHMP/365756/2017

Work plan for the Pharmacokinetics Working Party (PKWP) for 2018

Chairperson: Jan Welink

Status of the work plan: December 2017 – Adopted

The activities outlined in the work plan for 2018 have been agreed considering the respective business priorities, as well as the Agency's relocation as a result of the UK's exit from the EU and its impact on the Agency's business continuity, and may be subject to further review and reprioritisation in accordance with the business continuity plan of the Agency.

1. Meetings scheduled for 2018

Face-to-face meetings are planned for the following dates:

- 17-18 April 2018
- 23-24 October 2018

The above mentioned dates may be modified as needed. Additional virtual meetings may be organised ad-hoc to respond to time-sensitive requests on products and to progress guidelines, as required.

2. Guidelines

2.1. New EU Guidelines

Action: Lead

Guideline on qualification and reporting of physiologically-based pharmacokinetics modelling and analyses, EMA/CHMP/458101/2016.

Target date Final guideline to be released Q4 2018.

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Comments Comments received from public consultation that ended in 2017 will be incorporated into the final guideline.

Reflection paper on investigation of pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics in the obese population, EMA/CHMP/PKWP/535116/2016.

Target date Final reflection paper to be released Q4 2018.

Comments Public consultation of the draft reflection paper to end in the first half of 2018.

Product-specific guidelines for demonstration of bioequivalence (PSBGL).

Target date Final and draft PSBGLs on a bi-annual basis (in batches of 5 guidelines) for publication.

Comments CMDh to nominate 5 products entering the PSBGL cycle in January 2018 and a further 5 in July 2018.

Action: Specialised input

Guideline on quality and equivalence of topical products

Leading group Quality Working Party

Target date Draft guideline to be released for 6 month public consultation Q2 2018

Comments The public consultation on the associated concept paper (EMA/CHMP/QWP/558185/2014) ended July 2015. PKWP input is focussed on bioequivalence requirements.

Reflection paper on statistical methodology for the comparative assessment of quality attributes in drug development, EMA/CHMP/138502/2017

Leading group Biostatistics Working Party

Target date Comments on the reflection paper received during the public consultation will be discussed in 2018

Comments The reflection paper is developed in collaboration with the CHMP Biologics Working Party (BWP), the Biosimilar Medicinal Products Working Party (BMWP), the Quality Working Party (QWP) and the Scientific Advice Working Party (SAWP) and is released for a 12-month public consultation until 31st of March 2018. PKWP input is focussed on sections 4.3 and 6.3 of the draft reflection paper.

2.2. EU Guidelines under revision

Action: Lead

Guideline on equivalence studies for the demonstration of therapeutic equivalence for products that are locally applied, locally acting in the gastrointestinal tract as addendum to the guideline on the clinical requirements for locally applied, locally acting products containing known constituents, CPMP/EWP/239/95 Rev. 1.

Target date Final guideline to be released Q4 2018.

Comments Comments received from the public consultation (ended 30 September 2017) will be incorporated in the final guideline.

Appendix 1 of the guideline on the investigation of bioequivalence , CPMP/EWP/QWP/1401/98 Rev. 1.

Target date Q4 2018

Comments PKWP to finalise the ongoing discussion with BSWP and QWP on the acceptability of the Mahalanobis distance for the similarity of dissolution profiles.

This is an ongoing joint request from the PKWP and the QWP. The final output may be included in the reflection paper on statistical methodology for the comparative assessment of quality attributes in drug development (EMA/CHMP/138502/2017) that is under development or may form a Q&A.

Guideline on the investigation of drug interactions, CPMP/EWP/560/95

Target date Draft to be released for public consultation by Q4 2018.

Comments Comments received from public consultation on the associated concept paper that ended in 2017 will be incorporated into the draft guideline. The need to work on a list of substrates/inhibitors/inducers has also been identified.

Appendix 1 of the guideline on the pharmacokinetic and clinical evaluation of modified release dosage forms, EMA/CPMP/EWP/280/96 Corr1.

Target date Draft to be released for public consultation by Q4 2018.

Comments Proposal under discussion on whether there is a need to have a formal revision of the appendix only (this would include a concept paper) or whether the proposed changes could be reflected in a Q&A.

Type I error control in two-stage designs in bioequivalence studies.

Target date Q4 2018.

Comments PKWP in collaboration with the BSWP to finalise the ongoing discussion related to type I error control in two-stage designs in bioequivalence studies.
The final output will most likely form a Q&A (to be confirmed).

Note for guidance on the role of pharmacokinetics in the development of medicinal products in the paediatric population, EMEA/CHMP/EWP/147013/2004.

Target date Draft for public consultation to be finalised Q4 2018.

Comments PKWP in collaboration with the Modelling & Simulation Working Group (MSWG) with PDCO input.
Comments received from public consultation on the associated concept paper that ended in 2017 will be incorporated into the draft guideline.

Action: Specialised input

Guideline on the requirements for clinical documentation for orally inhaled products (OIP) including the requirements for demonstration of therapeutic equivalence between two inhaled products for use in the treatment of asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) in adults and for the treatment of asthma in children and adolescents, CPMP/EWP/4151/00 Rev. 1.

Leading group Respiratory Drafting Group

Target date Draft guideline to be released for 6 month public consultation Q3 2018

Comments PKWP input into draft guideline.

2.3. ICH Guidelines

ICH M9 Guideline on Biopharmaceutics Classification System-based Biowaivers

Target date Step 2b document to be agreed at ICH level Q2 2018

Comments PKWP will input on the draft currently being developed.

ICH M10 Guideline on Bioanalytical Method Validation

Target date Step 2b document to be agreed at ICH level Q2 2018

Comments PKWP will input on the draft currently being developed.

3. Medicinal Products-specific activities

3.1. Pre-Authorisation activities

- Contribution on relevant pharmacokinetic aspects to Scientific Advice/ Protocol Assistance upon request from the Scientific Advice Working Party
- Contribution to product-related assessment pre-authorisation following specific CHMP request

3.2. Evaluation and supervision activities

- Bioequivalence issues upon request from CMDh

- Paediatric medicines issues upon request from PDCO
- Pharmacovigilance issues upon request from the CHMP and PRAC
- Contribution to product-related assessment post-authorisation following specific CHMP request
- Other requests received from EMA Committees and Working Parties, e.g. Quality Working Party, Modelling and Simulation Drafting Group, Biologics Working Party, Biostatistics Working Party
- Continue work on general requirements for fed and fasted studies for demonstration of bioequivalence
- Continue ongoing work in relation to exploring modelling approaches for bioequivalence with the MSWG as has arisen through SAWP
- Publication on EMA website of Questions & Answers related to positions on specific questions addressed to the PKWP that impact on current guidance

4. Input in European activities

4.1. Training for the network and knowledge building

Assessor training on the new Guideline on qualification and reporting of physiologically-based pharmacokinetics modelling and analyses to be held when the guideline is near finalisation (Q4 2018)

5. Input in international activities (beyond ICH guidelines)

Ad-hoc discussion with the FDA and other Regions, as appropriate, will be organised around specific topics. Particular activity is envisaged with the FDA in terms of the development of the Guideline on qualification and reporting of physiologically-based pharmacokinetics modelling and analyses and the revision of the drug-drug interactions guideline.

6. Contribution to dialogue and engagement with stakeholders and external parties

6.1. Workshops

Technical stakeholder workshop on qualification of PBPK models with contributors to the public consultation on the Guideline on qualification and reporting of physiologically-based pharmacokinetics modelling and analyses (Q2 2018). MSWG and SAWP also involved.

6.2. Other activities with stakeholders and external parties

PKWP Chairperson to represent CHMP at the WRIB annual meeting.

In addition to the actions identified above, the working party can be involved in any other activities foreseen in its mandate:

http://www.ema.europa.eu/docs/en_GB/document_library/Other/2010/08/WC500095453.pdf