EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

Closing Remarks

Medication-errors workshop
London, 28 February – 1 March 2013

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Objectives of the workshop

1. **Raising awareness** amongst the stakeholders involved in the reporting, evaluation and prevention of medication errors.
2. **Common understanding** of
   - what constitutes a medication error and,
   - the new legal requirements for reporting cases of medication error at EU level.
3. **Better understanding of how medication errors are managed** at national level.
4. **Sharing best practice for the prevention** of medication errors.
5. **Proposals to facilitate stakeholder co-operation** at national and international level.

Medication errors workshop: Draft conclusions / recommendations

Many adverse drug reactions are preventable through avoiding medication errors or inappropriate prescribing. There is a huge scope to promote public health through the prevention of medication errors and the new pharmacovigilance legislation provides an important public health opportunity through reporting, data sharing and prevention.

1. Definitions and terminology

- There is a need for a common operational definition of medication error. This will support prevention strategies, detection, reporting, classification and underpin research efforts.
- Any new definition of medication error could be tested before full implementation e.g. tested against the medication errors resulting in harm in the EudraVigilance database.
- The new broad definition of and adverse drug reaction in the new EU pharmacovigilance legislation underpins reporting, detection and management of medication errors.
- EU and international harmonisation and standardisation of practices, terminologies and definitions will bring benefits to stakeholders and benefits to patient health.
- Classification and approach for medication errors should be compatible with the International Classification for Patient Safety (Jan 2009).
- Need for better and harmonised categorisation of concepts and of terminologies. Further

Outputs

- **Workshop report + published presentations**
- **Key recommendations**
- **Many opportunities for operational improvements**
- **Continue the dialogue and collaboration with stakeholder groups**

"Working together for public health"

Thank you for your
support and collaboration!