

# EFFECTIVENESS OF RISK MINIMIZATION ACTIVITIES (RMAS)

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## RISK MINIMIZATION MEASURES

*An intervention intended to prevent or reduce the probability of the occurrence of an adverse reaction associated with the exposure to a drug product or to reduce its severity should it occur, including the evaluation of the effectiveness of these activities (the 'risk minimization plan')*

## RISK MINIMIZATION MEASURES

Rationale: Why is a RMM required?

Objectives: How and which safety concern is addressed with the proposed additional risk minimization measure(s)?

Description: What will be the additional risk minimization measures and what tools will be used?

Implementation: How will additional risk minimization measures be implemented

Evaluation: How will the effectiveness of additional risk minimization measures be evaluated (process and overall health outcome measures).

## FACTORS TO CONSIDER IN THE SELECTION OF RMM

- Seriousness of the potential adverse reaction(s)
- Severity (impact on patient)
- Preventability
- Clinical actions required to mitigate the risk
- Indication
- Route of administration
- Target population
- Healthcare setting for the use of the product



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## RISK MINIMIZATION MEASURES

**What "tools" would be used to manage risk?**

- What is known about the effectiveness of currently applied RM tools?
- How do they relate to each other?


**Who will be responsible for managing the risks? Defining roles and responsibilities of:**

- Manufacturers
- Healthcare providers/systems
- Consumers
- Regulators

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## RISK MINIMIZATION MEASURES. ROUTINE & ADDITIONAL RMM

- Routine risk minimization measures include:**
  - the label, e.g. summary of product characteristics (SmPC), USPI
  - the package leaflet
  - the pack size and design
  - the legal (prescription) status of the product
- Additional RMM**
  - educational programs
  - controlled access programs
  - other risk minimization measures



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## RISK MINIMIZATION MEASURES

**Routine RMM – generally applies to every drug product**

Package insert/leaflet/labeling


Examples:

- performing a test before the start of treatment;
- monitoring of laboratory parameters during treatment;
- monitoring for specific signs and symptoms;
- adjusting the dose or stopping the treatment when adverse events are observed or laboratory parameters change;
- performing a wash-out procedure after treatment interruption;
- providing contraception recommendations;
- prohibiting the use of other medicines while taking the product;
- treating or preventing the risk factors that may lead to an adverse event of the product;
- recommending long-term clinical follow-up to identify in early stages delayed adverse events

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## RISK MINIMIZATION MEASURES

- Additional RMM – suggested when essential for the safe and effective use of the drug product**
  - Education program
  - Controlled access program
  - Patient alert cards
  - Healthcare professional communication



## ATTRIBUTES OF ADDITIONAL PV ACTIVITIES

	Type of activity	In annex II of MA (CAPs only)	Study category (PhV plan)	Status	Supervised under	
					Article 107m	Article 107 n-ii
Imposed PASS	"Interventional"	Yes, in annex IID	1	Mandatory and subject to penalties	No	No
	Non-interventional	Yes, in annex IID			Yes	Yes
Specific obligation	"Interventional"	Yes, in annex IIE	2	Mandatory and subject to penalties	No	No
	Non-interventional	Yes, in annex IIE			Yes	Yes
Required	"Interventional"	No	3	Legally enforceable	No	No
	Non-interventional	No			Yes	No

## RISK MINIMIZATION MEASURES

### 1. Educational Program

- For HCP: e.g. Prescribing Guide/checklist; Safety Guide
- For Patients/Caregivers: e.g. Alert Card; Reminder Card

### 2. Controlled Access Program

- Access subject to compliance with specific RMPs applied at the level of prescribing, dispensing, or use of a medicinal product, e.g.
- Specific testing and/or examination of the patient to ensure compliance with strictly defined clinical criteria
- Patient enrolment in a registry

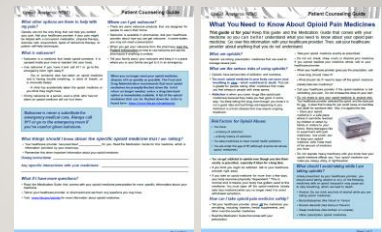
### 3. Pregnancy prevention program

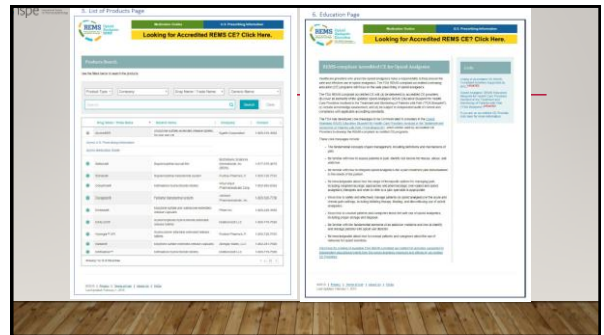
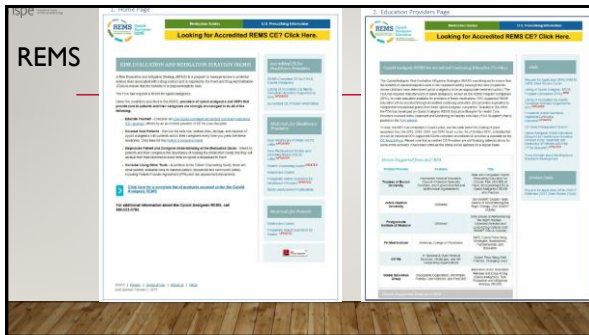
- A set of interventions to prevent pregnancy during treatment with a product with potential/known teratogenicity
- Male fertility interventions may involve the father

## EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

- Focus: Risk(s) related to the product and the management of those risk(s)
  - Guidance on:
    - Prescribing, including patient selection, testing and monitoring;
    - Management of risks (to healthcare professionals and patients or caregivers);
    - Guidance on how and where to report adverse reaction of special interest.
  - Example: FDA's Opioid Analgesic REMS Education Blueprint for Health Care Providers Involved in the Treatment and Monitoring of Patients with Pain
- <https://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/DrugSafety/InformationbyDrugClass/UCM620249.pdf>

## EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL FOR PATIENTS





### EDUCATIONAL TOOLS TARGETING HCPS

- Selection of patients
- Treatment management such as dosage, testing and monitoring
- Special administration procedures, or the dispensing of a medicinal product
- Details of information which needs to be given to patients

### EDUCATIONAL TOOLS TARGETING PATIENTS/CAREGIVERS

**Patient alert card**

- Aim: To ensure that special information regarding the patient's current therapy and its important risks (e.g. potential life-threatening interactions with other therapies) is held by the patient at all times and reaches the relevant healthcare professional when needed.

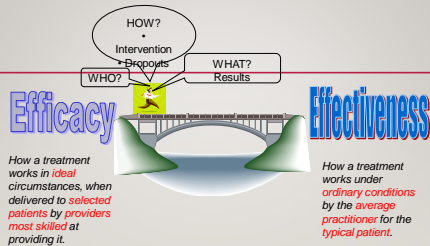


## DIRECT HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION (DHPC) OR DEAR DOCTOR LETTER

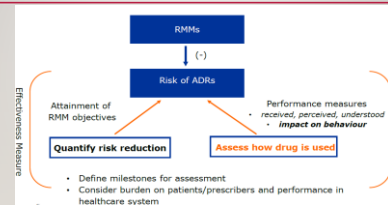
- Communication intervention by which important information is delivered directly to individual healthcare professionals by a marketing authorization holder or by a competent authority, to inform them of the need to take certain actions or adapt their practices in relation to a medicinal product

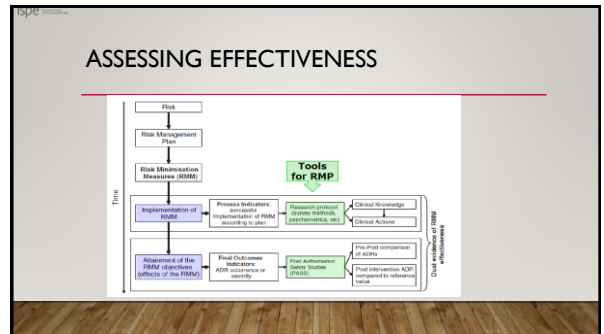


## IS THE RMA EFFECTIVE?



## HOW TO ASSESS EFFECTIVENESS?





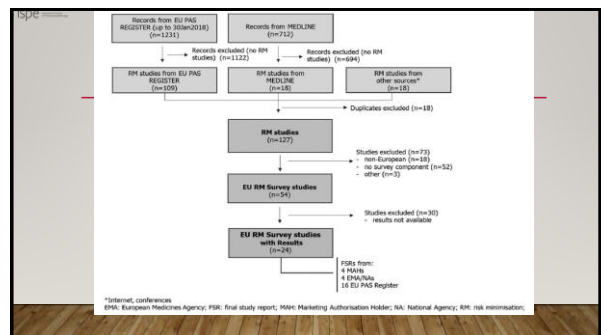
# ARE RISK MINIMIZATION MEASURES FOR APPROVED DRUGS IN EUROPE EFFECTIVE? A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

**Objectives:** The effectiveness of risk minimization measures (RMMs) requires evaluation. This study aims to evaluate the results of cross-sectional surveys assessing the effectiveness of RMMs in Europe (EU RM Surveys) and review the regulatory consequences.

**Methods:** The authors searched for study reports and manuscripts of completed EU RM surveys in the EU PAS Register, MEDLINE, and Google between 01/2011 and 01/2018. Regulatory responses were extracted from Assessment Reports. Random effects models to combine proportions were used.

**Results:** Twenty-four EU RM surveys were identified. Twenty-three studies targeted health-care professionals (HCPs). The pre-specified sample size was reached in 52% of studies. HCP participation was 5% defined as completers/invited and 58% for completers/eligible. Receipt of materials was recalled by 60% of HCPs and 77% of items scored knowledge >60%. Eight studies targeted patients/caregivers. The pre-specified sample size was reached in only two. Participation was 93%, defined as completers/eligible. Materials were received by 50–80% of patients and read by over 90%. Patients only scored knowledge >60% in 38% of items. Further action was requested by regulators in 59% of studies.

**Conclusion:** Surveys necessary to evaluate many RMMs. Challenges remain in the design, conduct, and reporting of these studies which may benefit from the use of standard definitions and further guidance on reporting.



Characteristics	Included Studies (N=24) n (%)	Excluded Studies (N=30) n (%)	P value
<b>Type of RMM</b>			
Baseline	2 (8.3)	1 (3.3)	0.84
Additional (i.e. aRMM)	22 (91.7)	29 (96.7)	
Patient cards	7 (29.2)	13 (44.8)	
DMFC	8 (33.4)	5 (17.2)	
HCP Brochure/Leaflet/Guide	15 (62.5)	20 (69.0)	0.35
Patient Brochure/Leaflet/Guide	4 (16.7)	20 (69.0)	
<b>Timing of aRMM</b>	N = 22		
At launch	10 (45.5)	17 (58.6)	
After launch	1 (4.5)	2 (6.9)	0.15
At extension of indication / new formulation	4 (18.2)	1 (3.4)	
After label changes / signal / restriction of indication	7 (31.8)	9 (31.0)	
<b>Drug Approval Procedure</b>			
Central Approval	17 (70.8)	27 (90.0)	0.15
National Approval	7 (29.2)	3 (10.0)	
<b>Study Requested by Regulator</b>			
Yes	18 (75.0)	24 (80.0)	0.91
No / Unspecified	6 (25.0)	6 (20.0)	
<b>Study Category</b>			
Cat 1 or Cat 2 (Imposed by regulator)	3 (12.5)	3 (10.7)	0.99
Cat 3 (Imposed in Risk Management Plan)	11 (45.8)	25 (89.3)	
Missing	10	2	
<b>Study Design</b>			
Observance survey	21 (87.5)	25 (83.3)	0.64
Multi-wave survey	3 (12.5)	3 (10.0)	
Pre/Post survey	0	1 (3.3)	
Other	0	1 (3.3)	

Characteristics	Included Studies (N=24) n (%)	Excluded Studies (N=30) n (%)	P value
<b>Study Population</b>			
Clinical Specialists	22 (91.7)	17 (56.7)	<0.01
Primary care physicians	14 (58.3)	2 (6.7)	
Nurses	5 (20.8)	4 (13.3)	
Pharmacists	6 (25.0)	3 (10.0)	
Patient/Caregivers	8 (33.3)	9 (30.0)	
Physicians unspecified	0	7 (23.3)	
<b>No. Target Participating Countries</b>			
1 - 5	9 (37.5)	19 (63.3)	0.17
6 - 10	12 (50.0)	9 (30.0)	
>10	3 (12.5)	2 (6.7)	
Mean (SD)	7.1 (3.2)	5.5 (2.7)	
<b>Number of Safety Concerns</b>			
1 - 5	19 (79.2)	19 (67.9)	0.31
6 - 10	3 (12.5)	8 (28.6)	
>10	2 (8.3)	1 (3.6)	
Missing	0	2	
Median (Q1-Q3)	2.5 (1.0 - 5.0)	3.0 (1.0 - 7.5)	
<b>Pre-specified criteria for success</b>			
Yes	7 (29.2)		
Knowledge and/or behavior - Majority	3 (42.9)		
Knowledge and/or behavior - >80%	3 (42.9)		
Knowledge - 70%	1 (14.3)		
Receipt - 50%	1 (14.3)		
Use - 35%	1 (14.3)		
Unspecified	17 (70.8)		

