

Report from the CMD(h) meeting held on 16th, 17th and 18th March 2009

Updated table with additional data requested for new applications in the mutual recognition and decentralised procedures

The CMD(h) has agreed, as one of the priorities for 2009, to reduce national requirements and has asked the Heads of Medicines Agencies to reconsider national requirements.

Further to the information received that some National Competent Authorities have reduced or eliminated national requirements, the CMD(h) has agreed an updated table, which includes only the Member States which request additional data for new applications in the mutual recognition and decentralised procedures.

No additional data is requested by National Competent Authorities other than that included in the table.

If Applicants are aware of additional data requested, please send this information to the attention of the CMD(h) Secretariat (H-CMDhSecretariat@emea.europa.eu).

Best Practice Guide – CMD(h) Recommendations on unforeseen variations

The CMD(h) has developed, in cooperation with the CMD(v) and the EMEA, a Best Practice Guide for handling requests for recommendation on the classification of unforeseen variations, in accordance with Article 5 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1234/2008.

The BPG will be published on the CMD(h) website under 'Procedural guidance', Variation.

Tracking table on referrals in accordance with Article 30 of Directive 2001/83/EC, as amended

Further to the publication on the CMD(h) website of a table with information on the status of the CHMP referrals for medicinal products included in the CMD(h) lists for SPC harmonisation, in accordance with Article 30(2) of Directive 2001/83/EC, as amended, the CMD(h) has agreed to publish also a table with all other Article 30 referrals, including a link to the respective Commission Decision and the Reference Member State.

Informal CMD(h) meeting – Prague, Czech Republic

The CMD(h) convened for an informal meeting on 9th and 10th March 2009 in Prague, Czech Republic, held as part of a programme of events organised under the Czech Presidency of the Council of the EU.

The main topics discussed at the meeting included a joint session with the CHMP and the COMP, to discuss statistics & trends (2005-2008), the CMD(h) work plan for 2009 and recommendations to reduce the number of referral procedures, CHMP-COMP-CMD interaction and Experts conflicts of interest.

There was also a presentation by the European Commission on the pharmaceutical package.

The CMD(h) discussed also risk-based assessment in MRP/DCP and avoiding full parallel assessment, handling of requests to be RMS in National Competent Authorities, MSs experience with changes of RMS, Paediatric work-sharing, experience of new RMSs in MRP and DCP and implementation of the Variation Regulation at national level.

Procedural advice on changing the Reference Member State

The CMD(h) has agreed an updated advice, to reflect the experience gained with changes of Reference Member State.

If a MAH considers a request for change of RMS, the MAH should approach the current RMS and the chosen future RMS well in advance to discuss the situation before any further steps are taken.

Please note that before accepting a change of the RMS, the MAH should, in cooperation with the RMS, close all procedures in the current RMS even if they have not yet started and confirm to the new RMS that no procedure is being examined in the current RMS.

A section on the numbering system in case of change of RMS and information on the transfer of the public assessment report to the new reference member state have also been included in the updated advice.

Procedural advice – Automatic validation of Mutual Recognition/Repeat-use/Decentralised procedures

The CMD(h) has agreed an updated advice, aimed at ensuring that validation times are within those agreed in the Best Practice Guide for Mutual Recognition Procedure, Procedural advice on Repeat-use and Decentralised Procedure Member States' SOP.

Applicants are advised to check the CMD(h) Best Practice Guide on the compilation of the dossier for new applications submitted in Mutual Recognition and Decentralised procedures as well as Common grounds for invalidation/delaying validation before submission of the application.

Additional hypotensive effects following co-administration of non-selective alpha-blockers and phosphodiesterase-5-inhibitors

Further to the PhVWP report to CMD(h) on additional hypotensive effects following co-administration of non-selective alpha-blockers and phosphodiesterase-5-inhibitors, agreed by the PhVWP in February 2009, the following timetable has been agreed by the CMD(h) and PhVWP for implementation of agreed SPC and PL changes for non-selective alpha-blockers

1 May 2009	Variation applications requested through CMD(h)
15 June 2009	Variation applications submitted by MA holders
15 October 2009	Variation applications approved by RMS
15 February 2010	Updated SPC/PL into new production batches

The PhVWP recommended SPC and package leaflet wording will be published on the CMD(h) website, under 'Product information, PhVWP recommendations'.

Hydrochlorothiazide and use during pregnancy

Further to the CMD(h) request to PhVWP to discuss the use of hydrochlorothiazide during pregnancy, with a view to having an harmonised statement in Europe, the PhVWP concluded that a contra-indication for the use of hydrochlorothiazide during the second and third trimesters of pregnancy is not warranted. Hydrochlorothiazide should remain an option for women who do not respond to or cannot take other antihypertensive medications and who must be treated for essential hypertension.

The PhVWP recommended SPC and package leaflet wording will be published on the CMD(h) website, under 'Product information, PhVWP recommendations'.

Questions & Answers: Position on specific questions addressed to the EWP therapeutic subgroup on Pharmacokinetics

The CMD(h) has welcomed the publication of the Q&As: Position on specific questions addressed to the EWP therapeutic subgroup on Pharmacokinetics, which addresses specific questions in relation to pharmacokinetic evaluations and particularly the requirements and assessment of bioequivalence studies.

The compilation will be updated with new positions as soon as they become available and is published on the EMEA website <http://www.emea.europa.eu/pdfs/human/ewp/61860408en.pdf>

NEW APPLICATIONS

Mutual Recognition Procedure

The CMD(h) noted that **39** Mutual Recognition Procedures were finalised during the month of February 2009. **1** Mutual Recognition Procedures was referred to CMD(h) in this period. There were **no** Mutual Recognition Procedures referred to CHMP in this period.

The status as of 28th February 2009 of procedures under Mutual Recognition is as follows:

Year	New applications finalised ¹	New applications in process	Referred to CMD(h)	Agreement reached in the CMD(h)		Withdrawn during CMD(h) referral	Applications referred to CHMP	
				For procedures referred in 2008	2009		For procedures referred to CMD(h) in 2008	2009
2009	64	80	4	1	0	0	0	

30 Mutual Recognition Procedures (regarding **58** products) started in February 2009. The categories of these procedures are as follows:

20 abridged applications, including **3** multiple and 7 repeat use applications.

9 known active substance applications, including **2** multiple and **2** repeat use applications.

1 Line Extension application.

The new procedures started in February 2009 related to **7** full dossier, **19** generic, **1** hybrid and **3** bibliographic applications.

29 of these procedures consisted of chemical substance products and **1** procedure consisted of a biological blood product.

¹ Due to late database updates cumulative yearly figure differs from the monthly figures. Cumulative yearly figure includes late database updates on finalised procedures not captured in the monthly figures published in press releases. The applications referred to CHMP are included in the 'new applications finalised.'

29 of these procedures related to prescription-only medicinal products and **1** procedure related to a non-prescription medicinal product in the reference Member State².

New applications in Mutual Recognition procedure started in February 2009.

Member State	Number of times involved in a procedure as RMS	Number of times involved in a procedure as CMS
Austria		6
Belgium		11
Bulgaria		6
Cyprus		3
Czech Republic	2	12
Denmark	8	14
Estonia		5
Finland	1	6
France		4
Germany	8	18
Greece		9
Hungary	1	9
Iceland		1
Ireland	1	6
Italy		11
Latvia		6
Lithuania		6
Luxembourg		4
Malta		2
Netherlands	2	10
Norway		4
Poland		11
Portugal		7
Romania		7
Slovak Republic		8
Slovenia		7
Spain	2	9
Sweden	3	11
United Kingdom	2	11

Decentralised Procedure

The CMD(h) noted that there were **56** Decentralised Procedures finalised with a positive outcome and **2** procedures finalised with a negative outcome. **10** Decentralised procedure was withdrawn after day 120 during the month of February 2009. **5** Decentralised Procedures were referred to the CMD(h) in this period. There were **no** Decentralised Procedures referred to the CHMP in this period.

The status as of 28th February 2009 of procedures under Decentralised Procedure is as follows:

Year	New applications finalised ³	New applications withdrawn (After day 120)	New applications in process	Referred to CMD(h)	Agreement reached in the CMD(h)		Withdrawn during CMD(h) referral	Referred to CHMP	
					For procedures referred in 2008	2009		For procedures referred to CMD(h) in 2008	2009
2009	132	11	1748	5	8	0	0	1	0

132 Decentralised Procedures (regarding **253** products) started in February 2009. The categories of these procedures are as follows:

118 abridged applications, including **54** multiple applications.

² In this category products are classified as prescription-only or Non-prescription (OTC) products when the RMS has approved them accordingly, although the legal status is not part of the Mutual Recognition Procedure.

³ Due to late database updates cumulative yearly figure differs from the monthly figures. Cumulative yearly figure includes late database updates on finalised procedures not captured in the monthly figures published in press releases. This cumulative figure includes positive and negative procedures as well as those referred to CHMP.

3 known active substance applications.

11 line extension applications, including 4 multiple applications.

The new Decentralised procedures started in December related to 6 full dossiers, 102 generic, 1 bibliographic, 2 informed consent, 17 hybrid and 4 fixed combination.

131 of these procedures consisted of chemical substance applications and 1 procedure consisted of a biological other substance application.

126 of these procedures related to prescription-only medicinal products and 6 procedures related to non-prescription medicinal product in the reference Member State⁴.

New applications in Decentralised procedure started in February 2009.

Member State	Number of times involved in a procedure as RMS	Number of times involved in a procedure as CMS
Austria	2	32
Belgium	1	30
Bulgaria		25
Cyprus		9
Czech Republic		39
Denmark	37	66
Estonia	6	30
Finland	2	36
France	6	29
Germany	19	60
Greece		21
Hungary	1	39
Iceland		11
Ireland		29
Italy	7	59
Latvia		25
Lithuania		25
Luxembourg		31
Malta	1	8
Netherlands	15	47
Norway		29
Poland		53
Portugal	3	50
Romania		36
Slovak Republic	1	33
Slovenia		22
Spain		38
Sweden	12	34
United Kingdom	19	46

VARIATIONS AND RENEWALS

Mutual Recognition and Decentralised Procedures

The CMD(h) noted that 497 type IA variations, 367 type IB variations and 199 type II variations were finalised during the month of February 2009. 38 renewals were finalised in this period. There were no procedures referred to the CHMP in this period.

⁴ In this category products are classified as prescription-only or Non-prescription (OTC) products as applied for in the RMS, although the legal status is not part of the Decentralised Procedure.

The status as of 28th February 2009 of variations and renewals under Mutual Recognition is as follows:

Year	Procedures from Type IA variations finalised	Procedures from Type IB variations finalised	Procedures from Type II variations finalised	Renewals finalised	Applications referred to CHMP
2009	455	178	172	35	0

All documents mentioned in this press release can be found at the CMD(h) website under the heading *Press Releases*.

Information on the above mentioned issues can be obtained from the chair of the CMD(h) or from the CMD(h) Secretariat:

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*Or you could visit the **CMD(h) web site** at:*

<http://www.hma.eu/cmdh.html>