

## Approaches to Design an Efficient, Predictable Global PAC Management System

that Facilitates Continual Improvement and Product Availability

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### The Vision for PACs

Designing and implementing an agile science and risk-based efficient, predictable global post approval change (PAC) management system that

- facilitates a state of control,
- continual improvement, and
- reduces risk of drug shortages



### Global PAC Regulatory Complexity *Explained*

Seen from a regulatory PAC agency's side ONE submission & approval Seen from a company's PAC side MANY submissions & approvals

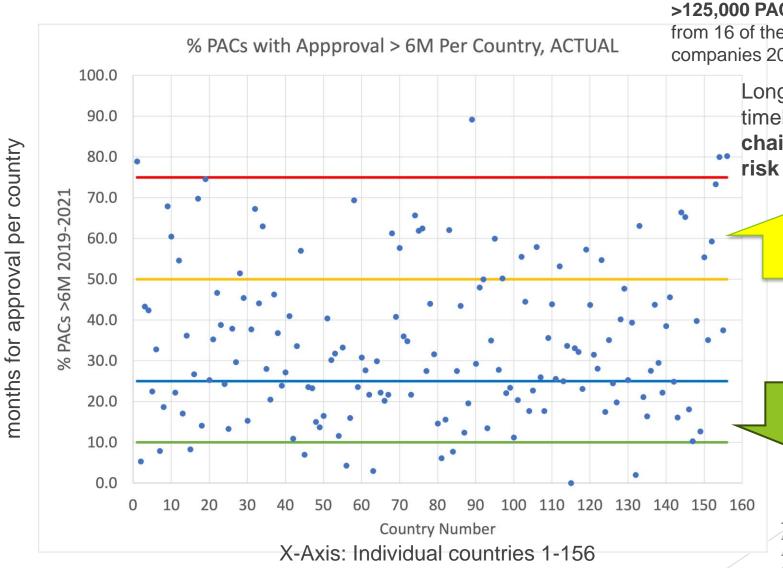
Current PAC Management is driven by national frameworks not by science globally

One PAC requires prior approval by multiple countries that have different reporting thresholds, different requirements, and different timelines.

First to last country approval can be often 3-5 years or more



### Global PAC Regulatory Complexity in Reality



9

Y-Axis: Percentage of all PACs that took more than

>125,000 PAC data points from 16 of the top 25 pharma companies 2019-2021

Long global approval timelines increase supply chain complexity and risk of drug shortage

~20% of all countries

<10% of all countries

Vinther, Ramnarine, Gastineau, O'Brien, Brehm, Fryrear. The apeutic Innovation & Regulatory Science https://doi.org/10.1007/s43441-024-00614-9



## Patients Deserve to Receive Every Dose of the Medicine They Need, Every Single Day and yet Drug Shortages are Common Across the World



ON TIME EVERY TIME



Science knows no country, because knowledge belongs to humanity, and is the torch which illuminates the world. Science is the highest personification of the nation because that nation will remain the first which carries the furthest the works of thought and intelligence. Louis Pasteur



# Drug Shortage is a Complex Problem Globally with no Simple Solution. When Looking for Root Cause **We Cannot Stop at the First Why**



A Common Unifying Objective

Uninterrupted supply of safe, efficacious medicines





DELAYED Improvements

Manufacturing & Quality ISSUES

Potential Drug
SHORTAGES



### One Voice of Quality for Post Approval Change (1VQ for PAC) Initiative

Sponsored by the Chief Quality Officers (CQOs) from the Top 25 Pharma Companies



















Since beginning of Initiative CQOs have mainly focused on ICH Q10 **Opportunity** 











CQOs are responsible for the PQS & decision makers on quality matters









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## ICH Q10 Annex 1: Potential Opportunities to Enhance Science and Risk Based Regulatory Approaches and Regulatory Flexibility for PACs

Scenario	Potential Opportunity
3. Demonstrate product and process understanding, including effective use of quality risk management principles (e.g., ICH Q8 and ICH Q9).	Opportunity to:  • facilitate science based pharmaceutical quality assessment;  • enable innovative approaches to process validation; • establish real-time release mechanisms.
4. Demonstrate effective pharmaceutical quality system and product and process understanding, including the use of quality risk management principles (e.g., ICH Q8, ICH Q9 and ICH Q10).	Opportunity to: • increase use of risk-based approaches for regulatory inspections; • facilitate science based pharmaceutical quality assessment; • optimise science and risk based post-approval change processes to maximise benefits from innovation and continual improvement; • enable innovative approaches to process validation; • establish real-time release mechanisms.



## Global PAC Regulatory Complexity Has Existed for Many Years



"Delays may occur in the availability of medicines to patients around the world".

"Delays in the implementation of innovation and continual improvement for existing products may occur due to different expectations in the three regions"

ICH Q10 Concept Paper



"The envisioned post-approval 'operational flexibility' has not been achieved"

ICH Q12 Concept Paper



For companies that "demonstrate effective PQS and product and process understanding" there is an opportunity to "optimize science and riskbased PAC processes to maximize benefits from innovation and continual improvement"

ICH Q10 Guidance



"The current operating environment requires prior approval by the regulatory authority of each region and country individually. For a product to be globally available to patients, this can translate to numerous and often *duplicative regulatory review* processes and time frames. This presents *regulatory complexity that can significantly constrain manufacturer agility in addressing challenges such as supply chain disruptions.*"



## Global PAC Regulatory Complexity Has Not Improved (as anticipated by the ICH Q10 Business Plan)

Average score

Things have...

1 = gotten significantly worse/complex

2 = gotten slightly worse/complex

- 3 = no change
- 4 = improved slightly (less complex)
- 5 = improved significantly (less complex)

Since ICH Q10 was published in 2008

Potential Benefits Scored by 19 CQOs (from top 25 pharma companies) in 2021

#### ICH Q10 2005 Business Plan Stated Potential Benefits

- 3.6 Improved process performance
- A reduction in the costs of internal failures (rejects, reworks, reprocessing and investigations) as the quality system guideline drives improvement
- A reduction in the costs of holding duplicate stock and operating multiple processes as improvements and changes are made more effectively across all regions
- A reduction in the costs of preparing / reviewing certain regulatory submissions
- 2.9 Enhanced assurance of consistent availability to the patient

ICH Q10 has not delivered yet on the potential benefits expected when completed in 2008



### 8 Approaches to Reduce Global PAC Regulatory Complexity Suggested by 1VQ for PAC Initiative

Discussed More PACs in PQS Inspectors assess Increased regulatory on next only when effective company PQS reliance slides PQS effectiveness Reducing Regularly publish Harmonized, **Global PAC** data on PAC review structured, and timelines for each Regulatory standardized data country elements Complexity Adoption of the 6 Industry and Assessors consider months WHO regulatory agencies PAC reporting level guidance timeframe jointly standardize based on PQS by all regulatory process and data for effectiveness agencies assessing PACs

Therapeutic Innovation & Regulatory Science https://doi.org/10.1007/s43441-024-00614-9

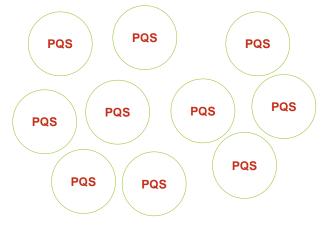
#### **Objective:**

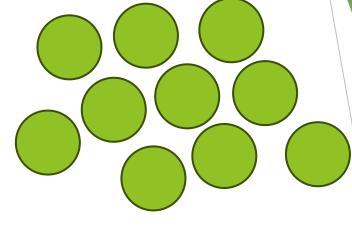
A science and risk-based global regulatory framework that facilitates timely implementation of PACs



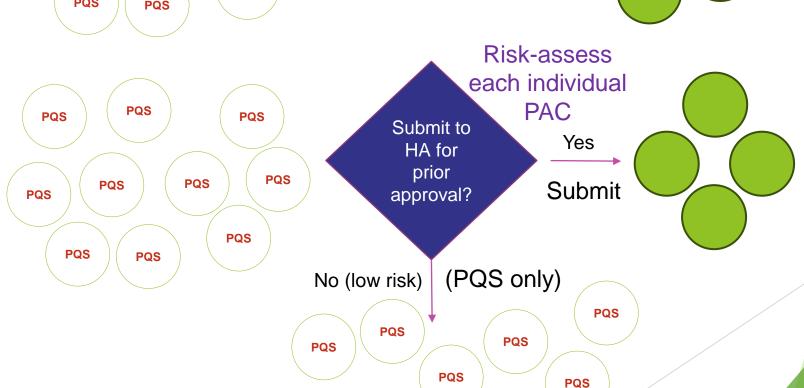
### Applying ICH Q10, Annex 1, Illustrative Example

Company
not demonstrated
effective PQS





Company demonstrated effective PQS



**Submit** 



### PIC/S Recommendation Paper Defines Effective PQS for Changes



"It is considered that application by a pharmaceutical manufacturer ... of the guidance ... will provide evidence of the effectiveness of their PQS in relation to risk-based change management."

PIC/S Paper

Company's

Change

Management

(CM) System (PQS Element)

All changes

(PACs + others)

Per ICH Q10 Annex 1

Criticality and risk QRM (ICH Q9) level

Product & process knowledge & data

Product & process understanding

15

**Effective PQS** 

Yes

**Assessors assess** 

individual PAC submissions

Submit to HAs

**Implement** 

No

(PQS only)

Submit to

HA for

prior

approval?

**Inspectors assess** 

GMP compliance & effectiveness of the CM system

PIC/S How to Evaluate

and Demonstrate the

Effectiveness of a

Pharmaceutical Quality

System in relation to Risk-

based Change

Management, 2021

**V**1 ice of Quality

### Effective PQS for Changes, Continued



"3.6 Effective change management is important not only in the context of the aforementioned PIC/S GMP requirements, but also in the context of ICH Q10, which sets out the *potential for risk-based regulatory oversight for companies that demonstrate an effective PQS* is in place (see Appendix 1). This guidance may also be useful in supporting implementation of the principles and concepts in the ICH Q12 guideline where *mature risk-based change management within an effective PQS is considered foundational to enable greater regulatory flexibility in reporting of post-approval changes.*"

Note: 1VQ for PAC Initiative also defined effective PAC for managing PACs (in line with PIC/S). Paper also outlines risk-based approach to assess individual PACs

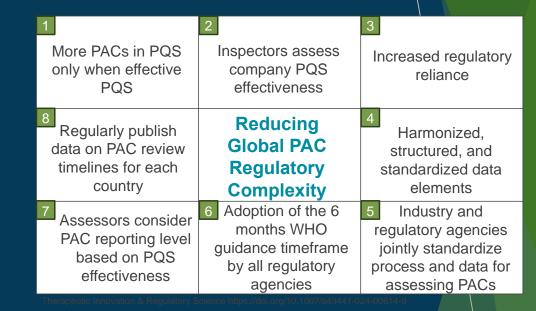




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To make this happen we need to work together and address current challenges with a systems thinking approach, not by individual stakeholder actions in isolation



### Food for Thought

The problem of global regulatory complexity PACs has been acknowledged as a problem for more than two decades. The problem has not become smaller

Numerous approaches have been attempted to solve the problem, usually by one stakeholder at a time (e.g. one national regulatory agency), or as an intention with no commitment for implementation (e.g., ICH Q series, WHO guidance)

Increased reporting burden for companies will not solve the problem. History has proven this to be true

Not until we treat this problem as – COMPLEX – will we be able to lessen it. Complex problems require systems thinking and collaboration by all stakeholders. That we haven't tried..... yet

### Thank you

Website: <a href="https://prst.ie/1vq/">https://prst.ie/1vq/</a>

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