

Report to Congress

The Fourteenth Review of the Backlog of Postmarketing Requirements and Commitments

Submitted Pursuant to Section 505(k) of the Federal Food, Drug, and
Cosmetic Act
(As Amended by Section 921 of Title IX of the Food and Drug
Administration Amendments Act of 2007)



U.S. FOOD & DRUG
ADMINISTRATION

Executive Summary

On September 27, 2007, the President signed into law the Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act of 2007 (FDAAA) (Public Law 110-85). Under section 921 of this law, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is required to review, annually, the entire backlog of postmarketing requirements (PMRs) and postmarketing commitments (PMCs) to determine which PMRs/PMCs “require revision or should be eliminated.”

FDA has performed this fourteenth review of the backlog consisting of all PMRs and PMCs that were open (i.e., not yet released or fulfilled) as of the date of enactment of FDAAA, which are considered the “backlog” for purposes of the section 921 review. For this review, FDA has identified 1,636 PMRs/PMCs¹ (1,553 in the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER) and 83 in the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)) that comprise the backlog to which section 921 applies.

The data available for review of the backlog of PMRs and PMCs are constantly changing as submissions are reviewed and statuses are updated. This fourteenth annual report shows that as of December 31, 2021, CDER completed the required review for 1,506 of the 1,553 PMRs and PMCs in the backlog. As of September 30, 2021, CBER completed the required review of 77 of the 83 PMRs and PMCs in the backlog.

The number of open PMRs and PMCs will continue to diminish each year as applicants complete studies/trials and submit final reports and as FDA reviews the final reports and issues fulfillment and release letters.

¹ FDA originally identified 1,637 PMRs/PMCs in the backlog. However, two closed CDER PMRs were administratively combined into a single PMR, reducing the total to 1,636. Please refer to footnote 8 in the report for more information.

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I. Introduction

On September 27, 2007, the President signed into law the Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act of 2007 (FDAAA) (Public Law 110-85). Section 921 of Title IX of FDAAA amended section 505(k) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) (21 U.S.C. 355(k)) by adding a provision requiring the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to, “on an annual basis, review the entire backlog of postmarket safety commitments to determine which commitments require revision or should be eliminated, report to the Congress on these determinations, and assign start dates and estimated completion dates for such commitments.”

The “backlog” consists of all postmarketing requirements (PMRs) and postmarketing commitments (PMCs) that were open (i.e., not yet released or fulfilled) as of the date of enactment of FDAAA.¹ “PMRs” and “PMCs” are studies or clinical trials required of, or agreed upon in writing by, an applicant, and they are conducted after FDA has approved a product for marketing. These studies and clinical trials are intended to further define the safety, efficacy, or optimal use of a product and, therefore, play an important role in fully characterizing the product.

During the fourteenth review of the PMR/PMC backlog, FDA identified 1,636 PMRs/PMCs (1,553² in the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER) and 83 in the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)) that comprise the backlog to which section 921 applies. This is the fourteenth annual report on the review of the backlog of PMRs and PMCs. This report includes information about PMRs/PMCs in the backlog that remain “open,” as well as those that were “closed.” (See Appendix A for

¹ Before FDAAA, all postmarketing studies and clinical trials (both required and agreed upon) were referred to as “postmarketing commitments.” Therefore, the backlog of PMCs includes required studies and clinical trials, as well as those studies/clinical trials an applicant agreed to, but was not required to, conduct. Since FDAAA, the terminology has been clarified to distinguish the studies/clinical trials that are required from those that are agreed upon. Before FDAAA, PMRs/PMCs specifically addressing safety issues were not separately identified; therefore, the backlog includes both PMRs/PMCs intended to address safety issues as well as those addressing non-safety issues (e.g., efficacy studies).

² In the second annual backlog review, which was completed on March 12, 2010, the external contractor who conducted the review determined that the CDER backlog cohort consisted of 1,551 PMRs and PMCs. During the third annual review, CDER discovered one PMR/PMC that did not qualify as a PMR/PMC and was subsequently removed from this cohort. During the fourth annual review, CDER discovered four additional PMR/PMCs that had previously been excluded from the backlog (e.g., never entered into database). During the fifth annual review, one additional PMR/PMC was discovered; this PMR/PMC was subsequently determined to be a duplicate and was removed from the cohort during the seventh annual review. During the ninth annual review, CDER discovered that two closed PMRs had been administratively combined, in the CDER internal database, into a single PMR, decreasing the number of PMRs in the backlog by one (i.e., to 1,553).

these and other status definitions used in this report.) Past backlog reports are available at the links in Appendix B.³

This fourteenth annual report is based on data that had “data lock” dates of September 30, 2021 (CBER backlog) and December 31, 2021 (CDER backlog).⁴

II. Background

Section 130(a) of the Food and Drug Administration Modernization Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-115) amended the FD&C Act by adding a provision (i.e., section 506B of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. 356b)) requiring reports of certain postmarketing studies for human drug and biological products. Section 506B of the FD&C Act provides FDA with the authority to monitor the progress of a PMC by requiring the applicant to submit an annual report providing information on the status of the PMC, which was defined to include agreed-upon commitments and required studies (including clinical trials).⁵

The annual reports that applicants submit must also include the reasons, if any, for failure to satisfy the commitment. This provision is implemented per 21 CFR 314.81(b)(2)(vii) and 601.70.⁶ Under section 506B(b) and (c), FDA is required to track these PMCs and report on them annually in the *Federal Register*.⁷ As described previously, as of the date of enactment of FDAAA, there were 1,636 (CDER and CBER)

³ Postmarketing Requirements and Commitments: Reports (<https://www.fda.gov/drugs/postmarket-requirements-and-commitments/postmarketing-requirements-and-commitments-reports>).

⁴ Because database updates were ongoing as of September 30, 2017, the data for the CDER backlog were locked and extracted as of December 31, 2017, to ensure the most current and accurate information for this review. Therefore, subsequent database updates for CDER are now locked and extracted on December 31.

⁵ See the guidance for industry *Reports on the Status of Postmarketing Study Commitments—Implementation of Section 130 of the Food and Drug Administration Modernization Act of 1997*, available at <https://www.fda.gov/files/drugs/published/Reports-on-the-Status-of-Postmarketing-Study-Commitments—Implementation-of-Section-130-of-the-Food-and-Drug-Administration-Modernization-Act-of-1997.pdf>.

⁶ In addition, new drug application applicants are required by 21 CFR 314.81(b)(2)(viii) to report annually to FDA on postmarketing studies or clinical trials that are not 506B studies or clinical trials. Such studies or clinical trials are not required by statute, and they include both chemistry, manufacturing, and controls (CMC) commitments (i.e., CMC studies that applicants have agreed with FDA to conduct) and stability studies (i.e., product stability studies that applicants have agreed with FDA to conduct). The reporting requirement under 21 CFR 314.81(b)(2)(viii) also includes “any postmarketing study not included under [section 314.81](b)(2)(vii) . . . that is being performed by, or on behalf of, the applicant.” Reports on the status of these types of studies are not required under section 506B.

⁷ These annual reports are available on FDA’s Postmarketing Requirements and Commitments: Reports website at <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/postmarket-requirements-and-commitments/postmarketing-requirements-and-commitments-reports>.

open PMRs and PMCs that are considered the “backlog” for purposes of the section 921 backlog review.⁸

Before the passage of FDAAA, FDA required studies or clinical trials in the following situations:

- Subpart H and subpart E accelerated approvals for products approved under section 505(b) of the FD&C Act or section 351(a) of the Public Health Service Act, respectively (commonly called “accelerated approval”). Accelerated approvals require postmarketing studies to verify clinical benefit (21 CFR 314.510 and 601.41, respectively);
- Deferred pediatric studies where studies are required under the Pediatric Research Equity Act (PREA); and
- Animal efficacy rule approvals where studies to demonstrate safety and efficacy in humans are required at the time of use (21 CFR 314.610(b)(1) and 601.91(b)(1)).⁹

Under FDAAA, FDA has been given additional authority to require applicants to conduct and report on postmarketing studies or clinical trials to assess a known serious risk, assess signals of serious risk, or identify an unexpected serious risk related to the use of a product. These required safety studies/clinical trials—as well as those required under accelerated approval, PREA, and the animal rule (as described above)—are now considered PMRs. Studies or clinical trials required after the passage of FDAAA are not included in the annual backlog review because the backlog has been interpreted in this context to refer to all required or agreed-upon studies or clinical trials that had not been released or fulfilled before the passage of FDAAA.

III. Methods

The first and second annual CDER reviews were conducted by an external contractor who reviewed internal FDA systems and documents to determine the status for all

⁸ At the outset of this evaluation, CDER provided a list of 1,643 open PMRs and PMCs derived from the internal PMR/PMC tracking systems as of September 27, 2007. During the course of the annual reviews, CDER identified a number of PMRs/PMCs that were erroneously included in (e.g., duplicate entry, previously released/fulfilled study/clinical trial, non-PMR/PMC element from an action letter) or excluded from (e.g., never entered into database) this group. After these corrections were made, the CDER backlog consisted of 1,553 PMRs/PMCs. Together with the 83 CBER PMRs/PMCs, FDA identified a total of 1,636 PMRs/PMCs that are the subject of this report.

⁹ PMRs for drugs approved under the animal efficacy rule (21 CFR 314.600 for drug products; 21 CFR 601.90 for biological products) are to provide a study of the safety and clinical benefit of the drug if circumstances arise in which a study would be feasible and ethical (i.e., if an emergency arises and the drug is used). In the absence of a public health emergency for which these drugs may be utilized, these studies or clinical trials will remain indefinitely open.

PMRs/PMCs. These reviews were accomplished by first identifying the status of each PMR/PMC listed in the internal PMR/PMC databases and comparing these statuses to the milestone dates established in each product's approval letter. When the milestone dates were inconsistent with the statuses in the PMR/PMC databases, the correct status was determined by examining existing documentation (e.g., PMR/PMC annual status reports, PMR/PMC final study/clinical trial reports, FDA-applicant communications, and internal FDA memos and reviews).

After the accurate statuses were determined, additional review of the backlog of PMRs/PMCs was performed to identify candidates for revision or release.¹⁰ The PMRs/PMCs that were off schedule (i.e., delayed or terminated) or had no milestone dates were prioritized for review over those that were on schedule (i.e., pending, ongoing, or submitted) based on established milestone dates.

The contractor provided CDER with the results of the review as well as recommendations regarding potential re-evaluation or release of PMRs/PMCs in the backlog. CDER has conducted all subsequent annual reviews, including this fourteenth review, and continues to monitor the progress of the PMRs/PMCs recommended for revision or release in addition to assessing the current status for the entire backlog.

The data available for PMRs and PMCs in the backlog are constantly changing as submissions are reviewed and the statuses of the PMRs/PMCs are updated. CDER has policies and procedures to help ensure that its data on PMRs/PMCs, including the PMRs/PMCs in the backlog, are current and accurate. When identified, data discrepancies are addressed and/or are corrected in later reports. The information in this report reflects the status information in CDER's database at the time the data were extracted and reflects CDER's data quality control processes.

CDER has a comprehensive module in its biologics license application database system for tracking PMRs/PMCs. Information from CDER's system is extracted monthly and quarterly, and the information is subjected to quality control processes external to the review offices for Centers' and FDA's reports. CDER's processes, along with clearly defined CDER staff responsibilities for managing PMRs/PMCs, help ensure that data available from the system are accurate and relatively current.

IV. Findings

A. CDER's Summary of Progress

- The number of open PMRs/PMCs in the CDER backlog continues to decrease. The data show that as of December 31, 2021, 97 percent (1,506/1,553) of PMRs/PMCs

¹⁰ There were 1,049 PMRs/PMCs that did not require a review because they were determined to be already fulfilled or released.

have been closed (i.e., fulfilled or released). Of the 47 PMRs/PMCs that remain open, 85 percent (40/47) have studies/trials either in progress or completed (i.e., ongoing, delayed, or had final reports submitted) at the time of the fourteenth annual review.

- As shown in Table 1 and Figure 1, as of December 31, 2021, the status of the CDER backlog of PMRs/PMCs was as follows: pending: less than one percent (four/1,553); ongoing: less than one percent (three/1,553); delayed: one percent (22/1,553); terminated: less than one percent (three/1,553); submitted: one percent (15/1,553); fulfilled: 71 percent (1,105/1,553); and released: 26 percent (401/1,553). In comparison to the previous year,¹¹ four PMRs/PMCs¹² were closed (released or fulfilled).
- The data for the previous year show that the status of the CDER backlog of PMRs/PMCs was as follows: pending: less than one percent (5/1,553); ongoing: less than one percent (six/1,553); delayed: two percent (24/1,553); terminated: less than one percent (three/1,553); submitted: less than one percent (13/1,553); fulfilled: 71 percent (1,103/1,553); and released: 26 percent (399/1,553).

¹¹ See the thirteenth annual backlog report to Congress, available at <https://www.fda.gov/media/154529/download>.

¹² In comparison to the previous year, PMRs/PMCs with pending, ongoing, and delayed statuses decreased. The remaining PMRs/PMCs with open statuses include the same number of PMRs/PMCs in terminated status as the previous year but an increased number of PMRs/PMCs in submitted status.

Table 1: CDER’s PMR/PMC Statuses After Annual Reviews

Copies of previous Reports to Congress on the PMR/PMC backlog can be found on FDA’s PMR/PMC Reports web page (available at <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/postmarket-requirements-and-commitments/postmarketing-requirements-and-commitments-reports>).

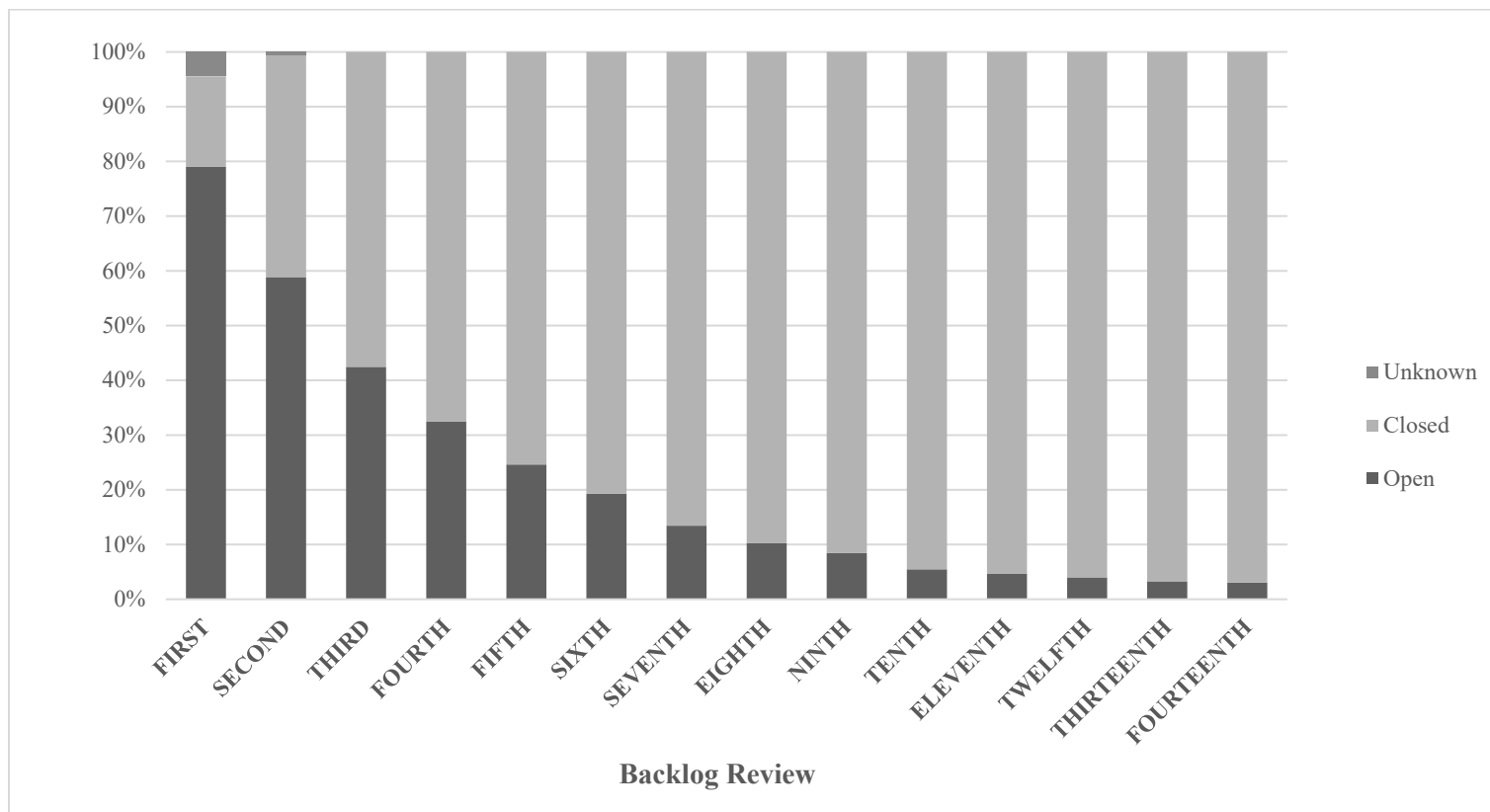
PMR/PMC Status by Year										
	Pending⁴	Ongoing	Submitted	Delayed	Terminated	Fulfilled	Released	Undetermined⁵	Not Available⁶	Total
First Review	208	212	565	225	16	209	47	39	30	1,551
Second Review	114	156	366	264	13	483	146	9	0	1,551
Third Review	93	132	197	223	13	701	191	0	0	1,550
Fourth Review¹	77	106	113	199	10	827	222	0	0	1,554
Fifth Review²	51	71	79	171	11	900	272	0	0	1,555
Sixth Review	46	60	63	124	7	953	302	0	0	1,555
Seventh Review³	49	49	30	73	8	1,018	327	0	0	1,554
Eighth Review	32	37	15	65	10	1,050	345	0	0	1,554
Ninth Review	25	26	19	54	7	1,047 ⁷	375	0	0	1,553⁸
Tenth Review	6	22	22	32	3	1,076	392	0	0	1,553
Eleventh Review	6	17	15	30	4	1,087	394	0	0	1,553
Twelfth Review	5	11	13	29	4	1,094	397	0	0	1,553
Thirteenth Review	5	6	13	24	3	1,103	399	0	0	1,553
Fourteenth Review	4	3	15	22	3	1,105	401	0	0	1,553

¹ During the fourth annual review, CDER discovered a total of four PMR/PMCs that had previously been excluded from the backlog (e.g., never entered into the database). After this correction was made, the CDER backlog consisted of 1,554 PMRs/PMCs.

- ² During the fifth annual review, CDER discovered one PMR/PMC that had previously been excluded from the backlog (e.g., never entered into a database). After this correction was made, the CDER backlog consisted of 1,555 PMRs/PMCs.
- ³ During the seventh annual review, CDER discovered a duplicate PMR entry. After the duplicate entry was removed, the CDER backlog totaled 1,554 PMRs/PMCs.
- ⁴ PMRs in pending status include those issued under the PREA and the animal efficacy rule (21 CFR 314.600 and 21 CFR 601.90). PREA PMRs are often deferred because the applicable drug product is ready for approval in adults before pediatric studies are complete. Initiation of the PREA studies may also be deferred because FDA finds that pediatric studies should be delayed until additional safety or effectiveness data have been collected. Postmarketing studies required under the animal efficacy rule are to provide a study of the safety and clinical benefit if circumstances arise in which a study would be feasible and ethical (i.e., if an emergency arises and the drug is used). In the absence of a public health emergency for which these drugs may be utilized, these studies/clinical trials will indefinitely remain pending.
- ⁵ After the first and second annual reviews, the status of 39 and nine PMRs/PMCs, respectively, was undetermined because of insufficient documentation to determine the correct status at the time of the review. During the third annual review, CDER determined the status of the remaining 9 undetermined PMRs/PMCs.
- ⁶ The status of 30 PMRs/PMCs was not available after the first annual review because the PMRs/PMCs had not been entered into the PMR/PMC database. These PMRs/PMCs were subsequently entered into the database and reviewed.
- ⁷ During the ninth review, CDER determined that 12 PMRs/PMCs previously identified as fulfilled were released and that one PMR/PMC previously identified as released was, in fact, fulfilled.
- ⁸ During the ninth annual review, CDER discovered that two closed PMRs had been administratively combined into a single PMR, decreasing the total number of PMRs in the CDER backlog to 1,553.

Figure 1 displays the data from Table 1 in graphical form and includes all years. The figure shows that the number of open (i.e., pending, ongoing, delayed, terminated, or submitted) PMRs/PMCs in the CDER backlog has progressively decreased. As of December 31, 2021, although the number of open PMRs/PMCs in the CDER backlog decreased by four from the previous year, the percentage remains at three percent (47/1,553), similar to the previous year (three percent (51/1,553)).

Figure 1: CDER’s PMR/PMC Statuses After Annual Backlog Reviews



Unknown = PMR/PMC status unknown or undetermined
 Open = PMR/PMC status of pending, ongoing, delayed, submitted, or terminated
 Closed = PMR/PMC status of released or fulfilled

- During the fourteenth annual review, the status of 10 PMRs/PMCs in the CDER backlog was updated as a result of study/trial completion, final report submission, or missed milestone dates.¹⁴
 - Of the 10 updated PMR/PMC statuses, one was updated to fulfilled, three were updated to released, two were updated to delayed, and four were updated to submitted. None were updated to ongoing or terminated.
 - The four PMR/PMC statuses updated to fulfilled and released reflect the consistent efforts of the review divisions to either complete the reviews of the submitted final reports or assess the need/feasibility of current studies and trials.
- As of December 31, 2021, of the 22 open PMRs/PMCs with a status of pending, ongoing, or terminated that originally had no specific milestones or completion dates, two (10 percent) PMRs/PMCs remained open, from two PMRs/PMCs open the previous year. These two PMRs/PMCs represent less than one percent of the original 457¹⁵ PMRs/PMCs in the CDER backlog that had no milestones or completion dates.¹⁶ Both are PMCs that remain in pending status because they are studies related to medical countermeasures.¹⁷
- As a result of the first annual backlog review, 74 PMRs/PMCs were recommended for re-evaluation by CDER reviewers because of possible issues with feasibility or relevance,¹⁸ suggesting that the vast majority of PMRs/PMCs were sufficiently well conceived when established. Of these 74 PMRs/PMCs, two percent remain open (one of the 47 open PMRs/PMCs) (see section IV.A of this report), which is no change from the previous year.¹⁹

¹⁴ These status updates do not reflect status changes made for data correction, as described in footnotes 2 and 8 of Table 1.

¹⁵ The seventh annual review indicated that there were 458 PMRs/PMCs included in the original CDER backlog cohort of PMRs/PMCs that had no milestones or completion dates. During the eighth annual review, CDER discovered that one PMC should not have been included in this cohort because the PMC had a final protocol due date. Therefore, there were a total of 457 PMRs/PMCs in the original CDER backlog that had no milestones or completion dates.

¹⁶ See the first annual backlog report to Congress, available at <http://wayback.archive-it.org/7993/20170111225514/http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Post-marketingPhaseIVCommitments/UCM291522.pdf>.

¹⁷ Medical countermeasures studies typically include only a protocol milestone because the study will start only in the event of an exposure (i.e., when the study becomes “feasible” and “ethical”) and remain in pending or delayed status depending on when the protocol was submitted.

¹⁸ See the first annual backlog report to Congress, available at <http://wayback.archive-it.org/7993/20170111225514/http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Post-marketingPhaseIVCommitments/UCM291522.pdf>.

¹⁹ Refer to the thirteenth annual backlog report to Congress, available at <https://www.fda.gov/media/154529/download>.

Thus:

- Most open CDER PMRs/PMCs in the backlog with a study/clinical trial in progress are delayed, completed, or await CDER review of the applicant-submitted final report (40/47, 85 percent).
- The number of closed (fulfilled and released) PMRs/PMCs continues to increase from 1,502 in 2020 (97 percent) to 1,506 in 2021 (97 percent). The numerical increase in closed PMRs/PMCs reflects the continued effort by the review divisions to complete reviews of the submitted final reports identified during prior annual reviews.
- Only one of the 74 PMRs/PMCs (one percent) originally recommended for re-evaluation by CDER reviewers because of possible issues with feasibility or relevance remains open. This low number reflects the consistent effort by the review divisions to review final reports or other data that have subsequently been submitted to determine if these PMRs/PMCs can be closed.
- All Office of New Drug review divisions have developed a plan for reviewing the CDER backlog and managing PMR/PMC issues in general. Of the 13 PMR/PMC final reports received as of December 31, 2021, 11 (85 percent) were under review, one (8 percent) was returned to delayed status,²⁰ and one (8 percent) was reviewed by FDA and subsequently fulfilled.

B. CBER's Summary of Progress

- The data show that as of September 30, 2021, 93 percent (77/83) of the PMRs/PMCs have been closed (i.e., fulfilled or released), and 83 percent (five/six) of the open PMRs/PMCs have studies/trials in progress or completed at the time of the fourteenth annual review.
- The data in Table 2 and Figure 2 show the status for the backlog of CBER's 83 PMRs/PMCs as of September 30, 2021, was as follows: pending: one percent (one/83); ongoing: one percent (one/83); delayed: five percent (four/83); submitted: zero percent (zero/83); fulfilled: 90 percent (75/83); and released: two percent (two/83).
- The data for the previous year²¹ show the status for the backlog of PMRs/PMCs has remained unchanged.

²⁰ If the information in the final report does not fulfill the PMR/PMC, a "not fulfilled" letter should be issued and the PMR/PMC status updated from submitted status to either delayed or ongoing (depending on whether the final report submission milestone was missed).

²¹ See the thirteenth annual report, available at <https://www.fda.gov/media/154529/download>.

- During the fourteenth annual review, there were no changes in the statuses of the PMRs/PMC.
 - Of the 83 PMRs/PMCs, 27 (33 percent) were without an original projected completion date. CBER offices were encouraged to obtain a complete schedule for the missing dates. This effort reduced the number of PMRs/PMCs without a projected completion date to two (two percent).
 - The number of PMRs/PMCs without an original completion date did not change from fiscal year (FY) 2020 to FY 2021.

Thus:

- Of six open CBER PMRs/PMCs in the backlog, five (83 percent) have a study/clinical trial that is either in progress or delayed.

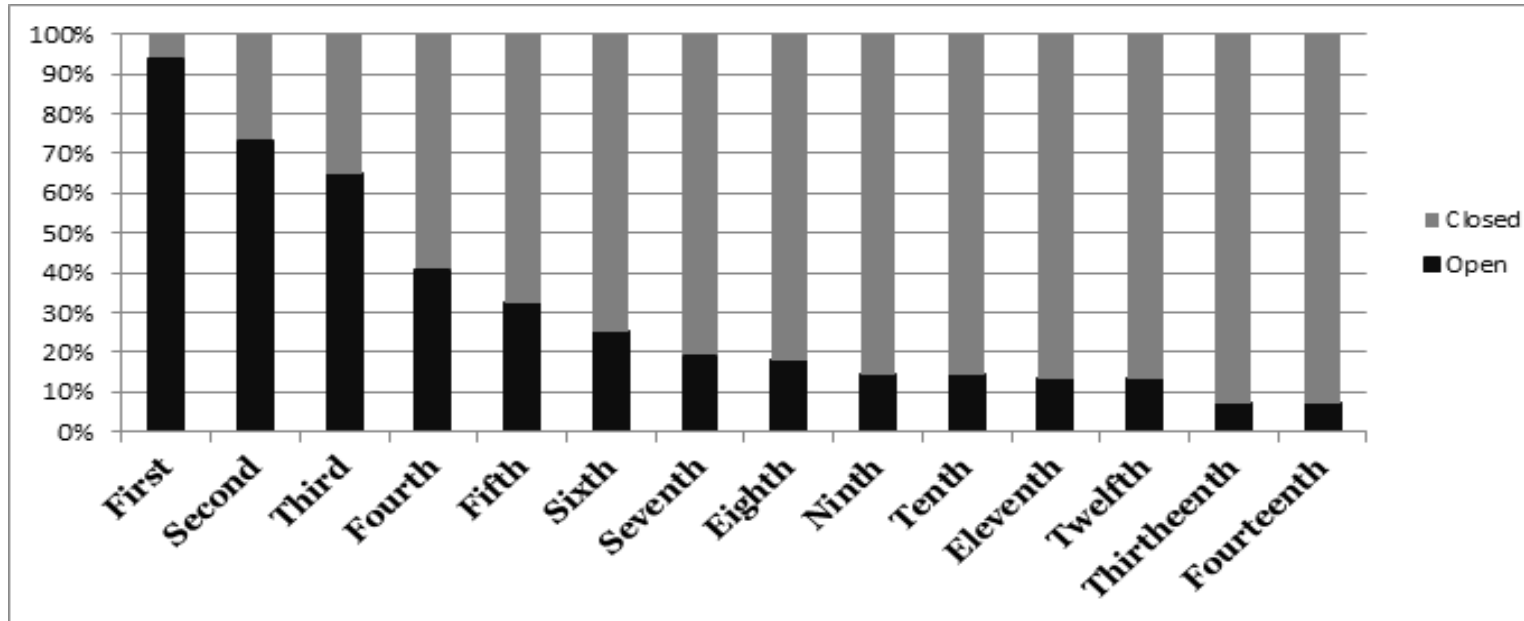
Table 2: CBER’s PMR/PMC Statuses After Annual Reviews

Copies of previous Reports to Congress on the PMR/PMC backlog can be found on FDA’s PMR/PMC Reports web page (available at <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/postmarket-requirements-and-commitments/postmarketing-requirements-and-commitments-reports>).

PMR/PMC Status by Review								
	Pending	Ongoing	Submitted	Delayed	Terminated	Fulfilled	Released	Total
First Review	10	21	24	23	0	5	0	83
Second Review	5	19	14	23	0	22	0	83
Third Review	4	18	14	18	0	29	0	83
Fourth Review	2	7	7	18	0	47	2	83
Fifth Review	2	4	8	13	0	54	2	83
Sixth Review	2	5	3	11	0	60	2	83
Seventh Review	1	5	3	7	0	65	2	83
Eighth Review	1	3	4	7	0	66	2	83
Ninth Review	2	3	0	7	0	69	2	83
Tenth Review	1	3	0	8	0	69	2	83
Eleventh Review	1	3	1	6	0	70	2	83
Twelfth Review	1	1	3	6	0	70	2	83
Thirteenth Review	1	1	0	4	0	75	2	83
Fourteenth Review	1	1	0	4	0	75	2	83

Figure 2 displays the data from Table 2 in graphical form and includes all years. The figure shows that the number of open PMRs/PMCs in the CBER backlog remained unchanged between the end of FY 2020 and the end of FY 2021.

Figure 2: CBER's PMR/PMC Statuses After Annual Backlog Reviews



V. Conclusion

- Upon completion of the fourteenth annual review and as of December 31, 2021, 97 percent (1,506/1,553) of the PMRs/PMCs in the CDER backlog have been closed (i.e., fulfilled or released). As of September 30, 2021, 93 percent (77/83) of the PMRs/PMCs in the CBER backlog have been closed.
- Since the previous year, the number of open PMRs/PMCs in the CDER backlog decreased from 51 to 47 of 1,553 (three percent). The number of open PMRs/PMCs in the CBER backlog remained unchanged at six of 83 (seven percent).
- For CDER and CBER combined, 97 percent (1,583/1,636) of the PMRs/PMCs in the backlog have been closed (i.e., fulfilled or released), similar to the previous year. For the two Centers combined, the number of open PMRs/PMCs has decreased slightly from 57 to 53 of 1,636 (three percent).
- The number of open PMRs and PMCs is expected to continue to decrease each year as applicants complete studies/trials and submit final reports and as FDA reviews the final reports and issues fulfillment and release letters.

Appendix A: PMR/PMC Status Definitions

PMR/PMC Status	Definition
Pending*	The study/clinical trial has not been initiated but does not meet the criterion for “delayed.”
Ongoing*	The study/clinical trial is proceeding according to, or ahead of, the original schedule.
Submitted*	The study/clinical trial has been completed or terminated, and a final study report has been submitted to FDA.
Delayed*	The study/clinical trial is behind the original schedule.
Terminated*	The study/clinical trial was ended before completion, but a final study report has not been submitted to FDA.
Fulfilled	The final report for the study/clinical trial was submitted to FDA, and FDA notified the applicant, through written correspondence, that the commitment was fulfilled.
Released	FDA has informed the applicant in writing that it is released from its obligation to conduct the study/clinical trial because the study/clinical trial is no longer feasible, would no longer provide useful information, or the underlying application has been withdrawn.
Open	PMR/PMC status of pending, ongoing, delayed, submitted, or terminated.
Closed	PMR/PMC status of released or fulfilled.

*Adapted from 21 CFR 314.81.

Appendix B: PMR/PMC Backlog Reports

- First Annual Report
<http://wayback.archive-it.org/7993/20161022164917/http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Post-marketingPhaseIVCommitments/UCM291522.pdf>
- Second Annual Report
<http://wayback.archive-it.org/7993/20161022164918/http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Post-marketingPhaseIVCommitments/UCM291520.pdf>
- Third Annual Report
<http://wayback.archive-it.org/7993/20161022164919/http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Post-marketingPhaseIVCommitments/UCM324917.pdf>
- Fourth Annual Report
<http://wayback.archive-it.org/7993/20161022200658/http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Post-marketingPhaseIVCommitments/UCM407411.pdf>
- Fifth Annual Report
<http://wayback.archive-it.org/7993/20161022200647/http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Post-marketingPhaseIVCommitments/UCM472975.pdf>
- Sixth Annual Report
<http://wayback.archive-it.org/7993/20161022200647/http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Post-marketingPhaseIVCommitments/UCM472975.pdf>
- Seventh Annual Report
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- Eighth Annual Report
<https://www.fda.gov/media/101945/download>
- Ninth Annual Report
<https://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Post-marketingPhaseIVCommitments/UCM579401.pdf>

- Tenth Annual Report
<https://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Post-marketingPhaseIVCommitments/UCM617801.pdf>
- Eleventh Annual Report
<https://www.fda.gov/media/130519/download>
- Twelfth Annual Report
<https://www.fda.gov/media/143984/download>
- Thirteenth Annual Report
<https://www.fda.gov/media/154529/download>

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