



# **Biosimilar Medicines: Opportunities for Sustainable Healthcare**

**5<sup>th</sup> EGA Symposium on Biosimilars**

**4<sup>th</sup> May 2007**

**John Purves**

**EMA**



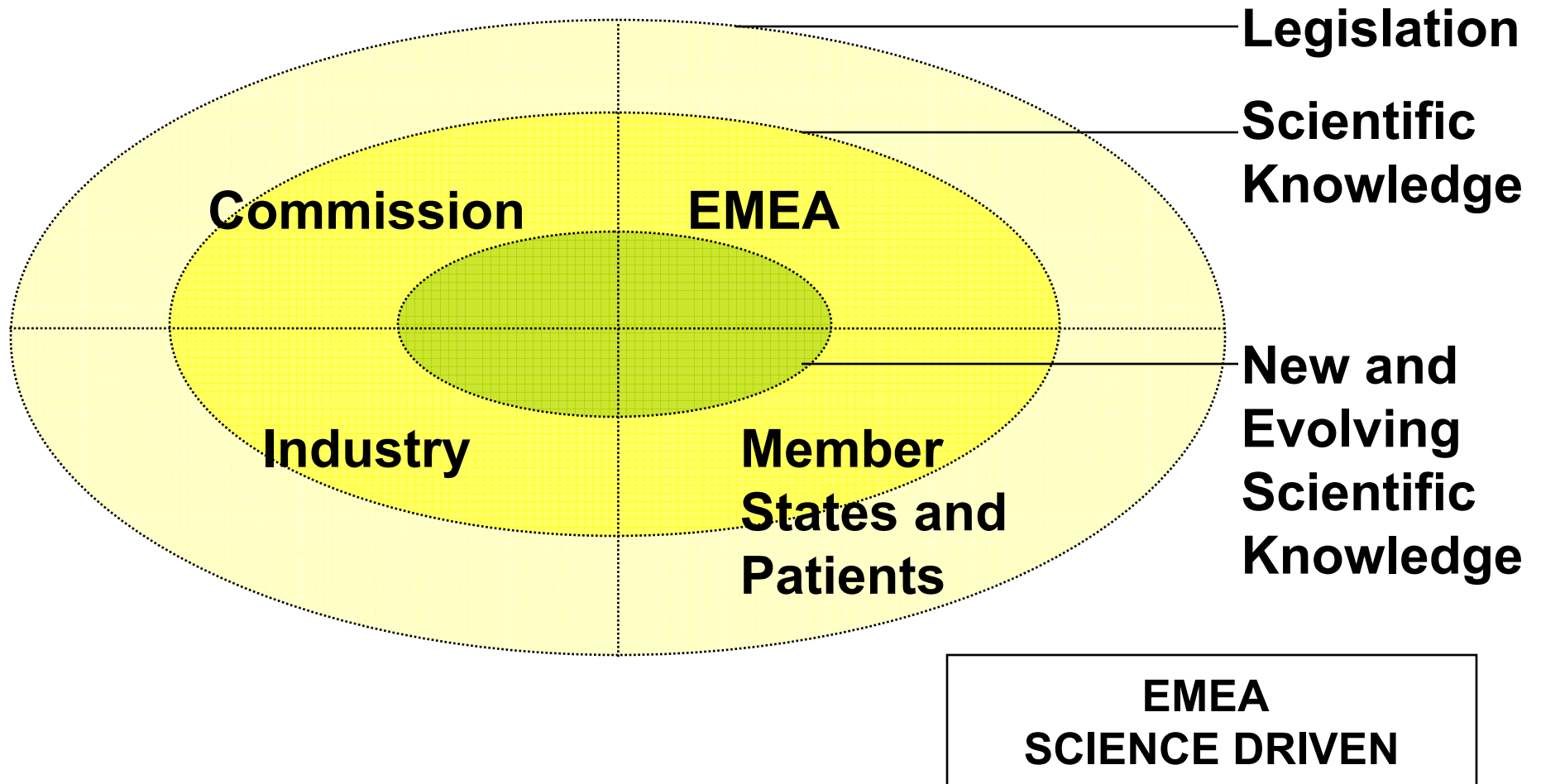
# Sessions 1 - 6

---

- **Market Overview**
- **International and EU Legal Developments**
- **INN naming of Biosimilar Medicines**
- **Science and Technology**
- **EU and International Regulatory Developments**
- **Stakeholder's Point of View on Market Entry of Biosimilar Medicines**



# Important Parameters for the EMEA



Idea stimulated by the book entitled “Consilience” – the unity of knowledge, by Edward O.

Wilson ISBN 0-349-11112-X



# Introduction and Background

---

- **Achievements**

- » Implementation of legislation, guidelines
- » 2 MAAs + Scientific Advice provided

- **Challenges for future**

- » Evolution of scientific base
  - Including manufacture and Process Analytical Technology
- » Communication to stakeholders
- » Harmonisation, technical / regulatory
- » International Nonproprietary Name

# INNs for Biologicals

---

- **INN: WHO policy**
  - » Highly valued – needs to keep pace with pharmaceutical practice / developments
- **Historical developments (science / regulatory)**
  - » INNs established > 50 years ago
  - » 1982 – insulin human
  - » Biotechnology – rapidly growing field
  - » Biosimilars have arrived

# INNs for Biologicals

---

- **Purpose of INN**
  - » Classification / nomenclature
    - Identification of pharmaceutical substances
- **WHO Guidance on INN – broad scope**
  - » Pharmacopoea, labelling, product information, advertising, drug regulation, basis for product names (generics)

# INNs for Biologicals

---

- **Debate on “regulatory” element**
  - » eg Pharmacovigilance / Interchangeability / Substitution
- **What can be expected in future ?**
  - » Biologicals have inherent variability
  - » Analytical technology continually advancing, revealing greater molecular detail
  - » Where to “draw the line” for biologicals
- **INNs should have “high level” utility - identification**
  - » Up to Regulatory Authorities to assess Benefit / Risk

# INNs for Biologicals

---

- **WHO discussions on-going**
  - » Informal consultation Sep-06 \*
  - » Applicable to biologicals
  - » Meeting with industry Nov-06
  - » In depth review of policy
  - » Ad hoc meeting 23-24 Apr 07 (experts and industry)
    - Report to INN Committee
  - » Review by INN Committee on-going

\* [http://www.who.int/medicines/services/inn/inn\\_bio/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/medicines/services/inn/inn_bio/en/index.html)



# INNs for Biologicals

---

- **EU reflections for consideration at WHO level:**
  - » AA sequence basis for INN
  - » Presence/absence of glycosylation compared to native protein
- **Further discussions necessary**

# Communication

---

- **Biosimilars comparable to reference product**
  - » Based on Quality / Safety / Efficacy
  - » Post-marketing surveillance, as required
  
- **Health Care Professionals**
  - » Understanding of role of Regulators (EMA)
  - » Product Information – satisfactory ?

# Global Harmonisation

---

- **EU has lead role to play in biosimilars**
- **Regulatory pathways evolving**
  - » Need care with terminology, e.g. what does “interchangeable/substitution” mean: EU v USA
- **CTD Module 3 critical for biosimilars**
  - » Analytical advancement
  - » Principles of PAT

# Biosimilar Future

---

- **Quality characterisation**
  - » Increased scope for biosimilars
- **EU Guidelines: add / amend depending on requirements / scientific advancement**
  - » Quality advances = reduced (non)clinical data ?
- **EU participation with other agencies**



# Process Analytical Technology

---

- **Some Reflections**



- **Pharmaceutical development, based on science, has been a fundamental part of product development in the EU.**
- **New terms of PAT and Quality by design are compatible with this philosophy.**
- **Biological processes are carefully monitored by analytical tools. Complexity has always been present and much effort made to demonstrate consistency.**
  
- **New technologies being applied to gain better understanding and control of processes – scientific development is encouraged.**
- **Philosophy of risk is important in many areas of manufacture and use of medicinal products.**





- Regulators constantly need to adjust to new developments and adapt and facilitate these to the benefit of public health.



## Regulatory Efficiency and the Role of Risk Assessment

- ICH guidelines now incorporating more of a risk based approach – challenge for all : industry and regulators to develop strategies.
- Regulators recognise the global arena in which industry operates and the need for regulatory efficiency.
- Global harmonisation and Regulatory flexibility are often stated as goals, however, we must recognise some of the limitations of different region's regulatory structures and legislation
- Hope to gain a broad understanding of industry activities and how regulatory structures will be influenced and could be adapted in future.











# Thank you for your attention !

---

- For your information:

- » EMEA Website: <http://www.emea.europa.eu>

- » [John.Purves@emea.europa.eu](mailto:John.Purves@emea.europa.eu)

- » Direct line: +44 (0) 20 7418 8402