CROSS-INDUSTRY ORGANIZATIONS

A brief update from EPAG

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A key objective of the European Pharmaceutical Aerosol Group (EPAG) is to recommend harmonized standards and methodology. To achieve this, meetings with regulatory agencies are held.

Successful regulatory meetings with Germany and Sweden

During 2014, a successful meeting with German Bundesinstitut für Arzneimittel und Medizinprodukte (BfARM) took place. It was followed by a meeting in 2015 with the Swedish Medical Products Agency (MPA). Both meetings focused on Abbreviated Impactor Measurement (AIM) and harmonization of test methods. Agreement was reached for MPA to actively participate in the EPAG nasal sub-team work.

Initial discussions with the British Pharmacopoeia

Continuing this theme, initial discussions have been held with British Pharmacopoeia staff, focusing on the inhalation products monograph that is currently under consideration for comments. Dialogue will continue and a face-to-face meeting has been proposed for summer 2016.

Developing opinions on pulmonary and nasal delivery

Another of EPAG's objectives is to develop opinions on pharmaceutical topics relevant to pulmonary and nasal delivery products. Consequently, topics of interest are regularly reviewed and specific areas of interest are selected. The topics identified for further consideration during 2016 are:

- E-Health
- Quality by Design (QbD)
- Human Factors (lab studies vs. clinical studies)
- Improving products; What is the definition of better? (a 360-degree view)

Additional plans for 2016

During 2016, increased interaction with universities is also planned. Specialist speakers will be invited to highlight differing opinions on key topics and produce lively and informed debates.

For further information on EPAG activities, please visit www.epag.co.uk where a contact form can also be found.

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