



Regulatory Updates and a Perspective on Biopharmaceuticals in Japan

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The views and opinions expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter and should not necessarily represent the views and opinions of the PMDA.

“Continual improvement is an unending journey”

(Lloyd Dobyns)

Outline

- Regulatory Updates in Japan
- International Activities (ICMRA PQKMS, ICH Q12, ICH M4Q(R2))
- Product-related Topics (Biosimilars, Microbiome, Exosomes)

Recent MHLW's Initiatives



(MHLW; Minister of Health Labour and Welfare)

10. Jul, 2023~

Review Committee on Pharmaceutical Regulation for Strengthening Drug Discovery Capabilities and Securing Stable Supply

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/shingi/other-iyaku_128701_00006.html

9. Jun, 2023

Report of the Panel of Experts on
Comprehensive Measures to Achieve
Rapid and Stable Supply of Pharmaceuticals

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_33548.html

- Ensure stable supply
- Strengthen drug discovery capabilities
- Resolve the issues of "drug lag/loss"
- Efforts toward appropriate distribution of pharmaceuticals

Review Committee on Pharmaceutical Regulation for Strengthening Drug Discovery Capabilities and Securing Stable Supply

■ Summary of considerations

- Promotion of pharmaceutical development
- Clinical trials
- Post-marketing safety measures
- Dissemination of information
- Quality

Review the description of manufacturing process in Application Form and post-approval CMC changes, taking into account international consistency

Background: Post-Approval Change Reporting Categories

ICH Q12 Classification	Japan	US	EU
Prior Approval	PCA (Partial Change Application)	PAS (Prior Approval Supplement)	Type II Variation
Notification Moderate		CBE-30	Type IB Variation
Notification Low	MCN (Minor Change Notification)	CBE-0	Type IA _{IN} Variation
		Annual Report	Type IA Variation
Not Reported	Not Approved Matters		

4th Review Committee (13 Oct, 2023)

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_35743.html

■ Direction (*needs further discussion*)

- Introduce “middle-category” (pilot program)
- Introduce “annual report” (pilot program)
- Review the description of Application Form
 - to achieve internationally harmonized & risk-based approach for post-approval CMC changes
 - discuss the need for the overhaul of “Guideline for Descriptions on Application Forms for Marketing Approval of Drugs, etc. under the Revised Pharmaceutical Affairs Law in 2005”

<https://www.pmda.go.jp/files/000153677.pdf> (in English)

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ICMRA PQKMS (Pharmaceutical Quality Knowledge Management System)



[Pharmaceutical Quality Knowledge Management System \(PQKMS\) |
International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities \(ICMRA\)](#)

■ ICMRA Statement on Global Pharmaceutical Quality Knowledge Management: Enhancing Regulatory Reliance and Agility (Jun 11, 2021)

[Global Pharmaceutical Quality Knowledge Management: Enhancing Regulatory Reliance and Agility |
International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities \(ICMRA\)](#)

■ ICMRA-ICH-PIC/S-IPRP Joint Reflection Paper; A Regulatory Pharmaceutical Quality Knowledge Management System (PQ KMS) to Enhance the Availability of Quality Medicines (Jul. 21, 2022)

[A Regulatory Pharmaceutical Quality Knowledge Management System \(PQ KMS\) to Enhance the
Availability of Quality Medicines | International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities \(ICMRA\)](#)

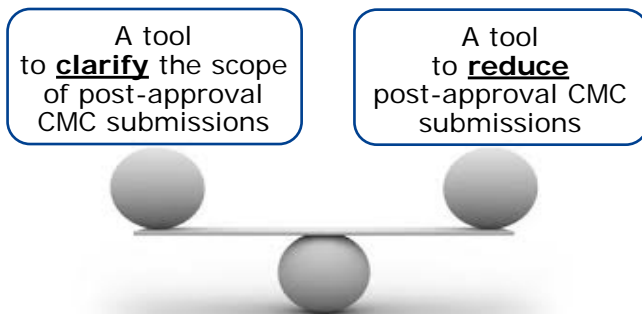
Major Challenges toward Successful/Harmonized Implementation of ICH Q12

- Effective Pharmaceutical Quality System (PQS) incl. Change Management
- Identification of Established Conditions (ECs) and Associated Reporting Categories (RCs)
 - Criticality assessment vs. Risk assessment
 - Risk Tolerance
 - Can PQS maturity reduce the details of ECs?
 - Feasibility of unified ECs/RCs across regions based on current RC systems in all regions
- Post-Approval Change Management Protocol (PACMP)
 - Need to accumulate experience for both regulators and the industry

Divergent Views/Expectations on ECs

■ ICH Q12

- The concept of ECs provides a clear understanding between the MAH and regulatory authorities regarding the elements to assure product quality and that involve a regulatory communication, if changed. (Chapter 1.3)
- ECs are legally binding information considered necessary to assure product quality. As a consequence, any change to ECs necessitates a submission to the regulatory authority. (Chapter 3.2.1)

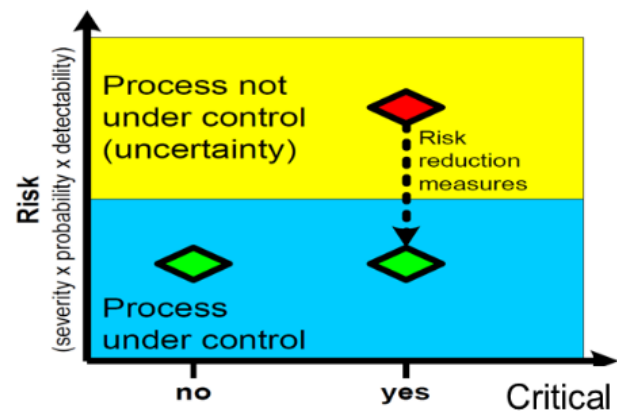


To what extent can enhanced understanding of product and process reduce ECs?

ECs for manufacturing process parameters

■ ICH Q12 Chapter 3.2.3.1

Process parameters that need to be controlled to ensure that a product of required quality will be produced should be considered ECs. These ECs are identified through an initial risk assessment and application of knowledge gained from executed studies, prior knowledge, and a criticality assessment that determines the level of impact that a process parameter could have on product quality. The criticality assessment should account for severity of harm and whether the ranges studied sufficiently account for the expected variability in the EC. CPPs and other process parameters where an impact on product quality cannot be reasonably excluded should be identified as ECs.



ICH Q-IWG Discussion (2013)

ICH M4Q(R2): Revision of M4Q (R1) (1)

<https://www.ich.org/page/ctd>



The M4Q(R2) EWG is focusing on the revision of CTD Quality sections in Modules 2 and 3 to capture quality information for the registration and lifecycle management of pharmaceuticals for human use.

The main issues to be resolved during this revision include:

- Expanding the scope of M4Q(R1) guideline. This M4Q(R2) guideline applies to all pharmaceutical drug substances and products (both chemical and biological) that require a marketing authorization.
- Establishing the role of M4Q(R2) as the main source of the structure and location of regulatory quality information.
- Organizing product and manufacturing information in a suitable format for easy access, analysis, and knowledge management.

ICH M4Q(R2): Revision of M4Q (R1) (2)

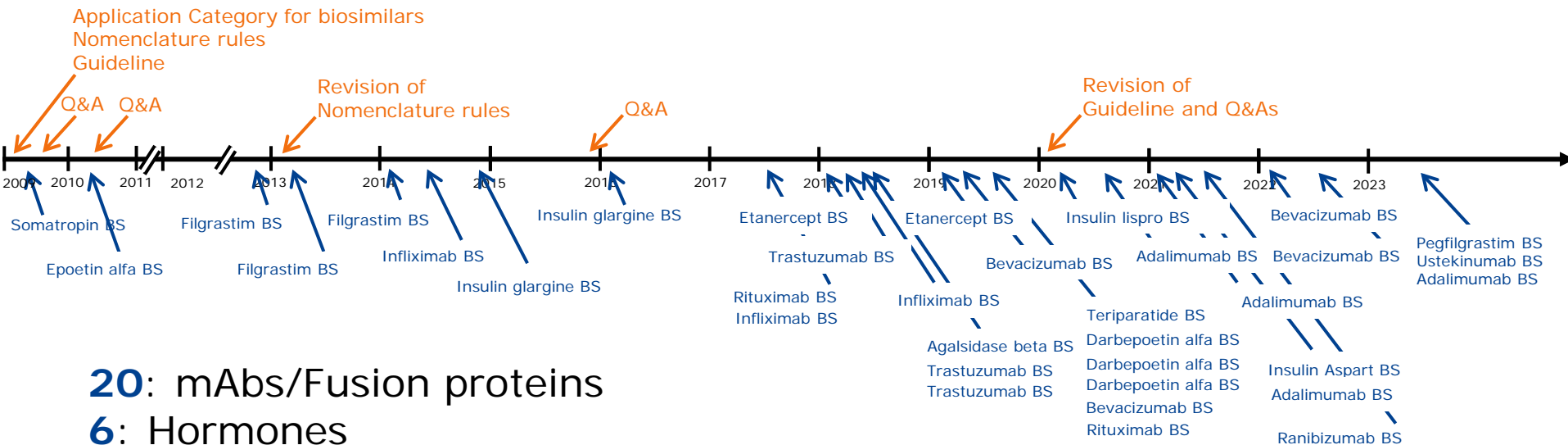
<https://www.ich.org/page/ctd>

- Incorporating concepts and data expectations presented in ICH Quality guidelines and aligning with currently recognized international standards and guidelines.
- Better capturing the pharmaceutical development and the proposed overall control strategy, which should be the backbone of the revised M4Q structure. This should address key elements of the proposed pharmaceutical product, including the Quality Target Product Profile (QTPP), manufacturing process, and overall control strategy.
- Enhancing the Quality Module 2 to facilitate the efficiency and effectiveness of regulatory submissions and assessments.

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Regulatory History and Status of Biosimilars as of December 2023



20: mAbs/Fusion proteins

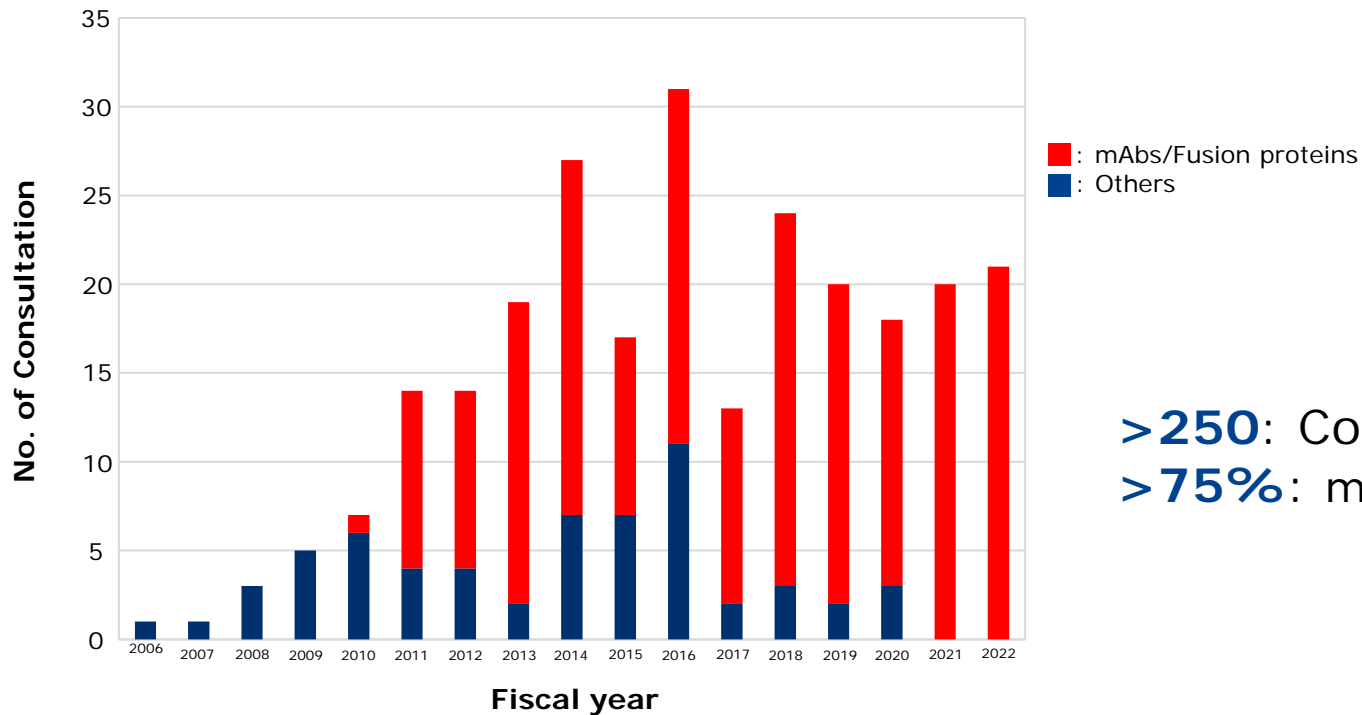
6: Hormones

4: EPOs

4: Cytokines

1: Enzymes

Consultation for Biosimilars



>250: Consultations
>75%: mAbs/Fusion proteins

IPRP Biosimilars WG Workshop (Sep. 2023)



IPRP Biosimilars Working Group Workshop: “Increasing the Efficiency of Biosimilar Development Programs-Re-evaluating the Need for Comparative Clinical Efficacy Studies (CES)”

- Goal: Increase efficiency in biosimilar development programs
- How: Re-evaluate the need for comparative clinical efficacy studies in biosimilar development programs based on the experience accrued from international experts and external subject matter experts

Presentation is available at FDA website; <https://www.fda.gov/media/172198/download>

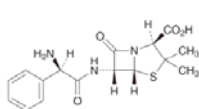
Approach to Development of Follow-on products

depends on;

- Analytical techniques
- Understanding of quality attributes relevant to efficacy and safety
- Residual uncertainty
- Experience/Knowledge (Regulatory confidence/relief)

Small molecules

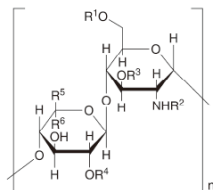
Anhydrous Ampicillin



small
&
simple

Sugar

Parnaparin Sodium



Nucleic acid



Peptide

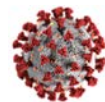
Insulin Human

GIVEQCCTSI CSLYQLENYC N
 FVNQHLOGSH LVEALYLVCG ERGFFFTPKT

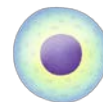
Protein



Virus



Cell



Tissue



large
&
complex

From Dr. Kameda, PMDA

Microbiome

■ Report from PMDA Science Board (25 Feb, 2022)

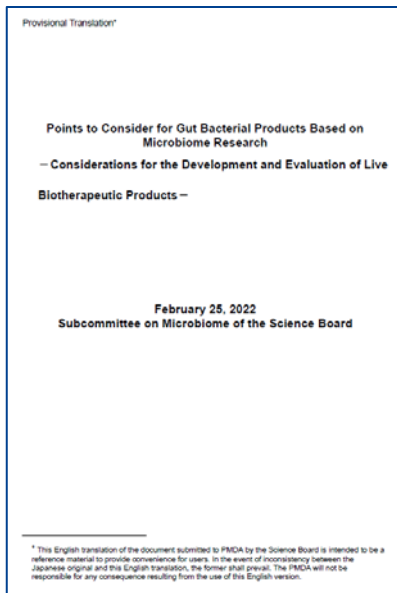


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<https://www.pmda.go.jp/files/000249812.pdf> (in English)

FMT; Fecal Microbiota Transplantation
LBPs; Live Biotherapeutic Products

Extracellular Vesicles (EVs) incl. Exosomes

■ Report from PMDA Science Board (17 Jan, 2023)

エクソソームを含む細胞外小胞(EV)を利用した治療用製剤に関する報告書

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<https://www.pmda.go.jp/files/000249829.pdf> (in Japanese)

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Thank you for your attention!

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