Outcome of the 2022 Analysis of Non-Clinical GNAs for FIH Clinical Trials &

Take-home messages

A hitchhiker's guide to the mind of a non-clinical assessor

FAMHP BRUSSELS

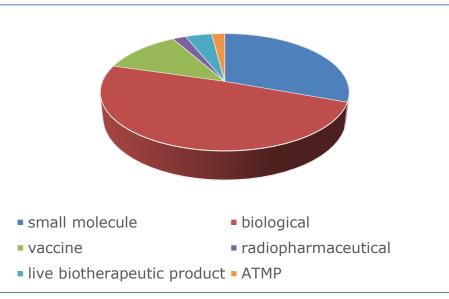
15.09.2023

Sonja BEKEN





Total number of CTAs: 49



Outcome non-clinical evaluation:



CTR Early Phase Infosession/15 September 2023 FAMHP/DG PRE/Evaluators/Non-clinical Evaluators

Non-clinical GNAs were related to (1/2):

- lack of sufficient detail in the IB to allow for a proper non-clinical evaluation;
- lack of information related to clinical relevance of non-clinical pharmacological study results (proof-of-concept, dose setting, selection of patient population, etc.);
- incomplete overview of (exposure-based) safety and exposure margins for all (pivotal) nonclinical studies;
- disagreement with interpretation of non-clinical studies (e.g. NOAEL setting, clinical relevance);
- lack of information/mechanistic insight in non-clinical safety findings impacting the appraisal of clinical relevance;
- lack of information related to demonstration of compliance with Good Laboratory Practices (GLP) of non-clinical studies;





Non-clinical GNAs were related to (2/2)

- protocol:
 - insufficient/unclear rationale for dose setting in line with non-clinical data (starting dose, dose increments, maximum dose);
 - insufficient/unclear rationale for risk mitigation measures in line with non-clinical data;
 - recommendations for contraception and pregnancy testing not in line with the CT(C)G "Recommendations related to contraception and pregnancy testing in clinical trials";
 - concomitant medications not in line with non-clinical DDI assessment.





Responses to grounds for non-acceptance – main categories:

- new non-clinical information;
- clarification/justification related to interpretation of non-clinical data including clinical relevance assessment;
- clarification/justification/further information related to the clinical protocol (study design, dose rationale, monitoring, stopping rules, ...);
- protocol changes in line with non-clinically identified issues.

Conditional approval due to:

- absence of critical non-clinical data;
- disagreement with NOAEL selection and impact on clinical dose setting;
- need for revision of starting dose;
- need for revision of maximum dose / dose increments / PK exposure cap;
- inappropriate clinical safety monitoring in line with non-clinical signals;
- inappropriate contraception and pregnancy testing recommendations;
- need for evaluation of clinical data at transition moments (e.g. SAD \rightarrow MAD, Part 1 \rightarrow Part 2).

The Non-Clinical Assessment Report Template

A practical guide for non-clinical assessors.

Used for the non-clinical assessment of all clinical trial applications (CTR).

Availability of:

- key questions to be reflected upon by the non-clinical assessor;
- possibilities for interaction with clinical assessment team;
- standardised non-clinical questions.

Dynamic document that is updated in line with accumulating experience.

Basis for multidisciplinary discussions (non-clinical/clinical).





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4. NON-CLINICAL ASSESSMENT

Summary boxes

NA box

Trials with more than one IMP

4.1 Introduction

Note for IMPs with MA

Note for previously assessed IMPs without MA

Workspace:

XXX is a YYY intended for the treatment of .

Protocol (Phase):

Primary objectives:

Secondary objectives:

Exploratory objectives:

Study design:

Dosing regimen: IMP: max mg/kg per day for months

Dose justification: For FIH, go to section 4.5.1

Patients:

Population: patients, male & female, adults & elderly Contraception/Pregnancy testing: Go to section 4.4.6.3

Clinical experience:

Regulatory status of the imp and of comparator:

SA Go to section 4.6

Provided version protocol= Provided Version IB= Provided Version IMPD=

assessor Possibility for interaction

Key

questions for

non-clinical

with clinical team

Standardised questions to the Sponsor

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Please address following key guestions:

- IMP intended indication
- Study design
- Dosing regimen and treatment duration (IMP: max x mg/kg per day for x months)
- Dose justification (For FIH, go to section 4.5.1)
- Population patients, male & female, adults & elderly
 - Contraception/Pregnancy testing: Go to section 4.4.6.3 Patients: please specify
- Clinical experience
- Regulatory status of the imp and of comparator:
- Scientific advice Go to section 4.6
- Previously identified major issues/concerns that are relevant to the assessment of the non-clinical data for this clinical trials should be addressed. Same check is being done for clinical issues in the clinical assessment report:
 - Was there a previous refusal/recall/unresolved recommendation/condition etc.?
 - Are reasons for major issues resolved?

Please, in case of identified issues, consider consulting the clinical team for input on:

- Clinical rationale for (combination) therapy, if clinical data are provided in this context
- Inclusion and/or exclusion criteria
- Identification of potential overlapping toxicities for combination therapies and risk. mitigation measures

Please, in case of identified issues, consider consulting the CTM team for input on:

- Data safety monitoring board
- Discontinuation and stopping criteria
- Study plan and design

Please, in case of identified issues, consider consulting the clinical and the R&D safety team for input on:

Safety monitoring

Responsible team FIH: Non-clinical team (see also section 4.4.6.3)

Assessor's comment:

The applicant is requested to provide an adequate clinical trial protocol that is in compliance with current GCP guidance (ICH E6R2) and CTFG guidance (specifically "Recommendations related to contraception and pregnancy testing in clinical trials"). Reference is also made to the CTR (EU regulation No 536/2014), Annex I (application dossier for the initial application, section D. Protocol) (RFI).

The applicant provided an IB which is not following the standard template. As described in EU Regulation No 536/2014, the applicant is recommended to provide an IB prepared in accordance with international guidance. Non-clinical pharmacology and toxicology data shall be submitted in a logical structure, such as that of Module 4 of the ICH Common Technical Document format (RFI).



4. NON-CLINICAL ASSESSMENT

Summary boxes

<u>NA box</u>

Trials with more than one IMP

4.1 Introduction

Note for IMPs with MA

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 XXX is a YYY intended for the treatment of .

Protocol (Phase):

Primary objectives:

Secondary objectives:

Exploratory objectives:

Study design:

Dosing regimen: IMP: max mg/kg per day for months

<u>Dose justification:</u> For FIH, go to <u>section 4.5.1</u>

Population:

patients, male & female, adults & elderly
Contraception/Pregnancy testing: Go to <u>section 4.4.6.3</u>
Patients:

Clinical experience:

Regulatory status of the imp and of comparator:

SA 🗆 Go to section 4.6

Provided version protocol= Provided Version IB= Provided Version IMPD=

Please address following key questions:

- IMP intended indication
- Study design
- Dosing regimen and treatment duration (IMP: max x mg/kg per day for x months)
- Dose justification (For FIH, go to section 4.5.1)
- Population patients, male & female, adults & elderly

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- Contraception/Pregnancy testing: Go to section 4.4.6.3
- Patients: please specify
- Clinical experience
- Regulatory status of the imp and of comparator:
- Scientific advice Go to section 4.6
- Previously identified major issues/concerns that are relevant to the assessment of the non-clinical data for this clinical trials should be addressed. Same check is being done for clinical issues in the clinical assessment report:
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Assessor's comment

The applicant is requested to provide an adequate clinical trial protocol that is in compliance with current GCP guidance (ICH E6R2) and CTFG guidance (specifically "Recommendations related to contraception and pregnancy testing in clinical trials"). Reference is also made to the CTR (EU regulation No 536/2014), Annex I (application dossier for the initial application, section D. Protocol) (RFI).

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4.2	Pharmacology	Pleas	e address following key questions:	
4.2.	.1 Primary pharmacodynamics	•	Adequacy of safety monitoring (type, extent, schedule, etc) in line with ident clinically relevant secondary pharmacology findings	ified
Su	ummary	•	Adequacy of inclusion/exclusion criteria in line with identified clinically releva	nt
	ese pharmacology studies provide support for the Yes 🗆 No 🗆 NA 🗔 Narmacological basis for the proposed trial	•	secondary pharmacology findings Adequacy of discontinuation/stopping criteria in line with identified clinically i	elevant
We	ere relevant in vitro and/or in vivo models studied? Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌		secondary pharmacology	
	the intended pharmacological effect expected/ possible at clinical Yes 🗆 No 🗆 NA 🗆 posure?	Pleas	e, in case of identified issues, consider consulting <u>the clinical team</u> for	input on:
We	ere pharmacologically active major metabolites identified? Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌		sarety team for input on:	
Ist	the IMP a first-in-class compound? Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌		Safety monitoring	
	orkspace:			
As	ssessor's comment:			
Please address followi				
4.2.	usion criteria in line with primary pharmacology			
	ummary			
	e off-target effects expected/possible at clinical exposure? Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌			
wa	orkspace:			
As	sessor's comment:			
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4.2.3 Safety pharmacology

<u>Summary</u>

System	Study type	Issues identified	Major Findings			
Cardiovascular		Yes No NA				
Respiratory		Yes No NA				
CNS		Yes No NA				
Other		Yes No NA				
Did the safety pharmacology studies identify significant concerns? Yes No NA						
Do sufficient margins of exposure exist for planned clinical Yes No NA exposure?						
Workspace:						
Assessor's com	ment:					

Please address following key questions:

- Adequacy of safety monitoring (type, extent, schedule, etc) in line with identified clinically relevant safety pharmacology findings
- Adequacy of inclusion/exclusion criteria in line with identified clinically relevant safety pharmacology findings
- Adequacy of discontinuation/stopping criteria in line with identified clinically relevant toxicities

Discontinuation and stopping criteria

Please, in case of identified issues, consider consulting <u>the clinical team and the R&D</u> <u>safety team</u> for input on:

Safety monitoring

4.2.4 Pharmacodynamic drug interactions

Summary

Have potential pharmacodynamics drug interactions been Yes No identified?

Workspace:

Assessor's comment:

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Please, in case of identified issues related to pharmacodynamic interactions, consider consulting the clinical team for input.

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	4.3	3 Pharmacokin	ietics					4.3.3 Pharmacoki	inetic drug interactions	(Enzymes, Transporte	r, other)		
	4.3	4.3.1 Methods of analysis				Summary							
								Target evaluated	Interaction identified	Findings			
	A	re the methods of	analysis and their se	nsitivities adequate?	Yes No NA		L	Enzyme inhibition	Yes 🗆 No 🗆 NA 🗆				
					hods of analysis of ensitivity). (recon		0.0	Enzyme induction	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌				
for future clinic		IIIIai Dioot	aj plasi la (ve		susitivity). (recon	menuali	on	Transporter	Yes 🗆 No 🗆 NA 🗆			1	
			,					Co-pathways	Yes 🗆 No 🗆 NA 🗆			1	
	4.5	4.3.2 Absorption, Distribution, Metabolism & Excretion					Potential for PK dru	g interactions is indicated a	at therapeutic dose	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌	1		
								ctions have been highlighte n is included in the IB/stud		Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌			
	_	Summary				-		Workspace:					
	s	ystem	Issues identified	Findings								<u> </u>	
	A	bsorption	Yes No NA									eractions, consu	
	D	istribution	Yes No NA			the cli	inical tea	am and the	PK coordinate	or (or back-u	p) in case of q	uestions about	DDI.
	м	1etabolism	Yes No NA		1	Respo	nsible to	eam: clinica	l team				
	E	xcretion	Yes No NA			<u>Acopo</u>			il courri				
	D	o the ADME studie	es identify significant	concerns?	Yes No NA								
	м	Major human metabolites were identified Yes No NA Unique human metabolites were identified Yes No NA						4.3.4 Other phar	macokinetic studies (e.a	. PK of metabolite. no	vel excipients, genomic		
	U							4.3.4 Other pharmacokinetic studies (e.g. PK of metabolite, novel excipients, genomic integration and inadvertent germline transmission of gene transfer vectors)					
	M	Vorkspace:				1		Summary					
	A	ssessor's comm	ent:					Were other PK stud	ies performed?		Yes 🗆 No 🗆 NA 🗆		

(For further clinical development) The applicant is invited to provide a detailed qualitative and quantitative overview of human metabolites and metabolites formed in test species, preferably in a tabulated format. (RFI or recommendation for future clinical trials)

Were other PK studies performed?	Yes 🗆 No 🗆 NA 🗆
Do these studies identify concerns?	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌
Workspace:	



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4.4 Toxicology

Summary

4.4.1 Animal species selection/Study design

Toxicologically relevant animal species studied	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌
The studied species show similar pharmacology to humans	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌
The studied species show similar PK to humans	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌
The studies were sufficiently well-designed	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌
Workspace:	
Assessor's comment:	

4.4.2 Single dose toxicity

Summary

Species	Dose/ Route	NO(A)EL/LOEL /MNTD (delete as required)	Major findings			
Were signif	Were significant toxicities identified? Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗆					
Do sufficien	Do sufficient margins of exposure exist for planned clinical exposure? Yes $\hfill\square$ NA $\hfill\square$					
Workspace:						
Assessor's	Assessor's comment:					

4.4.3 Repeat-dose toxicity

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Summary

Study duration	Species	Dose/ Route	NO(A)EL/LOEL /MNTD (delete as required)	Major findings			
Were signif	icant toxicitie	s identified?	1	Yes	□ No □ NA □		
Do sufficier	nt margins of	exposure exi	st for planned clinica	l exposure? Yes [□ No □ NA □		
Does the d	uration of tre	atment suppo	ort the proposed tria	duration? Yes	No 🗆 NA 🗆		
Workspace:							
Assessor	s comment:						

Please address following key questions:

Please address following key questions:

- Adequacy of safety monitoring (type, extent, schedule, etc) in line with identified clinically relevant toxicities
- Adequacy of inclusion/exclusion criteria in line with identified clinically relevant toxicities
- Adequacy of discontinuation/stopping criteria in line with identified clinically relevant toxicities

Please, in case of identified issues, consider consulting <u>the clinical team and the R&D</u> <u>safety team</u> for input on:

Safety monitoring

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4.4.4 Genotoxicity

Type of test/study	Test system	Results		
Gene mutations in bacteria		Positive 🗌 Negative 🔲 Equivocal 🗆		
In vitro mammalian assay		Positive 🗌 Negative 🔲 Equivocal 🗆		
In vivo genotoxicity test		Positive 🗌 Negative 🔲 Equivocal 🗆		
Additional assays		Positive 🗌 Negative 🔲 Equivocal 🗆		
Do the submitted data indicated genotoxic potential? Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌				
Workspace:				
Assessor's comm	ent:			

4.4.5 Carcinogenicity

Summary

Do studies identify potential for carcinogenicity?	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌
Do sufficient margins of exposure exist for planned clinical exposure?	Yes 🗆 No 🗆 NA 🗌
Workspace:	
Assessor's comment:	

4.4.6 Reproductive and developmental toxicity

Summary

System	Toxicities identified	Findings					
	Identified						
Fertility and early embryonic	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌						
development							
Embryo-fetal development	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌						
Prenatal and postnatal	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌						
development, including							
maternal function							
Do sufficient margins	s of exposure exist for p	olanned clinical exposure? Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌					
Workspace:							
Assessor's comme	Assessor's comment:						

4.4.6.1 Juvenile toxicity studies

Summary

The studies utilised animals in the appropriate age range	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌
The studies identified additional/enhanced juvenile toxicities	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌
Do sufficient margins of exposure exist for planned clinical exposure?	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌
Workspace:	
Assessor's comment:	

Please, in case of identified issues, consider consulting <u>the clinical team</u> for input on:

Inclusion and/or exclusion criteria

Please, in case of identified issues, consider consulting <u>the clinical team and the R&D</u> <u>safety team</u> for input on:

Safety monitoring



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4.4.6.2 Other studies (including enhanced PPND studies)

Summary

The studies identified potential toxicities	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌
Do sufficient margins of exposure exist for planned clinical exposure?	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌
Workspace:	
Assessor's comment:	

4.4.6.3 Recommendations for contraception measures

Non-clinical data summary

IMP	(please all appropriate)
	Suspected/ demonstrated teratogenic or fetotoxic effects 🗆
	Genotoxic 🗆
	Insufficient data 🗆
	Demonstrated embryo-fetotoxic effects but which do not seem to be relevant to the CT subjects \square
	Sufficient data and no indication of risk \square
Comparator	(please all appropriate)
IMP/ auxiliary MP	
	NA 🗆
	Suspected or demonstrated teratogenic or fetotoxic \Box
	Genotoxic 🗆
	Insufficient data 🗆
	Demonstrated embryo-fetotoxic effects but which do not seem to be relevant to the CT subjects
	-
	Sufficient data and no indication of risk 🗆
WOCBP/male pa clinical trial	artners of WOCBP are included in the proposed $${\rm Yes} \square ${\rm No} \square$$
	e guidance "CTFG recommendations related to demonstrated/suspected
	nd pregnancy testing in clinical trials" the risk of fetotoxicity based on the non-clinical data is
considered (pla	
	unlikely 🗆

Workspace:

A decision table can be used for the more complicated cases, see document 'Criteria to request pregnancy testing during treatment and after the last dose for oncology products':

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Criteria for decision making toward pregnancy testing-AMEdit3.DOC

Assessor's comment: Note

For the definition of postmenopausal state and highly effective birth control methods used in the protocol, the applicant is referred to the "Recommendations related to contraception and pregnancy testing in clinical trials" of the Clinical trial facilitation group (CTFG) available at the HMA website: <u>http://www.hma.eu/fileadmin/dateien/Human_Medicines/01-</u> About HMA/Working Groups/CTFG/2014 09 HMA CTFG Contraception.pdf (RFI)

Please address following key questions:

Responsible Team: clinical CTM team

4.4.7 Local tolerance

Assessor's comment:

4.4.8 Other toxicity studies

Summary

Workspace:

Adequacy of inclusion/exclusion criteria for WOCBP, male patients with WOCBP partners

Please address following key questions:

- Adequacy of inclusion/exclusion criteria for WOCBP, male patients with WOCBP partners
- Adequacy of contraceptive measures
- Adequacy of pregnancy testing requirements
- Adequacy of measures (if any) related to sperm or oocyte preservation

Do the submitted studies indicate a potential for local toxicity?

Dedicated Study	Toxicities identified	Findings
Phototoxicity	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌	
Tissue cross reactivity	Yes 🗆 No 🗆 NA 🗆	
Antigenicity	Yes 🗆 No 🗆 NA 🗆	
Immunotoxicity	Yes 🗆 No 🗆 NA 🗆	
Dependence	Yes 🗆 No 🗆 NA 🗆	
Metabolites	Yes 🗆 No 🗆 NA 🗆	
Impurities	Yes 🗆 No 🗆 NA 🗆	
Other	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌	
Workspace:		

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In line with ICH M3 guideline and prior to phase 1, the Applicant should provide an initial assessment of the phototoxic potential of MP X based on the drug's photochemical properties and pharmacological/chemical class. If assessment of all the available data and the proposed clinical plan indicates a potential for a significant human phototoxicity risk, appropriate protective measures should be taken during outpatient clinical studies. If needed, the Applicant is advised to refer to the ICH S10 guideline

(https://www.ich.org/products/guidelines/safety/safety-single/article/photosafety-evaluation-of-pharmaceuticals.html). (RFI)

OR

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Yes 🗆 No 🗆 NA 🗆

Before exposure of large numbers of subjects (Phase III), if appropriate, an experimental evaluation (nonclinical, in vitro or in vivo, or clinical) of phototoxic potential should be undertaken. (RFI)

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4.5.1 First in Human Trials

Summary

Is the starting dose adequately justified?	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌
Are the dose steps adequately justified?	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌
Is the maximum dose adequately justified?	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌
Workspace:	
Assessor's comment:	

Please address following key question:

Please address following key question:

Need for sentinel dosing

Please, if involved and in case of identified issues, consider consulting the clinical team for input on:

- starting dose, dose escalation, maximum dose
- Sentinel dosing
- Modelling of human exposure (PBPK, other)

Summary

Are there any additional relevant concerns for this product?	Yes 🗌 No 🗌 NA 🗌
Workspace:	
Assessor's comment:	

4.6 Scientific advice/ PIP

Scientific advice/PIP advice relating to non-clinical development was $\$ Yes \square No \square received

Paediatric patients are included in this phase xx study, yet a PIP has not been submitted to EMA. According to the EU Paediatric regulation, a PIP application should be submitted as soon as possible after phase I clinical studies. The applicant is recommended to submit a PIP as soon as possible to seek feedback and approval from PDCO (Recommendation for future clinical trials).

Scientific Advice:

Scientific Advice:

Focus on direct or indirect non-clinical related questions of a national or EMA scientific advice.

PIP:

- Check compliance to the key binding elements in the agreed PIP if there is one, or deviations from important PDCO comments if the PIP procedure is still ongoing.
- In case of a paediatric trial and if PIP would have been expected at this stage in development, a comment is made only in the non-clinical report. Not needed by the clinical team as the PDCO alternate is part of the NC team.

Assessor's comment:

CTFG and EU CTR NO 536/2014 documents on GLP in clinical trials

In accordance with EU Directives, applicants are reminded that all pivotal nonclinical studies need to be carried out in accordance with the principles of good laboratory practice (GLP). As applications for CTAs do not include individual study reports, Sponsors should include a statement on the GLP status of the studies within the IMPD, unless properly justified. A summary table should be provided specifying the details of each study and Sponsors should also indicate if in that period the facility was part of an accepted GLP monitoring programme. For more detailed information, see http://www.hma.eu/fileadmin/dateien/Human_Medicines/01-About_HMA/Working_Groups/CTFG/QAs_document_on_GLP_-_2017.pdf

The non-clinical data provided are acceptable

	_
Supplementary information needs to be provided (refer to the list of	Γ
requests for additional information)	

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Some special attention for GLP compliance requirements

Recurring GNAs:

• In accordance with EU Directives, applicants are reminded that all pivotal non-clinical studies need to be carried out in accordance with the principles of Good Laboratory Practice (GLP). As applications for CTAs do not include individual study reports, Sponsors should include a statement on the GLP status of the studies within the IMPD, unless properly justified. A summary table should be provided specifying the details of each study and Sponsors should also indicate if in that period the facility was part of an accepted GLP monitoring programme. *For more detailed information, see* <u>http://www.hma.eu/fileadmin/dateien/Human Medicines/01-About HMA/Working Groups/CTFG/QAs document on GLP - 2017.pdf and see also Q1.17 from the draft Q&A to the CTR (version 4, July 2021): <u>https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/default/files/files/eudralex/vol-10/regulation5362014 ga en.pdf</u></u>



A summary table should be provided, listing the non-clinical studies and indicating the following for each study:
(1) study title,
(2) study code (Unique identifier assigned to the study),
(3) date of completion of the Final Report,
(4) test facility and test sites in which the study was conducted,
(5) complete address of the test facility (and test sites where applicable),
(6) period in which the test facility(ies) and/or test site(s) was (were) used
Sponsors should also indicate if in that period the facility was part of a European Union (EU) or an Organisation for Economic Co-operation Mutual Acceptance of Data (MAD) - accepted GLP monitoring programme.

 <u>Special attention for pivotal non-clinical studies that are conducted in a test facility situated in a country which has not joined the OECD MAD system.</u> Thorough GLP compliance check is carried out systematically!

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Take home messages



- The 'HOW' and 'WHY': specific attention for the translation of non-clinical data to clinical protocol recommendations (e.g. dose setting, monitoring, design, etc.).
- **SCIENCE RULES:** availability of a detailed science-based non-clinical data-package • avoids clarification questions.
- **QUICK WINS:** avoid recurring questions pertaining to (lack of) information (e.g. GLP, analytical method validation, etc.).
- Scientific Advice as tool to support clinical development.
 - @ FAMHP

@ EMA









Thank you for your attention!

Questions?



CTR Early Phase Infosession/15 September 2023 FAMHP/DG PRE/Evaluators/Non-clinical Evaluators





Federal Agency for Medicines and Health Products – FAMHP

Avenue Galilée - Galileelaan 5/03 1210 BRUSSELS

tel. + 32 2 528 40 00

fax + 32 2 528 40 01

e-mail welcome@fagg-afmps.be

www.famhp.be

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