

4 February 2011 EMA/97508/2011 Patient Health Protection

Transatlantic workshop: drug-related progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy

Invitation for expressions of interest

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) announces a two-day workshop co-chaired with the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA): 'Drug-related progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML)'.

Objectives of the planned workshop

- 1. Finding common understanding of the priorities for research in PML.
- 2. Mapping the ongoing research and identify gaps in PML.
- 3. Fostering funding and partnerships to conduct research to fill knowledge and research gaps in the field that will impact on healthcare protection.
- 4. Agreeing on a mechanism to ensure information-sharing and regular stocktaking of research results, knowledge, knowledge gaps.

During this workshop we expect to bring together participants for a common purpose of reducing the burden of PML, thereby improving public health protection.

The workshop will include experts and stakeholders from different countries and fields: academic and clinical researchers, epidemiologists, regulators, and public health policy makers, as well as the pharmaceutical industry, healthcare professionals and patients.

The workshop will be hosted by the EMA, in London, UK, and co-chaired by the FDA. The provisional dates foreseen for the workshop are 25-26 July 2011.

Sessions

- 1. Reducing the burden of PML.
- 2. Overview of PML as an adverse event of immunobiologicals.
- 3. The regulatory role.
- 4. Treatment of drug-induced PML.
- 5. Ongoing research in PML.

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- 6. Research agendas.
- 7. Building collaboration.
- 8. Funding of research.
- 9. Keeping abreast of progress for the benefits of public health.

Expressions of interest

Although speakers will be by invitation and capacity will be limited, we invite interested experts and stakeholders to send an expression of interest to attend this workshop by 30 April 2011 to: <u>PML-workshop2011@ema.europa.eu</u>