



## PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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Associate Director, Pharmacovigilance  
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Sierra Oncology, Canada

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Health Canada

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Medical Evaluator  
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**Kristin Willemsen, MS**

Vice President, Scientific & Regulatory Affairs  
Food, Health & Consumer Products of  
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## Overview

The *DIA Annual Canadian Meeting* will deliver a comprehensive overview of the current biopharma and device landscape in Canada, while sharing insights into Canada's broader role in global healthcare product development. From policy updates and priorities shared directly from Health Canada to sessions on international work sharing and partnerships, to key regulatory, clinical, and safety considerations for drugs and devices, you will have the exclusive opportunity to address the current issues and opportunities in Canada and across the globe. This meeting presents three tracks: Regulatory, Clinical, and Pharmacovigilance (NEW). Our new pharmacovigilance track, previously its own meeting, broadens the scope of this meeting and will provide additional insights, education and knowledge sharing for our attendees to discuss and analyze the relevant challenges and opportunities for professionals working in the field in Canada.

## Highlights

- Track Listing
- **Regulatory:** Gain a clearer understanding of Canada's regulatory landscape through our regulatory track. You'll hear about Health Canada's modernization initiatives with complementary perspectives from industry on advanced therapeutic products (ATPs), medical devices, good manufacturing practices (GMP) virtual inspections, pediatric medicines, and international collaborations.
- **Clinical:** Today, modern biopharmaceutical and device products are advancing at an unprecedented speed. Sessions in this track will focus on clinical research development and operations for industry. Those interested in this track will gain an understanding of Health Canada's approach to the modernization of clinical trial regulations, including case studies of how patients have contributed to resource development and how decentralized trials have the potential to transform the way we conduct clinical research. Take your level of understanding a step further and explore our other sessions including an industry perspective on good clinical practices (GCP) in relation to clinical trial site GCP audits and clinical trial compliance (CTC) inspections. Our attendees in this track will be able to gain real-world insights into the benefits and challenges of incorporating real-world data and real-world evidence into a whole range of decisions about clinical trials.
- **Pharmacovigilance:** As a new edition to our programming this year, our pharmacovigilance track will provide a comprehensive overview of Canada's regulatory environment in the field of clinical safety and pharmacovigilance for biopharmaceutical products and medical devices. Our pharmacovigilance track will kick off with an overview from representatives of various regulatory agencies, where they'll share lessons learned from COVID-19 and their thoughts on the future challenge of risk-management planning in a post-pandemic world. Subsequent sessions will cover topics such as good pharmacovigilance practices (GVP) inspections, post-market surveillance, the use of artificial intelligence in pharmacovigilance, and general data protection regulation (GDPR) and its implications.

## Who Should Attend

Professionals in pharmaceutical and device industries, regulatory agencies, and academia involved in:

- Clinical Data Management/eClinical
- Comparative Effectiveness/Health Technology Assessment
- Clinical Safety/Pharmacovigilance
- Clinical Research
- Document Management/eSubmissions
- Medical Communications
- Outsourcing
- Project Management
- Public Policy/Law/Corporate Compliance
- Quality Assurance Control
- Regulatory Affairs
- Research and Development
- Statistics

## SHORT COURSE | MONDAY, OCTOBER 18

Sessions held in ET

**9:30AM-12:30PM** **Short Course:** Introduction and Update on Eurasian Economic Union Regulatory Environment and Electronic Drug Registration Format *\*This course requires an additional registration fee.*

## DAY ONE | TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19

**10:00-11:00AM** **Opening Remarks and Plenary Session**

**11:00-11:15AM** Break

**11:15AM-12:30PM** **Session 1:** Concurrent Breakout Sessions  
**Track A:** Modernizations Initiatives: Advanced Therapeutic Products (ATPs)  
**Track B:** Canada's Approach to COVID-19 Vaccine Development and Approval  
**Track C:** Pharmacovigilance and Risk Management Post-Pandemic: Lessons Learned and Future Perspectives

**12:30-1:00PM** Break / Visit the Virtual Exhibit Hall

**1:00-2:15PM** **Session 2:** Concurrent Breakout Sessions  
**Track A:** Health Canada Activities in the Medical Devices Area During the COVID-19 Pandemic  
**Track B:** Clinical Trials Innovation in Canada  
**Track C:** Round Table on GVP Inspections

**2:15-2:45PM** **Exhibitor Event:** Coffee Corner hosted by i4i inc.: XML PM - Canada Joins the Growing Global Movement to Strengthen Patient Health and Safety Through More Structured Product Information - Separate RSVP required

**2:15-2:45PM** Break / Visit the Virtual Exhibit Hall

**2:45-4:00PM** **Session 3:** Concurrent Breakout Sessions  
**Track A:** Virtual Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) Inspections  
**Track C:** Post-Market Surveillance

## DAY TWO | WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20

**9:15-10:00AM** **Exhibitor Session:** Round Table Session Hosted by Innomar Strategies: Drug Submissions Relying on Third-Party Data/Literature Based Submissions for Prescribing Medicines: An Update - Separate RSVP required

**10:00-11:15AM** **Session 4:** Plenary – Bridging Gaps: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Drug

**11:15-11:30AM** Break / Visit the Virtual Exhibit Hall

**11:30AM-12:45PM** **Session 5:** Concurrent Breakout Sessions  
**Track A:** Improving Access to Pediatric Medicines and Formulations in Canada  
**Track B:** GCP Inspections: An Abbvie Case Study  
**Track C:** Utility of Artificial Intelligence in Pharmacovigilance

**12:45-1:15PM** Break / Visit the Virtual Exhibit Hall

**1:15-2:30PM** **Session 6:** Concurrent Breakout Sessions  
**Track A:** International Collaboration via the Access Consortium: Health Canada and Industry Perspective  
**Track B:** Real-World Data and Real-World Evidence  
**Track C:** General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and It's Implications

**2:30-3:00PM** Break / Visit the Virtual Exhibit Hall

**3:00-4:30PM** **Session 7:** Adapting Health Product Advertising Oversight to the Digital Environment and Closing Remarks

**4:30PM** Meeting Adjourns

## Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this meeting participants should be able to:

- Describe the current and evolving regulatory environment in Canada
- Summarize current methods used in clinical trials, patient engagement, and improving market access
- Discuss approaches on international harmonization, work sharing, and implementation of current guidelines
- Review the various levels of transparency needed to maintain compliance in pre- and post-market activities

**Track A:** Regulatory **Track B:** Clinical **Track C:** Pharmacovigilance

Sessions held in ET

## SHORT COURSE | MONDAY, OCTOBER 18

**9:30AM-12:30PM**

**Short Course:** Introduction and Update on Eurasian Economic Union Regulatory Environment and Electronic Drug Registration Format *\*This course requires an additional registration fee.*

### Instructor

**Christina Stavrinidis**, Senior Manager Regulatory Operations, Gilead Sciences, Ireland

From 31st December 2020, new marketing authorization applications for medicinal products to the Economic Area of Eurasia (EAEU) need to follow the electronic EAEU submission format. In addition, follow-up submissions must be compliant before 31st December 2025.

Therefore, pharmaceutical companies should start converting their existing approved EAEU applications into this new electronic format. Moreover, applications that do not yet have an existing approved EAEU application should now start their application directly in this new electronic format.

For these actions to occur it is essential to have a clear understanding of what the new electronic EAEU submission format entails. This session provides a general overview as well as highlight the key guidelines which underpin this new formatting structure. It will address the differences and similarities between the electronic EAEU format in comparison to the ICH eCTD format. Furthermore, it will look into the different validation options available as well as specifically address some of the key factors that must be taken into account to ensure a technically valid EAEU submission.

Throughout the session, I will also refer to my real-time experiences as Project Manager for various submission publishing projects highlighting some of the best practices that are recommended during a submission publishing project detailing how to go from electronic PDF documents to a valid eCTD submission.

### At the conclusion of this short course, participants should be able to

- Describe the general structure of an electronic EAEU submission
- Write the differences and similarities between the EAEU electronic submission format and the ICH eCTD format
- Outline aspects that are needed in order to publish technically compliant electronic EAEU submission

## DAY ONE | TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19

**10:00-11:00AM**

### Opening Remarks and Plenary Session

#### Session Chair

**Judith Mergl, MSc**, Director, Regulatory Affairs and Operational Services, AbbVie Corporation, Canada

The world around us is quickly changing. Emerging technologies are dramatically altering the health landscape, while health products are becoming ever more complex and personalized. This keynote will kick off the DIA Canada Annual Conference by discussing Health Canada's role as regulator in the face of the evolving health and biosciences ecosystem. Elizabeth Toller will speak to the key change drivers

behind this evolution, the need for greater regulatory agility in response, and the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The keynote address will be followed by a presentation on innovative global regulatory strategies using a case study that will provide practical regulatory recommendations on how to speed up drug development and reduce drug development costs while meeting high quality drug approval standards set by Health Authorities. A blueprint for product development with appropriate regulatory interactions will be shared followed by a discussion of regulatory incentives and pathways that may be leveraged for product development. At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to

**At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to:**

- Understand the key drivers of change in the health and biosciences sector requiring greater regulatory agility, and the impacts of COVID-19 on these change drivers
- Identify major obstacles in drug development and learn how to productively engage with Health Authorities (Health Canada, EMA and FDA) during global drug development to bring drugs to the market in an efficient manner

**Speakers**

**Elizabeth Toller, MA**, Associate Director General, Policy, Planning and International Affairs, Health Canada

**Oxana Iliach, PhD**, Senior Director Regulatory Strategy, Certara/Synchrogenix, Canada

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**11:00-11:15AM**

**Break / Visit the Virtual Exhibit Hall**

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**11:15AM-12:30PM**

**Session 1: Concurrent Breakout Sessions**

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**Track A: Modernizations Initiatives: Advanced Therapeutic Products (ATPs)**

**Session Chair**

**Samar Darwish, MSc, MBA**, Director Drug Regulatory Affairs, Boehringer Ingelheim, Canada

Products are becoming increasingly complex (e.g. AI, machine learning, advanced cell therapy, 3-d printed products), and many of these products are challenging the current regulatory system and need innovative and agile solutions to enable access to these products. These Advanced Therapeutic products (ATPs) are becoming a reality and several of these transformative therapies have been approved by major and mid-sized authorities.

In this session, you will hear from Health Canada on the progress of the implementation of the Advanced Therapeutic Products (ATP) pathway, the identification of ATP candidates and the timelines of implementation of the first pilot ATP pathway. In addition, you will learn from an industry perspective on what is different about cell and Gene therapies, their science, their benefits, and challenges, as well as the regulatory landscape impacting the future of these promising therapies. The session will conclude with a panel discussion and a Q&A session.

**At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to:**

- Recognize what makes cell and Gene therapies different from traditional therapies
- Discuss the opportunities and challenges of ATPs
- Describe the Health Canada proposed ATP pathway

**Advanced Therapeutic Products**

**Kenneth Joly, MS**, Policy Analyst, Office of Policy and International Collaboration, BRDD, Health Canada

**Cell and Gene Therapies/ATMPs: Where are We?**

**Chin Koerner, MS**, Executive Director, Regulatory Policy, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation

**Panelist**

**Nicole Mahoney, PhD**, Executive Director, Regulatory Policy and Intelligence, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation

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**Track B:** Canada's Approach to COVID-19 Vaccine Development and Approval**Session Co-Chairs****Deborah Danoff, MD**, Medical Evaluator, Health Canada**Fiona Frappier, PhD**, Senior Policy Analyst, Health Canada

The vaccine development, regulatory review and public health response to COVID-19 have been unprecedented. The innovation and regulatory life cycle frames all aspects of the introduction and revision of therapeutics in Canada. The COVID-19 epidemic has required many innovations to meet Canadian and worldwide needs. This has included a nimble approach to vaccine development and regulatory activities. This presentation provides an in depth perspective on these innovations. Discussion will include success, lessons learned and impact on regulations post pandemic. Using case studies, we will explore both the MAH and regulatory authority perspectives.

**At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to**

- Recognize the regulatory changes that permitted expedited approval of COVID-19 vaccines
- Learn about the impact (timing, resources, unexpected difficulties) of the regulatory changes
- Consider how these changes may inform future regulatory approaches

**Health Canada's Regulatory Response to COVID-19****Celia Lourenco, PhD**, Director General, Biologic and Radiopharmaceutical Drugs Directorate, HPFB, Health Canada**Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Overview****Aline Silahian, BPharm**, Associate Director Regulatory Affairs, Pfizer Canada, Inc., Canada**Speakers****Leslie Madden, MBA**, Head of Regulatory Affairs, Canada, Moderna**Ron Boch**, Vice President, Biotechnology, and Industry Affairs, BIOTECCanada

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**Track C:** Pharmacovigilance and Risk Management Post-Pandemic: Lessons Learned and Future Perspectives**Session Co-Chairs****Marilyne Chamoun, MSc**, Acting Manager, Marketed Pharmaceuticals Bureau, Health Canada**Patrick Fandja, MSc, MBA**, Director, Bureau of Biologics, Radiopharmaceuticals and Self-care Products, Health Canada

In this session, representatives from regulatory agencies (EMA, FDA and Health Canada) will discuss their perspectives on lessons learned from the pandemic, and how they will shape the future of pharmacovigilance and risk management planning.

**At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to**

- Gain a global understanding of the lessons learned from the pandemic
- Identify changes to PV/RM practices that should be adopted/considered post-pandemic

**Speakers****Kate Browne, MSc, RPh**, Signal Management Lead, European Medicines Agency, The Netherlands**Gerald Dal Pan, MD, MHS**, Director, Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology, CDER, FDA**Kelly Robinson, MSc**, Director General, Marketed Health Products Directorate, Health Canada

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**12:30-1:00PM****Break / Visit the Virtual Exhibit Hall**

**Track A:** Health Canada Activities in the Medical Devices Area During the COVID-19 Pandemic**Session Chair**

**Patrick Fandja, MSc, MBA**, Director, Bureau of Biologics, Radiopharmaceuticals and Self-care Products, Health Canada

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Health Canada introduced a number of innovative and agile regulatory measures to facilitate access of medical devices needed for COVID-19, to Canadians and healthcare workers. These measures cover the lifecycle of medical devices; clinical trials for COVID-19, In Vitro diagnostic testing devices for COVID-19, post-market surveillance, Medical Device Establishment Licences and Inspection. The objective of this session is to provide an overview of Health Canada's activities in the medical devices area during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to:**

- Outline Health Canada's activities in Clinical Trials and Post-market surveillance of COVID-19 devices
- Gain awareness of COVID-19 testing technologies approved by Health Canada
- Outline Health Canada's activities in Medical Establishment Licences and Inspection during COVID-19 Pandemic

**Clinical Trials and Post-market Surveillance of COVID-19 Medical Devices**

**Tanya Ramsamy, PhD**, Executive Director, Medical Device Directorate, Health Canada

**COVID-19 Testing Devices**

**Christine Leckie**, A/Executive Director, Medical Device Directorate, Health Canada

**Medical Devices Establishment Licenses and Inspections**

**Marie Odile N Gomis**, Manager, Regulatory Operations and Enforcement Branch, Health Canada

**Track B:** Clinical Trials Innovation in Canada**Session Co-Chairs**

**Fiona Frappier, PhD**, Senior Policy Analyst, Health Canada

**Mandy Collier**, Health Products and Food Branch, Health Canada

Clinical trials continue to try new and innovative approaches to improve trial outcomes and patient health, and the need to modernize the way we regulate these trials in Canada has become clear. This session will provide an overview of Health Canada's approach to modernization of clinical trial regulations, include case studies of how patients have contributed to resource development and describe how decentralized trials have the potential to transform the way we conduct clinical research. The objective of this session is to provide an overview of how industry, government and research organizations are aiming to modernize clinical development.

**At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to**

- Outline Health Canada's Clinical Trial Modernization Initiative
- Describe new approaches to decentralized trials
- Address patient considerations in improving clinical trials

**Health Canada's Approach to Clinical Trial Modernization**

**Carole Legare, MD**, Director, Office of Clinical Trials, TPD, Health Canada

**Engaging Patients and the Public with Clinical Trials: Two Case Studies to Demonstrate Resources and Tools to Help Your Work**

**Dawn Richards, PhD**, Director, Patient and Public Engagement, Clinical Trials Ontario, Canada

**Modernizing Clinical Trials Through the Global Adoption of Decentralized Clinical Trials**

**Scott Askin**, Global Program Regulatory Director, Innovation, Novartis Pharma AG, Switzerland

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**Track C:** Round Table on GVP Inspections**Session Chair****Agnes Jankowicz, MSc**, Executive Director, PV, Certus PV Services Inc., Canada

The Good Pharmacovigilance Practices (GVP) Inspection program is intended to verify that health product manufacturers meet the requirements of the Food and Drug Regulations pertaining to ADR reporting. In this session, you will learn from the Inspectorate about GVP inspection trends observed during the fiscal year 2020-2021 and on-going initiatives within the Program. In addition, you will also hear firsthand from an Industry perspective what to expect from a virtual GVP inspection and how to prepare for a GVP inspection.

**At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to**

- Identify most common inspection findings observed in recent Health Canada GVP inspections
- Understand what is expected during Health Canada GVP inspections
- Understand how to best prepare for a GVP inspection

**Speaker****Marc-André Giguère**, Senior Corporate Regulatory and Enforcement Advisor, Health Canada

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**2:15-2:45PM****BONUS SESSION:** Coffee Corner hosted by i4i inc.: XML PM – Canada Joins the Growing Global Movement to Strengthen Patient Health and Safety Through More Structured Product Information

Global Health authorities continue to develop new requirements for submissions throughout the product development lifecycle. Standards, pilots and initiatives are currently underway in all major markets and include, amongst others, SPL, XML PM, IDMP, PQ CMC, and ePI, many of which are leveraging XML technology to achieve their information exchange and interoperability goals. Health Canada is currently transitioning to the mandatory requirement for encoded product information in the new XML PM format to support the health and safety of Canadian families through improved product information.

**[Click here to RSVP](#)****Featured Topics:**

- Overview of global initiatives
- Benefits of structured product information
- Health Canada's initiative – XML PM

**Moderators:****Gilles Durot**, Senior Director, Global Life Sciences Solutions, i4i inc.**Jacqueline Bruner**, Senior Director, Encoding Technology, i4i inc.

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**2:15-2:45PM****Break / Visit the Virtual Exhibit Hall**

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**2:45-4:00PM****Session 3:** Concurrent Breakout Sessions**Track A:** Virtual Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) Inspections**Session Co-Chairs****Yatika Kohli, PhD, MBA**, Executive Director, Global Regulatory Affairs, NoNO Inc., Canada**Kristin Willemsen, MS**, Vice President Scientific and Regulatory Affairs, Food Health and Consumer Health Products of Canada

During COVID-19, Health Canada has made a variety of changes to the regulatory approval process. These changes include conducting remote (virtual) evaluations in lieu of on-site inspections and issuing electronic licenses, replacing the traditional paper-based license. This session will include a presentation from Health Canada with updates on the recent changes and practices and presentations from industry with their experience, challenges, and practices for preparing and conduct of virtual GMP inspections.

### At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to

- Understand Health Canada's current approach for Virtual inspections
- Gain awareness of the challenges of and preparing for and conduct of remote evaluations
- List the Do's and Don'ts of preparing for regulatory inspection- especially in a virtual environment

### Drug Product Compliance and Enforcement Post Pandemic

**Kim Godard, PhD**, Director, Health Product (Drug) Inspection and Licensing, Health Canada

**Melanie Bhangoo, MS**, Manager GMP Inspection Central, Health Canada

### Considerations for Preparing for a Virtual Inspection

**Trevor Aldridge**, Senior Director, Quality, and Compliance, Brevitas Consulting, Inc., Canada

### Preparing for a Pre-approval Inspection – A Case Study

**Michael Schunk, DVM**, Principal, Michael Schunk Biologics Consulting, Canada

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### Track C: Post-Market Surveillance

#### Session Co-Chairs

**Marcia Bailey, RN, BSN, MHS**, Associate Director, Pharmacovigilance Scientist, Sierra Oncology, Inc., Canada

**Caroline Croteau, PhD, RPh**, Country Safety Lead, Pfizer Canada Inc.

**Deborah Danoff, MD, FRCP**, Medical Evaluator, Health Canada

Post market surveillance requires close collaboration between industry and the regulatory authorities. To that end, Health Canada has reached out to industry to understand concerns related to proposed changes to Risk Management Plan requirements, with a focus on the Canadian addendum. At the same time, industry is exploring innovative methods to gain additional information and facilitate risk mitigation for newer therapies.

This session will explore approaches to post market surveillance from the perspectives of both industry and regulatory authorities.

#### By the end of this session, participants should be able to:

- Describe the extension of patient support programs to include both generics and brand name products
- Outline how extra solicited reports / patient support programs can mitigate risk
- Summarize key points in Health Canada data on industry perspectives on strengths and limitations of proposed revisions to guidance on risk management plans

### Pharmacovigilance Signal Detection and Information Monitoring for COVID-19 Vaccine Using Social Listening

**Manfred Hauben, MD, MPH**, Senior Director Product Safety Surveillance and Reporting, Pfizer Inc.

#### Speaker

**Paul Litowitz, MBA, RAQC**, Manager, Public and Regulatory Affairs Outreach Section, Health Products Surveillance and Epidemiology Bureau, Health Canada

## DAY TWO | WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20

9:15-10:00AM

**BONUS SESSION:** Round Table Session Hosted by Innomar Strategies: Drug Submissions Relying on Third-Party Data/Literature Based Submissions for Prescribing Medicines: An Update

This session will focus on literature- based submissions for new drugs in Canada and prescription medicines in Australia.



**Topics that will be covered are as follows:**

- Overview of process (similarities and differences between jurisdictions)
- Experience to date with illustrative case studies
- Considerations
- Future directions

[Click here to RSVP](#)

**Moderator**

**Mary Speagle**, Senior Director, Regulatory Affairs, TPIreg, a part of Innomar Strategies

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**10:00-11:15AM**

**Session 4:** Plenary – Bridging Gaps: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Drug

**Session Co-chairs**

**Marilyne Chamoun, MSc**, Acting Manager, Marketed Pharmaceuticals Bureau, Health Canada

**Samar Darwish, MSc, MBA**, Director, Drug Regulatory Affairs, Boehringer Ingelheim, Canada

Biological and social differences can impact the way that drugs function in different populations. Even when clinical trials include large and diverse samples, certain populations continue to be under-represented due to various reasons. This session will bring together the regulator, industry and other perspectives and will discuss challenges in ensuring equitable inclusion in clinical trials and potential solutions.

**At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to:**

- Describe Health Canada's Sex and Gender Based Analysis + (SGBA+) strategy
- Identify challenges related to the inclusion of a diverse population in drug development that takes into account differences related to sex, gender, age, ethnicity and vulnerable populations
- Discuss strategies, innovative approaches to improve representation and increase diversity and equity in drug development

**Speakers**

**Alysha Croker, PhD**, Manager, Office of Pediatrics and Patient Involvement, Health Canada

**RADM Richardea Araujo, DrMed, PharmD, MS**, Associate Commissioner for Minority Health, Director, Office of Minority Health, FDA

**Kaveeta Vasisht, PharmD, MD**, Associate Commissioner for Women's Health, Director of the Office of Women's Health, FDA

**Kim Fookes**, Global Head, Diversity and Inclusion in Clinical Trials, Novartis Pharmaceuticals

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**11:15-11:30AM**

**Break / Visit the Virtual Exhibit Hall**

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**11:30AM-12:45PM**

**Session 5:** Concurrent Breakout Sessions

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**Track A:** Improving Access to Pediatric Medicines and Formulations in Canada

**Session Chair**

**Patrick Fandja**, Director, Bureau of Biologics, Radiopharmaceuticals and Self-care Products, Health Canada

This session will bring together the industry, clinician and regulator to discuss the challenges and opportunities to improve access to the pediatric medicines and formulations in Canada.

**At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to:**

- Discuss lessons learned from regional policy reform that has shaped pediatric medicines development globally
- Discuss the opportunities and challenges related to pediatric formulations
- Outline Health Canada's initiatives aimed at improving access to pediatric medicines

### **The Role of Pediatric-focused Policies in Improving Access to Pediatric Medicines**

**Christina Bucci-Rechtweg, MD**, Global Head, Maternal Health and Pediatric Regulatory Policy, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation

### **Canada Needs a Pediatric Framework to Best Serve our Children**

**Andrea Gilpin, PhD, MBA, MS**, General Manager, The Rosalind and Morris Goodman Family Pediatric Formulations Centre, Canada

#### **Speaker**

**Alysha Croker, PhD**, Manager, Office of Pediatrics and Patient Involvement, Health Canada

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#### **Track B: GCP Inspections: An Abbvie Case Study**

##### **Session Chairs**

**Judith Mergl**, Director, Regulatory Affairs and Operational Services, AbbVie Corporation, Canada

Consistent with other jurisdictions, Health Canada inspects approximately 2% of all clinical trial sites in Canada on a yearly basis. The mandate of these onsite clinical trial site inspections ensures participants in clinical trials are not subjected to undue risks, data is generated appropriately per GCPs, appropriate complaints investigations, and compliance with Division 5 of the Food and Drug Regulations - Drugs for Clinical Trials. This session will highlight the differences between Clinical Trial site GCP and Clinical Trial Compliance Sponsors audits.

##### **At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to:**

- Distinguish between clinical trial site GCP audits and Sponsor CTC (Clinical Trial Compliance) inspections
- Gain and apply key learnings and insights from recent CTC inspections

##### **Insights from a Regulatory Monitoring Perspective**

**Amber McLeod, PhD**, Lead, Regulatory Affairs, AbbVie Corporation, Canada

##### **Insights from a Clinical Site Management and Monitoring Perspective**

**Reena Gill, MHP**, Senior Clinical Operations Manager, AbbVie Corporation, Canada

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#### **Track C: Utility of Artificial Intelligence in Pharmacovigilance**

##### **Session Chair**

**Caroline Croteau, PhD, RPh**, Country Safety Lead, Pfizer, Inc., Canada

Pharmaceutical companies are actively pursuing automated solutions to address the challenge of managing increasing volumes of safety-related data from multiple sources. Different Artificial Intelligence (AI) and technology tools – such as robotic process automation (RPA), and natural language processing (NLP) are being assessed and applied by different companies across the pharmacovigilance (PV) continuum. Validation of such applications remains an area of focus with interest from Regulatory Agencies worldwide. This session will provide an overview of the potential uses of AI in pharmacovigilance activities, provide concrete examples from the Pharma Industry as well as Health Canada's view on the topic and results from a survey conducted on this subject earlier this year.

##### **At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to:**

- Understand how AI can be leveraged in pharmacovigilance and define AI, RPA, and NLP
- Outline how pharma organizations are using AI as part of PV activities, including limitations and validation
- Understand Health Canada's regulatory perspective on applying AI to pharmacovigilance strategies

##### **Intelligent Automation Opportunities in Pharmacovigilance – The TranCelerate Group**

**Claudia Schaffer, RN**, Head Case and Vendor Management, Merck Healthcare KgaA, Germany

**Oeystein Kjoersvik**, Product Owner and Business Analyst, Merck & Co., Inc., Czech Republic

##### **Embrace Automation in Pharmacovigilance Experience**

**Bhavin Patel, PharmD, RPh**, Senior Director, Drug Safety, Pfizer, Inc.

### Applied Data Science in Modern Pharmacovigilance

**John Pietzsch, DrSc**, Head of PV Data Science and Insight Generation, Bayer AG, Germany

### Health Canada Regulatory Perspective and Industry Survey

**Marc-André Giguère**, Senior Corporate Regulatory and Enforcement Advisor, Health Canada

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12:45-1:15PM

### Break / Visit the Virtual Exhibit Hall

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1:15-2:30PM

### Session 6: Concurrent Breakout Sessions

**Track A:** International Collaboration via the Access Consortium: Health Canada and Industry Perspective

#### Session Co-Chairs

**Yatika Kohli, PhD, MBA**, Executive Director, Global Regulatory Affairs, NoNO Inc., Canada

**Mandy Collier**, Director, Health Products and Food Branch, Health Canada

This session will focus on the Australia, Canada, Singapore, Switzerland, and United Kingdom (Access) Consortium New Active Substance Work Sharing Initiative. Health Canada, on behalf of the Access Consortium regulatory partners, will share its experience and metrics to date, including perspectives on the strengths, challenges, and considerations for the future. The session will also include presentations on the industry's perspectives. Innovative Medicines Canada (IMC) will share the findings of its survey of members' experiences with submissions reviewed through this initiative. In addition, a specific case study will highlight the activities and timelines experienced by a company involved in the first Access Consortium four-way work-sharing initiative.

#### At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to

- Explain the goals of the Access Consortium New Active Substance Work Sharing Initiative (NASWSI) and its current status
- Understand the benefits, challenges, and opportunities of participation in the NASWSI from a regulator's perspective
- Gain awareness of the advantages, limitations, and recommendations to enhance participation in the NASWSI from an industry perspective

#### Speaker

**Jeffrey Skene, MSc**, Division Chief, Monoclonal Antibodies, Health Canada

#### Innovative Industry's Experience with ACCESS

**Laura King, MBA**, Head, Regulatory Affairs, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc., Canada

#### The First ACCESS (Formerly Known as ACSS) Consortium Four-Way New Active Substance Work Sharing Initiative (NASWSI) Experience

**Rose Mary Cianflone, MSc**, Regulatory Affairs Specialist, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc., Canada

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**Track B:** Real-World Data and Real-World Evidence

#### Session Chairs:

**Judith Mergl, MSc**, Director, Regulatory Affairs and Operational Services, AbbVie Corporation, Canada

In a market that is constantly adapting and adjusting to healthcare needs, real-world evidence (RWE) is increasingly becoming important for regulatory and reimbursement decision-making. RWE, in relation to the real-world data that is collected in combination with the advancement of artificial intelligence-based analytics platforms, has led to the real-time analysis of data to better understand and gain insights on disease, approaches to treatment, and how to substantiate coverage decisions. RWE is now becoming integrated throughout the product development lifecycle, and this session will explore new and innovative applications of RWE and provide insights through case examples and practical applications on how stakeholders are leveraging RWE to advance healthcare knowledge and decision-making. This session will provide a high-level overview of the evolving regulatory landscape for RWD/RWE from a Health Canada, CADTH, and industry perspective.

**At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to:**

- Gain a greater awareness of Health Canada's international collaborations in the COVID-19 space that are leveraging RWE and observational studies
- Provide an overview of premarket challenges with RWE as well as a high-level overview on details and limitations regarding some recent examples submitted by sponsors in the premarket setting
- Discuss "lessons learned" from current uses of RWE, and how these can be applied for other future HTA applications

**Post-Market Utilization of RWE at Health Canada: Progress to Date and International Collaborations Leveraging RWE for COVID-19**

**Melissa Kampman, PhD, MS**, Acting Manager and Senior Epidemiologist, Marketed Health Products Directorate, Health Canada

**Premarket RWE Examples and Challenges: Regulatory Perspective**

**Andrew Raven, MSc**, Manager for Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Pharmacometrics Unit, HPFB, Health Canada

**Speakers**

**Nicole Mittmann, PhD**, Chief Scientist and Vice President of Evidence Standards, Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH), Canada

**Yonghua Jing**, Senior Director/Team Lead, Real-World Evidence Analytics, AbbVie

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**Track C: General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and It's Implications**

**Session Chair**

**Marcia Bailey, RN, BSN, MHS**, Senior Manager, Pharmacovigilance, Sierra Oncology, Canada

Although this privacy and security law was passed by the European Union (EU) in 2018, GDPR affects organizations anywhere in the world that process the personal data of EU citizens or residents. GDPR violators can face significant fines and penalties, so aside from legal, dutiful, and reputational obligations to protect patient data, there are also strong financial incentives for enterprises to be GDPR compliant. This session aims to provide insights and considerations on how to maintain GDPR compliance.

**At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to**

- Summarize the purpose of GDPR
- Identify what is required for an organization to be GDPR Compliant
- Describe GDPR implications in clinical trials (verbal patient consent, data collection from patients/vendors/sites)
- Recognize potential GDPR issues concerning clinical trials and retrospective studies

**GDPR and It's Impact on Running Clinical Trials in the EU**

**Bradley Norton**, Managing Director and Senior Consultant, MWB Consulting Limited/Pharma Data Protection Services, United Kingdom

**GDPR in Clinical Trials: Major Points to Consider and Practical Examples**

**Carmen DiMarino, JD**, Executive Director, Assistant General Counsel, Europe, Zogenix International Limited, United Kingdom

**Panelist**

**Samuel Allan**, GDPR Consultant, MWB Consulting Limited/Pharma Data Protection Services, United Kingdom

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**2:30-3:00PM**

**Break / Visit the Virtual Exhibit Hall**

**Session 7: Adapting Health Product Advertising Oversight to the Digital Environment and Closing Remarks****Session Chair**

**Kristin Willemssen, MS**, Vice President, Scientific and Regulatory Affairs, Food, Health and Consumer Health Products Canada, Canada

Misinformation is becoming a threat to public health and the healthcare system, particularly given the prevalence of inaccurate health information online. Given Canadians and healthcare practitioners are increasingly seeking out digital information about health products to inform choices, how can Health Canada keep up and enforce against misleading health product information online? In this session, you will hear from the Marketed Health Products Directorate about how they modernized policies and regulatory oversight, and tools and processes to adapt to the digital environment. These initiatives are intended to increase compliance and enforcement of the Food and Drugs Act, the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act and their associated regulations. Opportunities to further improve oversight will also be discussed.

**At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to:**

- Apply the revised policy that distinguishes between promotional and non-promotional messages to digital forms of communication
- Identify how Health Canada harnessed artificial intelligence to increase surveillance and enforce against misleading COVID claims, and how this new process is being piloted to address misleading NHP advertising
- Anticipate future measures to improve oversight of health product advertising and promotions

**Overview of Distinction Policy**

**Alain Musende, PhD**, Manager, Section for Transparency and Advertising Regulatory Surveillance, Marketed Health Products Directorate, Health Canada

**Taking Action on Misleading COVID-19 Related Claims**

**Rim Lejmi Mrad, PhD**, Supervisor, Section for Transparency and Advertising Regulatory Surveillance, Marketed Health Products Directorate, Health Canada

**Meeting Adjourns**