

# The Patient-Reported Outcome (PRO) Consortium:

## A Collaborative Approach to PRO Instrument Development and Qualification

Stephen Joel Coons, PhD  
Executive Director



The views and opinions expressed in the following PowerPoint slides are those of the individual presenter and should not be attributed to Drug Information Association, Inc. (“DIA”), its directors, officers, employees, volunteers, members, chapters, councils, Special Interest Area Communities or affiliates, or any organization with which the presenter is employed or affiliated.

These PowerPoint slides are the intellectual property of the individual presenter and are protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America and other countries. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Drug Information Association, DIA and DIA logo are registered trademarks or trademarks of Drug Information Association Inc. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

- Aimed at
  - Increasing longevity
  - Preventing future morbidity
  - Making patients feel and function better

Note: The FDA is required to base its evaluation of *treatment benefit* on how patients “feel, function, and survive.”

Clinical trial endpoints for assessing treatment benefit are:

- Survival
- Biomarkers
- Clinical Outcome Assessments
  - Clinician-Reported Outcomes (ClinROs)
  - Observer-Reported Outcomes (ObsROs)
  - **Patient-Reported Outcomes (PROs)**

- **Survival** – Example
  - Progression free survival in oncology trials
- **Biomarkers** – Examples
  - HbA<sub>1c</sub> in diabetes trials
  - Hemoglobin and hematocrit in anemia trials
- **Clinician-Reported Outcomes (ClinROs)** – Examples
  - *Hamilton Depression Rating Scale (HAM-D)* in depression trials
  - *Expanded Disability Status Scale (EDSS)* in multiple sclerosis trials

- **Observer-Reported Outcomes (ObsROs)** – Examples
  - *Inattention/Overactivity with Aggression (IOWA)* Conners scale completed by schoolteachers in attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) trials
  - *Activities of Daily Living Inventory* completed by caregivers/informants in Alzheimer's disease trials
- **Patient-Reported Outcomes (PROs)** – Examples
  - Number of incontinence episodes per week in overactive bladder trials
  - Relief of ocular itching in seasonal allergic conjunctivitis trials

- Subjective well-being/quality of life
- Health-related quality of life (HRQoL)
- Health status
- Satisfaction with treatment
- Productivity
- Participation
- **Symptom experience**
- **Function/dysfunction**

## Regulatory Context

- To support drug approval for a specific indication
- To obtain a labeling claim

## Regulatory guidance

- European Medicines Agency (EMA)
- US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)



# FDA's PRO Guidance

---

## **Guidance for Industry** **Patient-Reported Outcome Measures:** **Use in Medical Product Development** **to Support Labeling Claims**

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)  
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)  
Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH)

December 2009  
Clinical/Medical

---

- Clear acknowledgement of the importance of appropriately and effectively incorporating the patient's voice into the evaluation of medical products
- Draft: February 2006
- Final: December 2009  
[http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/Guidance  
ComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/U  
CM205269.pdf](http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM205269.pdf)

- Describes how the FDA plans to evaluate PRO (and ClinRO and ObsRO) instruments used as efficacy endpoints in clinical trials.
- PRO assessment is “... a measurement of any aspect of a patient’s health status that comes directly from the patient (i.e., without the interpretation of the patient’s responses by a physician or anyone else).”

Note: Part of the impetus for the PRO Guidance was to bring consistency to the evaluation of PRO measures across the FDA review divisions.

A review of effectiveness endpoints reported in FDA-approved product labeling for new molecular entities approved from **1997 through 2002** found that PRO endpoints were included in **30% (64/215)** of the product labels examined. For 23 of the products, PROs were the only endpoints reported.

Source: Willke et al. *Controlled Clinical Trials* 2004

# PRO Endpoints in Approved Labels: Examples



- Pain (e.g., severity, frequency, time to relief)
- Seizure frequency
- Micturation/urination and incontinence episodes
- Itching (i.e., ocular)
- Dry mouth symptoms
- Stool frequency and consistency
- Sexual function
- Time to flu symptom relief
- Nausea and/or vomiting

- Since release of the PRO Guidance:
- Data regarding new molecular entities and biologic license applications approved between **January 2006 and December 2010** show that **24% (28/116)** of the products had PRO endpoint-based labeling claims. For 20 (71%) of the 28 products, a PRO measure was the primary endpoint.

**Established in 2005 by the University of Arizona and the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)**

**An independent, non-profit organization**

**Dedicated to implementing FDA's *Critical Path Initiative* - A strategy for transforming the way FDA-regulated products are developed, evaluated, manufactured, and used**

Provides a neutral, pre-competitive venue for collaboration aimed at accelerated development of safe and effective medical products

Primary sources of funding for C-Path operations:

- government agency grants (e.g., FDA grant no. U01FD003865)
- foundation grants/contracts (e.g., Science Foundation Arizona grant no. SRG 0335-08)
- private philanthropy
- membership fees from member firms

- Formed in late 2008 by C-Path, in cooperation with the FDA and the pharmaceutical industry
- **Membership**
  - Only available to medical product companies
  - 26 members in 2013
- **Non-Voting Participants**
  - Representatives of governmental agencies
  - Clinical consultants, patients, academic researchers, and CROs partnering in the development of the PRO instruments



# PRO Consortium Members



abbvie



AMGEN



To establish and maintain a collaborative framework with appropriate stakeholders for the development of qualified, publicly available patient-reported outcome (PRO) instruments for use in clinical trials where PRO endpoints are used to support product labeling claims.

- Develop qualified, publicly available PRO instruments
- Enable pre-competitive collaboration that includes FDA input/expertise
- Avoid development of multiple PRO instruments for the same purpose
- Share costs of developing new PRO instruments
- Facilitate FDA's review of medical products by standardizing PRO endpoints

# Current Working Groups



## **Asthma – 11 firms**

- Actelion, Amgen, AstraZeneca, Boehringer Ingelheim, Forest, GlaxoSmithKline, Ironwood, Janssen, Merck, Novartis, and Roche/Genentech

## **Cognition – 9 firms**

- AbbVie, AstraZeneca, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Eisai, Janssen, Merck, Novartis, Pfizer, and Roche/Genentech

## **Depression – 8 firms**

- AbbVie, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Lilly, Forest, Janssen, Pfizer, Shire, and Sunovion

# Current Working Groups



## **Functional Dyspepsia – 3 firms**

- Forest, Ironwood, and Shire

## **Irritable Bowel Syndrome – 3 firms**

- Forest, Ironwood, and Takeda

## **Lung Cancer (NSCLC) – 6 firms**

- AbbVie, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Lilly, Merck, Roche/Genentech

## **Rheumatoid Arthritis – 7 firms**

- Boehringer Ingelheim, Lilly, GlaxoSmithKline, Janssen, Novo Nordisk, Roche/Genentech, and UCB

- To produce and/or compile the necessary evidence to enable new or existing PRO instruments to be “qualified” by the FDA for use in clinical trials where PRO endpoints can be used to support product labeling claims.

# FDA Drug Development Tool (DDT) Guidance

---

## Guidance for Industry

### Qualification Process for Drug Development Tools

#### *DRAFT GUIDANCE*

This guidance document is being distributed for comment purposes only.

Comments and suggestions regarding this draft document should be submitted within 90 days of publication in the *Federal Register* of the notice announcing the availability of the draft guidance. Submit comments to the Division of Dockets Management (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. All comments should be identified with the docket number listed in the notice of availability that publishes in the *Federal Register*.

For questions regarding this draft document contact (CDER) Shaniece Gathers, 301-796-2600.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)

October 2010  
Clinical/Medical

---

- Draft version currently available (October 2010)
- Final version coming soon; no major changes expected; will clarify of the process
- Describes the DDT qualification process

<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/Guidance/ComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM230597.pdf>

- Qualification is based on an FDA review of evidence that supports the conclusion that a PRO instrument provides a **well-defined and reliable assessment of a targeted concept in a specified context of use.**
- *FDA's Guidance for Industry: Qualification Process for Drug Development Tools* (draft - October 2010)



- **...has the potential to:**
  - More effectively incorporate the patient's voice into the evaluation of treatment effects
  - Increase number of accepted PRO measures used to support claims in product labeling
  - Enhance comparability/consistency of endpoints across clinical trial
  - Improve efficiency for sponsors in endpoint selection
  - Improve product labeling

# Working Group Stages



## Scoping Stage

*FDA to review Scoping Stage Summary Document*

Vendor Selection Stage (prepare/release RFP, proposal review, & vendor selection)

## Content Validity Stage

*FDA reviews Content Validity Summary Document*

## Psychometric Analysis Stage

*FDA reviews Psychometric Analysis Summary Document*

## Qualification Stage

*FDA to review "Qualification Dossier" and make "fit-for-purpose" determination*

# PRO Consortium: Summary



- A process for collaborative, pre-competitive PRO instrument development has been established in a neutral environment
- The FDA has agreed to a review structure for developmental milestone documents
- The process will be refined and improved as we learn what works and what doesn't
- The PRO Consortium approach has substantial benefits as well as challenges