Paediatric networks for clinical trial in children - regulatory authorities perspectives

Dr Chantal Bélorgey
Head of clinical trial Dpt, Afssaps
Chair of CTFG

11 March 2011

afssaps
Agence française de sécurité sanitaire des produits de santé

- Context
  - The clinical trials regulatory system in EU
- Investigators networks
  - Expectations
  - Perspectives

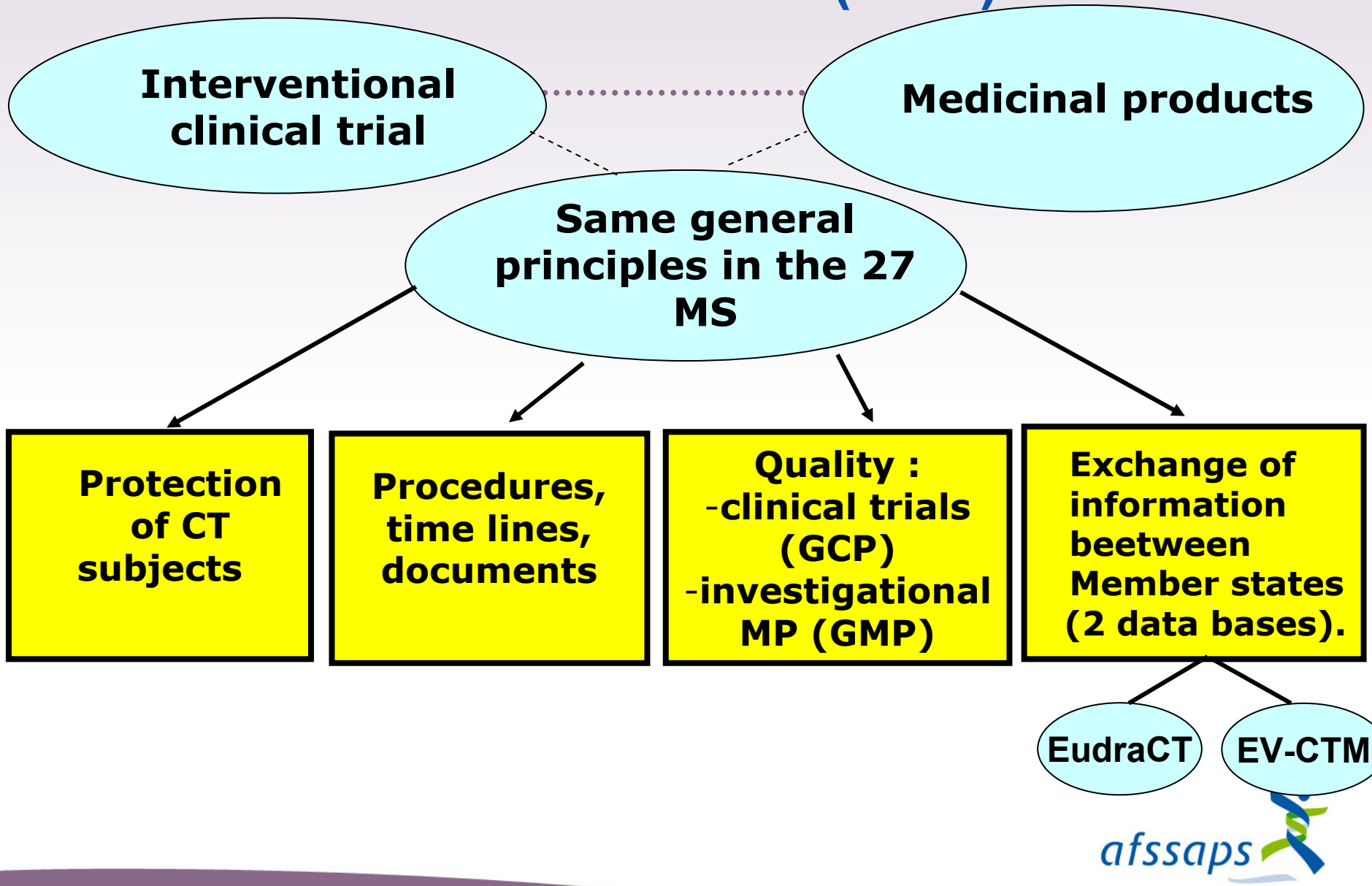
afssaps

Regulatory provisions for CTs on children

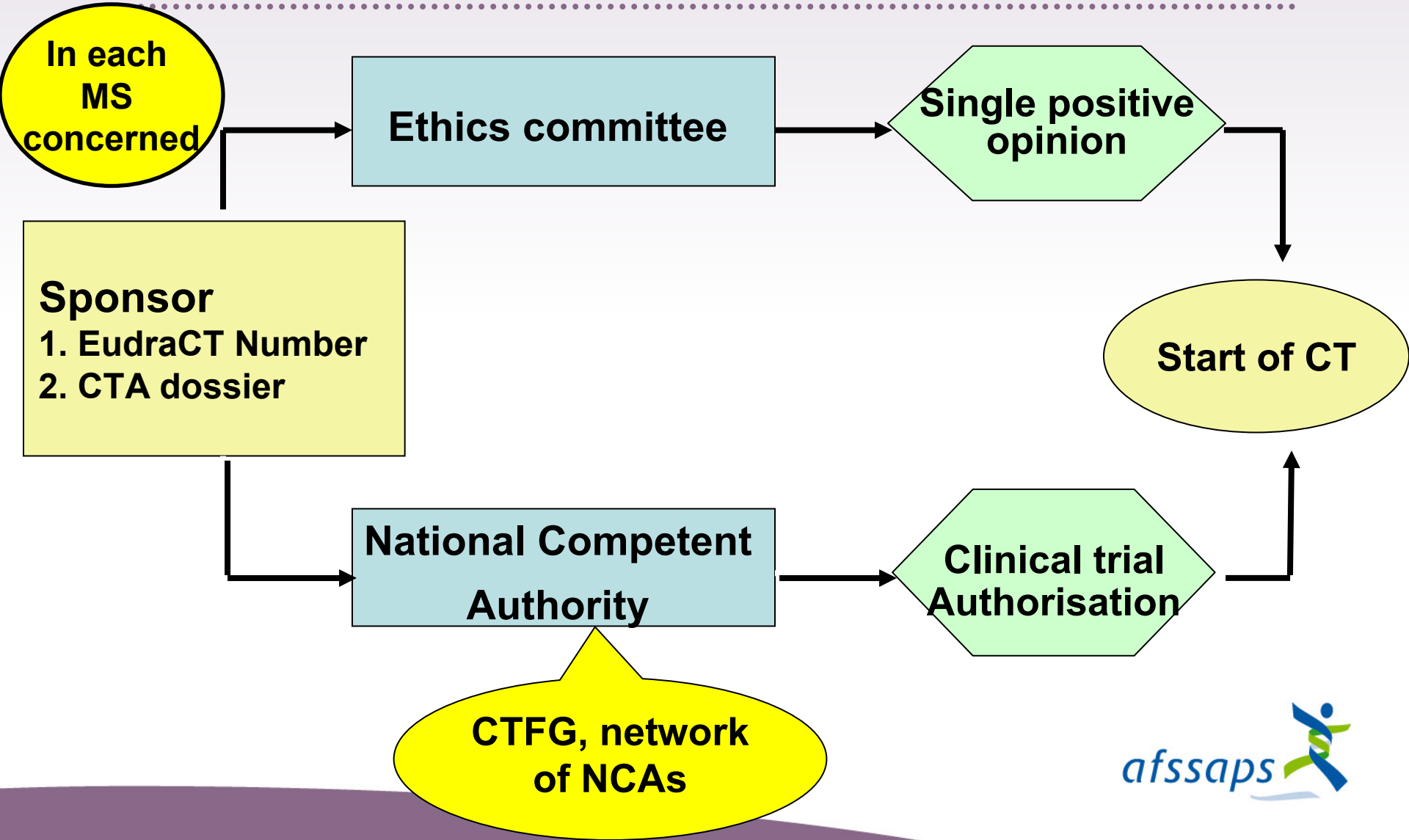
- The clinical trials directive and guidelines (Volume 10)
- ICH E6
- Regulation N° 1901/2006
- ICH E11
- Draft implementing strategy for the network of paediatric networks at EMA
- European Network of paediatric research (EnprEMA), recognition of criteria for self assessment.

afssaps

The clinical trials directive (CTD)



Procedure for starting a clinical trial in EU



afssaps

Ethics Committees and National Competent Authorities

If multinational CT, possible coordination of assessment by NCAs (VHP)

ECs

1. Subjects protection:
   - Written information/informed consent (content and modalities)
   - Indeminity/compensation
   - Insurance
   - Arrangement for recruitment
2. The trial
   - Relevance of the CT, CT design
   - Evaluation B/R is satisfactory

3. Facilities
   - Suitability of investigators/staff
   - Quality of facilities

NCA

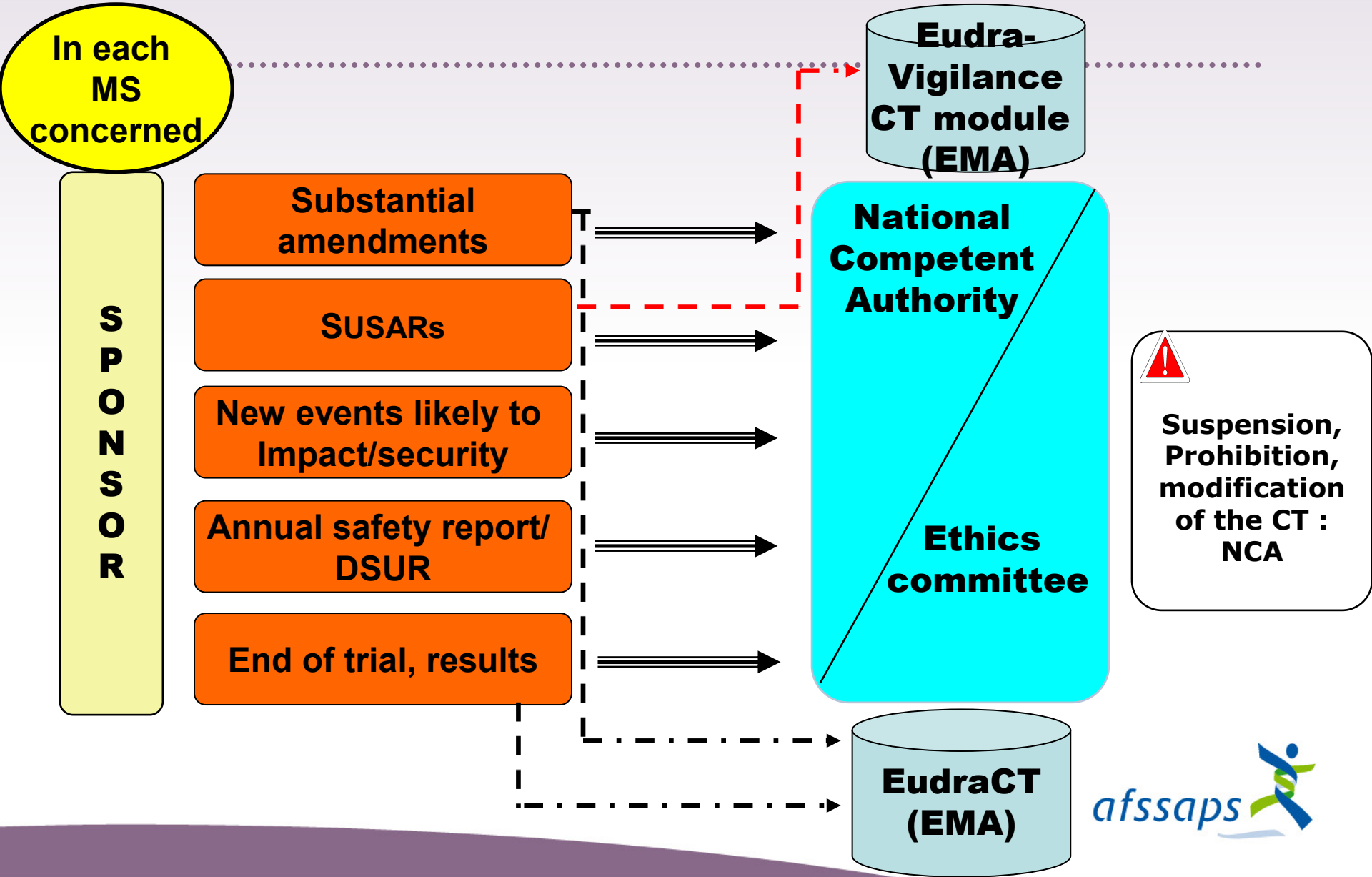
1. Benefit/risks of the CT is satisfactory
2. Quality of IMP and of CT is ensured
3. Safety of subjects is monitored and acceptable, taking into account all data in IMP Dossier
5. ± methodology (MS depending)

→ IMP Q, E, S

CT subject's safety

afssaps

Procedure for the conduct of the CT



NCAs are also responsible for

- Assessment of safety data

  → NCA may suspend, phohibit or require modification of the CT
- Inspections
  - GMP
  - GCP
    - Information in EudraCT
    - Decision on the trial
    - Sites of the trial (investigators), sponsor's or CRO's facilities and other actors of the CT.

afssaps

CTs in children in EU

source EudraCT

CTS in EU	2008	2009	2010
Adults	4273	4156	3886
Children (%-total)	328 (7.1%)	423 (9.2%)	405 (9.4%)

Commercial	45 %	45 %	60 %
Non commercial	55 %	55 %	40 %

Phase 1 CTs in children	29 (8.8 %)	28 (6.6 %)	50 (12 %)

Networks of investigators

Context

- Foster clinical research
- But need to ensure quality of clinical research and similar quality
- Reminders :
  - Suitability of each investigator is assessed, per CT, by Ethics Committees
  - GCP compliance is controlled by NCAs' inspectors
  - No legal EU accreditation of networks

afssaps

Expectations from authorities (1)

- Rules to be understood by all stakeholders
  - Rules on clinical trials (GCP)
  - Rules on specificities of clinical trials conducted on paediatric population
  - Rules on networks

afssaps

Expectations from authorities (2)

- Rules on networks
  - Definition of a Network
    - Predefined set of clinical research sites/investigators, technical wards and resources
    - With a common quality system (procedures, means, tools, communication)
    - With a coordination body.
  - Requirements for a Network
    - Quality management system
    - Training and educational capacity
    - Communication
    - Coordination

afssaps

Expectations from authorities (3)

- Networks of investigators in paediatrics
  - Capacities/competencies for clinical research + children
  - Appropriate research teams (investigators, nurses, facilities…)
  - Appropriate experts
  - Appropriate ethical standards
- Transparency on the practices
  - Existing networks and their experience and ability to conduct trials
  - Existing trainings for trial participants
  - Rules for project public fundings: assessment of candidates

afssaps

Qualification of an investigator?

- CTD: Appropriate experience
- Experience in GCP
  - Knowledge of ICH E6
  - Qualified by training and experience
  - Adequate resources to properly conduct the trial
  - Compliance to the protocol, procedures, reporting…
  - Knowledge of the IMP
- Experience in paediatrics :
  - Knowledge of ICH dedicated guidelines
  - Development of MP in children
  - Ethical specificities
  - Implication of child + family
  - Information/consent modalities
  - Blood samples/investigation modalities
  - Management of pain…

afssaps

Examples : Perspective in France

- Working group implemented by Afssaps in 2008
  - Participants: Inserm, investigators, networks, ECs, industry, CROs, parents associations…
  - Topics
    1. Public Information/communication on actors in paediatrics research
    2. Public information on existing trainings on clinical trials in paediatrics
    3. Trainings for trainers/ amend the existing content and implement
    4. Guidance on the QMS requirements for a network of investigators and resources
    5. Guidance on information and consent in CTs on paediatrics population in France

afssaps

Trainings for trainers of investigators in France

- Current content
  - Afssaps, LEEM, CROs
  - Published on January 2009
  - Afssaps website
  - General principles on medicines development, main principles on clinical trials, communication in clinical trials, recommended workshops content (informed consent, organisation of sites, monitoring and auditing, adverse effects notification).
- Chart to use the document

Where to get information on CTs in EU

European Commission website

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/pharmaceuticals/human-use/clinical-trials/

CTFG website :

http://www.hma-eu/78.html

Thank you!

Afssaps website

http://www.afssaps.fr

Abbreviations

- B/R : benefit/risk
- CRO : clinical research organisation
- CT : clinical trial
- CTA : clinical trial authorisation
- CTD : clinical trial directive
- CTFG : clinical trial facilitation group
- DSUR : development safety update report
- EC : Ethics committee
- EMA : European Medicines Agency
- EV CTM : Eudravigilance CT module
- GCP : good clinical practice
- GMP : good manufacturing practice
- IMP : investigational medical product
- MS : member state
- MNCT : multinational clinical trial
- NCA : national competent authority
- QMS: quality management system
- VHP : voluntary harmonised procedure

afssaps