

# Session 4 (PV): International Collaboration

Joint US-FDA | MHRA-UK | Health Canada Good Clinical Practice & Pharmacovigilance Symposium  
February 15, 2024 – 1:15 – 2:00 PM

Moderator: **Carolyn Volpe, PharmD, MS**

*Regulatory Officer* | Division of Enforcement and Postmarketing Safety (DEPS)  
Office of Scientific Investigations (OSI) | Office of Compliance (OC) | CDER | FDA

**Claire Longman, MSc**

*Expert Pharmacovigilance Inspector* | MHRA

**Sherry Bous, PharmD**

*Division Director* | DEPS | OSI | OC | CDER | FDA

**Paul Baillargeon**

*Regulatory Compliance and Enforcement Specialist* | HC

# International Collaboration

**Claire Longman**  
Expert Pharmacovigilance Inspector  
GPvP Compliance Team

MHRA

A Joint US-FDA | MHRA-UK | Health Canada Good Clinical Practice & Pharmacovigilance Compliance Workshop  
February 15, 2024



Medicines & Healthcare products  
Regulatory Agency



Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



# A Global Connection



# Overview

Current projects

International groups

International agreements

Working examples

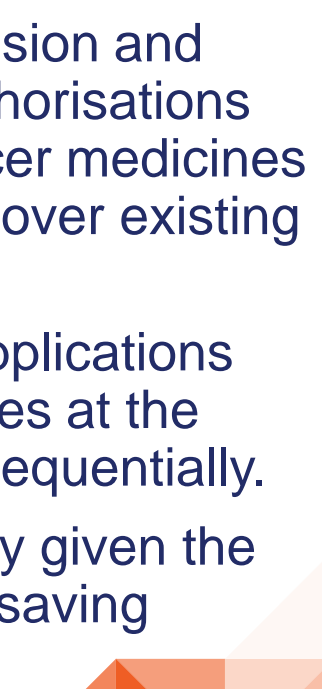
Training initiatives



- The MHRA joined the Access Consortium as a full member in January 2021.
- The aim is to share research and improve timely patient access to high quality, safe and effective medicines.
- The Consortium explores opportunities for information and work-sharing in areas.
- The Consortium has several working groups.



# PROJECT ORBIS

- Provides a framework for concurrent submission and review of oncology products with other sovereign regulators.
  - Coordinates the submission and review of marketing authorisations and extensions for cancer medicines with potential of benefit over existing therapies.
  - Allows submission of applications among several authorities at the same time rather than sequentially.
  - The scheme has already given the green light to many life-saving treatments for patients.
- 

# Other international collaborations



# Bilateral agreements



U.S. Food and Drugs Administration



Health Canada



Therapeutic Goods Administration



European Medicines Agency



# Proactive global communication



# Training initiatives



China National Medical Products Administration



Ghana Food and Drugs Authority



UA3S programme

# Summary

Number of international collaborations

Sharing of information

Less burden for Industry

Continued efforts required

# Copyright information

© **Crown copyright 2024**

Produced by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

You may re-use this information (excluding logos) with the permission from the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, under a Delegation of Authority. To view the guideline, visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reproduce-or-re-use-mhra-information/reproduce-or-re-use-mhra-information> or email: [copyright@mhra.gov.uk](mailto:copyright@mhra.gov.uk).

Where we have identified any third-party copyright material you will need to obtain permission from the copyright holders concerned.

The names, images and logos identifying the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency are proprietary marks. All the Agency's logos are registered Trademarks and cannot be used without the Agency's explicit permission.

# Pharmaceutical Inspection Co-operation Scheme (PIC/S) Good Pharmacovigilance Practices (GPV) Expert Circle

**Sherry Bous, PharmD**  
**Director, Division Enforcement and Postmarketing Safety**  
**United States Food and Drug Administration**

A Joint US-FDA | MHRA-UK | Health Canada Good Clinical Practice & Pharmacovigilance Compliance Workshop  
February 15, 2024



Medicines & Healthcare products  
Regulatory Agency



Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



# Agenda

1. Brief history of PIC/S Good Pharmacovigilance Practices (GPV)
2. PIC/S GPV Expert Circle Organization
3. Goals
4. Working Group Outputs
5. Summary

# Brief History for PIC/S GPV

2014

**Established PIC/S Working Group on Good Clinical Practices (GCP) and GPV**

- Facilitate technical co-operation and harmonization of practices
- Capacity building and information sharing, including and participation in the PIC/S Joint Visits Program

2021

**Proposal to dissolve GCP and GPV Working Group and create two separate Expert Circles**

- GCP (clinical trials) and GPV (pharmacovigilance) have differing technical priorities
- The Expert Circles would work independently but collaborate on objectives and technical topics of interest to both groups

2022

**PIC/S Expert Circle for GPV established by the PIC/S Committee**

- Facilitate the discussions and the exchange of information among inspectors specialized in GPV
- Meet regularly to develop draft guidance, recommendations, etc. and offer training

# PIC/S GPV Expert Circle Organization

**Chairperson, GPV Expert Circle**  
(United States of America, FDA)

**Deputy Chairperson,  
Expert Circle**  
(FDA)

**Chairperson, GPV Best Practices  
Working Group**  
(FDA)

**Chairperson, Artificial Intelligence -  
Machine Learning (AI-ML) Working Group**  
(Health Canada)

**Chairperson,  
Joint Visit Programme  
(JVP)**  
(EMA)

**Deputy Chairperson,  
GPV Best Practices**  
(MHRA)

**Deputy Chairperson,  
AI-ML Working Group**  
(FDA)

**Deputy Chairperson,  
JVP\***  
(DKMA)

## Representation on GPV Best Practices Working

### Group

Australia, TGA  
Austria, EMA  
Canada, HC  
Denmark, DKMA  
European Union, EMA  
France ANSES, ANMV  
Italy, AIFA  
Slovenia, JAZMP  
Spain, EMA  
Switzerland, Swissmedic

## Representation on AI-ML Working Group

Australia, TGA  
Canada, HC  
European Union, EMA  
Ireland, HPRA  
Netherlands, EMA  
Poland, EMA  
Spain, EMA  
United Kingdom, MHRA  
United States of America, FDA



# Goals



## DEVELOP EXPERTISE

Establish a network of experts in technical topics covering GPV and increase understanding of relevant topics of interest



## TRAIN

Design, develop and execute a training program for GPV Inspectors



## NETWORK

Develop a communication system between PIC/S Participating Authorities to facilitate discussions



## REPRESENT

Develop and maintain a common approach and interpretation of the international guidelines

# Outputs

**Establish a formal network of GPV inspectors to assist in knowledge sharing, dissemination and review of GPV related policies and documents**



## AI-ML Workgroup

**Design, develop, and execute an Expert Circle meeting focused on providing training and opportunities to obtain knowledge and competence to inspect key topics in a harmonized manner for inspectors**



## Best Practices Workgroup

**Design and develop documents for publication on the PIC/S website and PIC/S Inspectorates' Academy**



## Joint Visit Program

**Coordinate and execute joint visits with inspectors from 3 different countries to provide opportunities for training, sharing learning and experiences, and harmonizing inspection procedures and techniques**

# AI-ML Workgroup

- **Design, develop, and execute the Expert Circle meeting**
- *May be open to regulatory attendees outside the Expert Circle*
- Facilitates discussions on specific issues amongst experts
- Provides training for experts and non-experts so that GPV inspectors can obtain the required knowledge and competence to inspect key topics in a harmonized manner

# GPV Best Practices Workgroup

- Design and develop documents for publication *on the PIC/S website and PIC/S Inspectorates' Academy*
- Provides an opportunity for broader access to GPV activities in PIC/S
- Helps build capacity among PIC/S Participating Authorities that are still developing their inspection programs

# Joint Visit Program

- 32 GCP/GPV groups were formed in 2017/2018
- On hold during the pandemic due to travel restrictions where some groups have completed their visits remotely
- Provides an opportunity to compare and harmonize inspection procedures and techniques across different regulators
- Plans:
  - ✓ New call for volunteers from participating authorities for the JVP triplicate groups once it is restarted under the new GPV Expert Circle
  - ✓ Participating authorities may choose a remote or face to face JVP

# Summary

- PIC/S Expert Circle for GPV established by the PIC/S Committee
- Goals are to Develop Expertise, Train, Network, and Represent
- Workgroups formed to establish a formal network of GPV inspectors
- Assist in knowledge sharing, dissemination, and review of GPV related policies and documents
- Provides an opportunity to compare and harmonize inspection procedures and techniques across different regulators

# Thank You!



Medicines & Healthcare products  
Regulatory Agency



Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada



# Health Canada's Good Pharmacovigilance Practices (GVP) Joint Inspection Experiences

Joint US-FDA, UK- MHRA and Health Canada Good Clinical Practice & Pharmacovigilance Symposium  
February 15, 2024

## **Paul Baillargeon**

Regional Regulatory Compliance and Enforcement Specialist  
Health Product Compliance Directorate  
Regulatory Operations and Enforcement Branch (ROEB)



# Overview

---



PIC/s Joint Visits Program



Health Canada Joint Inspection with EMA during COVID-19 pandemic



Lessons Learned



Summary

# Joint Visits Program

---

## Objectives

- Provide training
- Harmonization of inspections
- Maintain mutual confidence



## Organization

- Carried out by inspectors from three different Health Authorities (HAs)
- Three visits per group over 24 months, one in each participating country
- The host HA is observed by the other members during a regular GVP inspection

## Joint Visits Program

- In 2018, MHRA, US-FDA and Health Canada were paired in a group
- Inspections were conducted between December 2018 and March 2021
- Considering the context of COVID-19 the last inspection led by Health Canada was conducted virtually



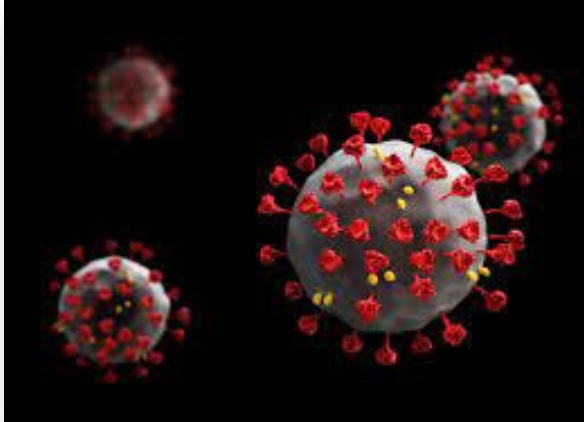
# Joint Visits Program

## Program Areas Assessed

- HA structure
- Regulations and guidance documents
- Site and product selection
- Inspection process:
  - Scope
  - Pre-inspection activities
  - Inspection (e.g., opening, interviews, document review, closing)
  - Report Issuance
  - CAPA plan assessment
  - Tools used by inspectors



# Change in Global Context



- COVID-19 pandemic required HAs to get creative, leverage opportunity and work jointly with trusted regulators
- Lockdown in jurisdictions and global travel restrictions

# Joint GVP inspection

Health Canada conducted its first joint GVP Inspection in 2021 with the European Medicines Agency (EMA)

## Approach

- Pre-inspection meeting
- Virtual inspection - 10 days
- Daily briefings between inspectors
- Shared IT tools (shared drive, log of requests)
- Dedicated sessions on specific requirements by HA
- Inspection report issued by each agency
- CAPA assessed in partnership



# Health Canada's Lessons Learned

---

## **Regarding PIC/s joint visits and the EMA joint inspection:**

- PV requirements are similar across jurisdictions visited and their assessment can be divided amongst regulators (Divide and conquer)
  - Case reception, assessment, coding, reporting
  - Annual Summary Reports preparation
  - Review of IT systems used in PV
  - Pharmacovigilance System Master File (PSMF)
  - Qualified Person for Pharmacovigilance (QPPV)
  - Unusual Failure in Efficacy (UFIE)
  - Notification of foreign action

# Health Canada's Lessons Learned

## ➤ Advantages

- ✓ Confidence and collaboration is increased between HAs
- ✓ Resources can be shared between HAs
- ✓ Reduction in travel costs
- ✓ More efficient inspection process for MAHs

## ➤ Challenges

- ✓ Technological constraints
- ✓ Virtual inspections take more time for HA





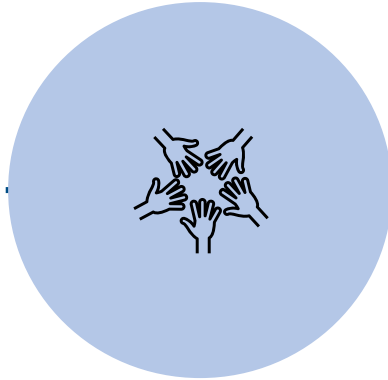
# Summary

---

## Takeaways



Joint inspections are not only possible, but successful



Invaluable opportunity for inspectors to share best inspection practices



Globalization helps align international GVP expectations