



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY  
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

# EMA's framework of engagement with healthcare professionals and their organisations

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Reflection on the need to review – points to consider

Healthcare Professionals' Working Party (HCPWP) 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary

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An agency of the European Union





# Points to consider

- Current framework was last revised in 2016
- Integration of experience and learnings
- Impact of recent and foreseen developments in EMA's engagement with HCPs
- Alignment with other frameworks for engagement
- How to adjust to increased interest from European health sciences students' associations as the future generations of professionals
- Inclusion of veterinarians as per request of EMA's Management Board at the time of last revision

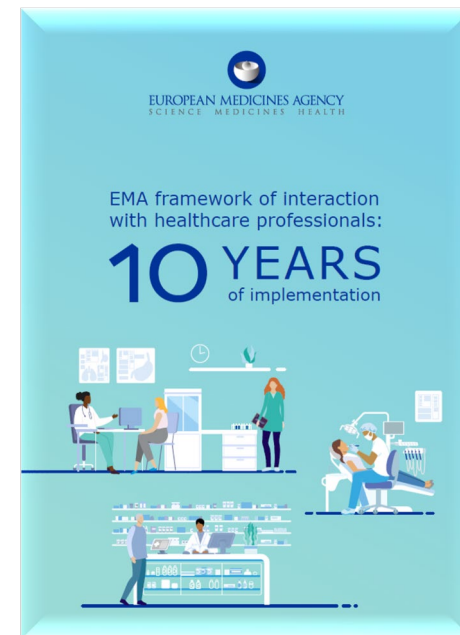




## INTEGRATION OF EXPERIENCE AND LEARNINGS

# 10 years of implementation of framework

- **Diversity and number of organisations** with eligibility status – healthcare professional organisations and clinical learned societies
  - Mission: Health care/public health focussed; Clinical and research driven
  - Types: alliances; specialised fields; disease/condition specific; professional groups
  - From first 20 organisations in 2012 to a total of 38 organisations in 2023
- **Type and maturity** of interaction
  - from individualised to targeted to specific professional groups (e.g. GPs) and multidisciplinary
  - from introductory to highly technical
  - from policy and advocacy to specialised expertise
- **Impact** of engagement – relevance and challenges of monitoring and reporting (qualitative and quantitative)





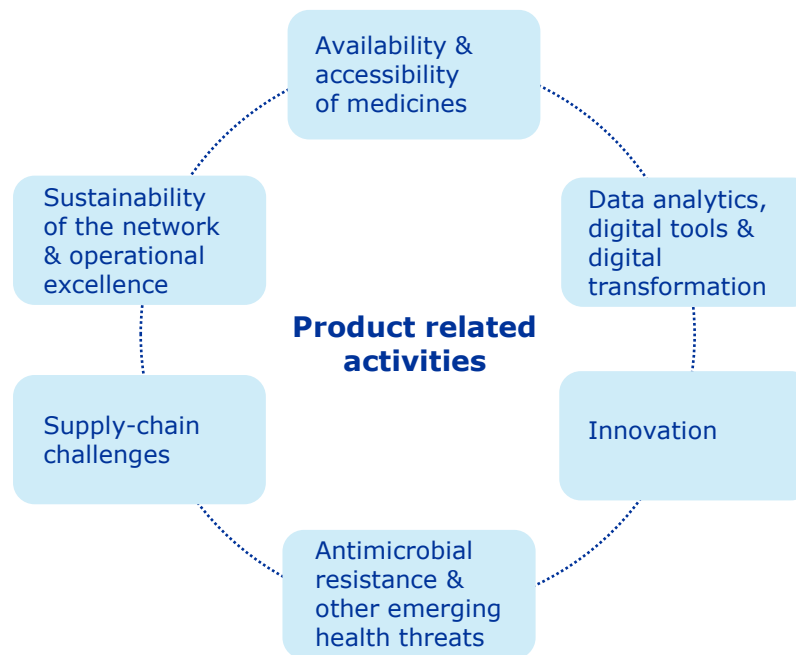
# Stepping up engagement with 'eligible' HCP organisations/ Learned societies

## Map expectations & identify gaps

- HCPWP (4<sup>th</sup> mandate)
- Survey to eligible organisations (2021 & 2023)
- HCP policy officers group (2021 pilot; 2023 re-assessment)

## Learn & share knowledge

- Bilateral meetings
- Information loop



## Increase impact

- Co-developed meetings
- Topic-driven multi-stakeholder platforms
- Training/ Participation in external events

## Create awareness

- Publications
- Audiovisual materials
- Annual reports

## INTEGRATION OF EXPERIENCE AND LEARNINGS



### **Strategic position** of the HCPWP in relation to EMA structures

- From a working group (HCPWG) - operating since November 2006 – to a Working Party in 2013; progressed to **EMA's working party** due to cross-committee nature
- **Interactions with the Patients and Consumers Working Party** (PCWP) – operating since 2005
  - Meetings predominantly run jointly; first three-year joint workplan (2019-2022) adopted in June 2019
  - Joint work (e.g. topic group on social media in 2015-2017; drafting group on ICH E6(R3) GCP in 2022-2023)
- **Scientific Committees'** consultations and close monitoring of engagement methodologies
  - Pilot working group on enhancing PRAC's engagement with patients and healthcare professionals (PRISMA) (2022)
  - CHMP early contact to healthcare professional organisations (2023)
- Interaction with recently **reorganised EMA's working parties** to be further explored



## INTEGRATION OF EXPERIENCE AND LEARNINGS



- HCPWP topic groups (2015-2017) on:
  - Academia, learned societies and healthcare professionals' organisations
  - EMA/CHMP/PRAC projects on information on medicines
  - Risk minimisation measures and assessment of their effectiveness
  - [Consolidated report](#)
- Creation of the healthcare professional policy officers' group (HCP POG) in 2021 to complement HCPWP
  - [One-year pilot review](#)
  - Drafting groups on medicines for frail and older people, surrogate endpoints, medication errors and shortages
  - Re-assessment and lessons learnt to be developed end of 2023



## INTEGRATION OF EXPERIENCE AND LEARNINGS

# Other areas of learning

- Post-COVID learnings for **engagement in times of public health crises**
  - Pooling efforts for coordinated communication and addressing misinformation
  - Adapting to disruption in normal activities; re-prioritising workstreams
- Establishing pools of experts and registration of individual HCPs
  - Access the best possible **independent expertise** to **incorporate real-world experience and scientific progress** into drug development, benefit/risk evaluation and monitoring



## POINTS TO CONSIDER

# Impact of recent and foreseen developments in EMA's engagement with HCPs

- EMA's regulatory science research agenda
- European Medicines Agencies Network strategy to 2025
- EMA's extended mandate
- EMA's strategic plan for multistakeholder engagement to 2025
- Digital tools, data analytics and digital transformation
- New EU pharmaceutical legislation
- EMA's working parties domains covering quality, non-clinical, methodology, clinical and veterinary







## POINTS TO CONSIDER

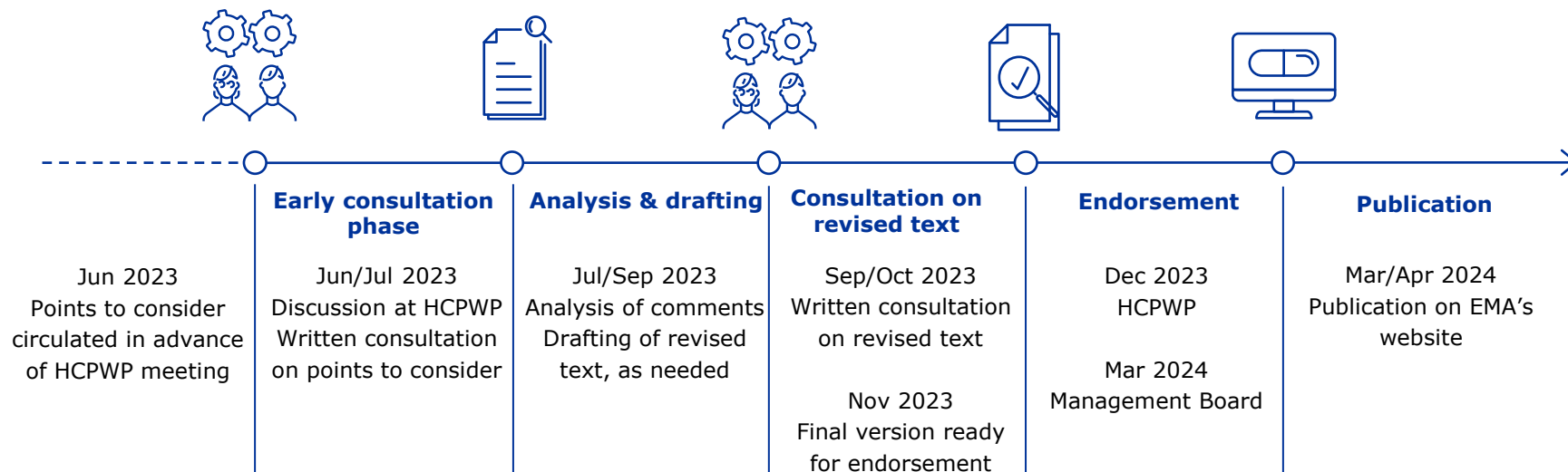
# Alignment with other frameworks for engagement

- The framework for EMA's engagement with patients, consumers and their organisations was updated in 2021 and published early 2022
- There are ongoing discussions to review EMA's framework for collaboration with academia (adopted in 2017)
- EMA's framework for interaction with industry stakeholders was adopted in 2015





# Next steps





# Any questions?

## Further information

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