Specialized technical assistance for vaccines

Alan Fauconnier
Technical Officer
Local Production & Assistance Unit (LPA)
Innovation and Emerging Technologies Department (IET)
Access to Medicines and Health Products Division (MHP)
World Health Organization (WHO)

Specialized technical assistance

WHO provides Specialized Technical Assistance to help recipients achieve compliance with international regulatory norms and standards, so that they can attain WHO prequalification (PQ) for priority products or services, or emergency use listing (EUL) for unlicensed products to be used in the context of a public health emergency

- Medicines
- Vaccines
- In Vitro Diagnostics

All-encompassing LPA specialized technical assistance

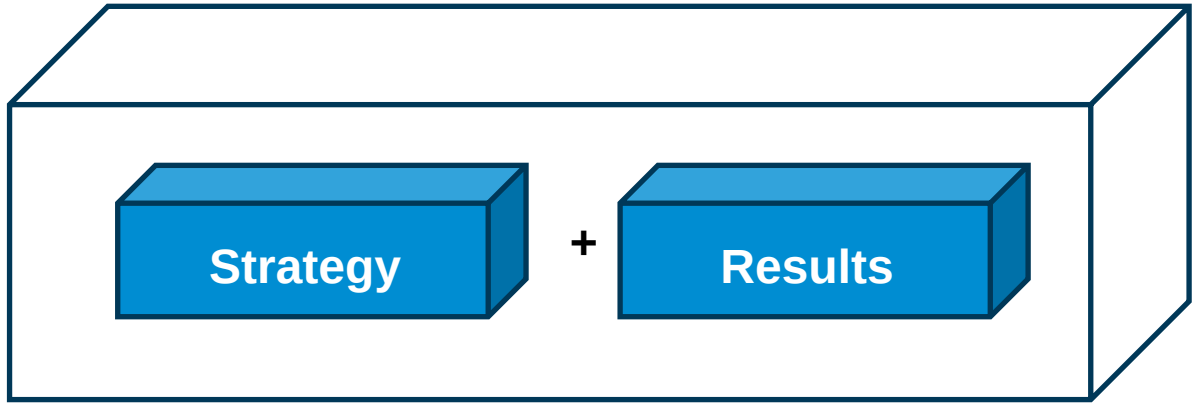
- Regulatory strategy
- Administrative and labeling information
- Programmatic suitability
- Scientific information (quality/CMC, safety, efficacy)
- QMS, GMP compliance (gap assessment, mock-up inspection, CAPA plan)

Regulatory strategy: case scenario

- Vaccine manufacturer
- Prequalified vaccine
- New facility (additional) to scale up production, incl. additional QC lab
- Variation to a prequalified vaccine

Regulatory strategy: comparability protocol

Post-approval change management protocol (PACMP)



conventional approach

Evaluation of a proposed variation as a « whole » (Strategy + Results)

Major variation

Early step 1

Fast step 2

advanced approach

Submission of a Change Management Protocol

Major variation
Full MAA

Reporting of implementation of a change in accordance with an approved protocol

Minor variation

Regulatory strategy: comparability protocol (cont.)

Post-approval change management protocol (PACMP)

- ICH Q12: Technical and Regulatory Considerations of Pharmaceutical Product Lifecycle Management
- TRS 993 - Annex 4: Guidelines on procedures and data requirements for changes to approved vaccines

  It is the decision of the NRA whether or not to include the review and approval of comparability protocols in its approach to regulating changes to approved vaccines.

Regulatory documents

- TRS 981 – Annex 3: [illegible] prequalified product
- TRS 993 - Annex 4: Guidelines on procedures and data requirements for changes to approved vaccines
- Guidance on variations to a prequalified vaccine V.7. July 2015

Administrative and labeling information

- How would you grade a WHO PQ Type A variation: as major, intermediate, or minor?

  In the European regulatory system, a **Type IA** variation is a **minor** change to a marketing authorisation that has a minimal or no impact on the quality, safety or efficacy of the medicine and does not require prior approval before implementation by the marketing authorisation holder.

Administrative and labeling information

In the regulatory realm, what does the acronym P.I. stand for?

- Prescribing information (FDA)
- Product information (EMA)
  - Summary of product characteristics (SmPC)
  - Patient information leaflet (PIL)
  - Packaging information (labels)
- Package insert (WHO VAX PQ)

QMS, GMP compliance (gap assessment, mock-up inspection, CAPA plan)

WHO GMP Guidance Update

- TRS 1044 – Annex 2: WHO good manufacturing practices for sterile pharmaceutical products
- Key points:
  - Application of Quality Risk Management to various topics
  - Contamination control strategy (CCS)
  - Closed manufacturing systems
  - Single use technologies
  - Aseptic operator qualification

Common Observations in Vaccine Manufacturers in LMICs

- Restricted access barrier systems (RABS) and isolators have not been fully applied to aseptic operation areas in vaccine drug substance and drug product manufacturing facilities
- Extensive manual human interventions within grade A including several close by the open vials

Take home message

LPA specialized technical assistance includes, among others, guidance on regulatory fundamentals.

- Clarification on regulatory pathways for attaining or sustaining WHO prequalification
- Guiding towards relevant regulatory documentation
- Accurate understanding of the requirements for completing the administrative section
- Upgrade vaccine drug substance and drug product manufacturing facilities and improve aseptic operations to meet WHO GMP standards

Thank you for your attention