

# eCTD implementation: steps for success industry perspective & implementation in EU - necessary level of infrastructure development.

## Lessons learned and how to optimize the resources

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Chair, EFPIA eCTD Focus Group



# About me

- \* Alastair Nixon
- \* Regulatory Submissions, GlaxoSmithKline
  - \* 20 years in electronic dossiers, global role
- \* Chair, EFPIA eCTD Focus Group
  - \* Implementation of electronic dossiers in Europe
  - \* Monitoring and understanding the global environment with respect to electronic standards for regulatory information

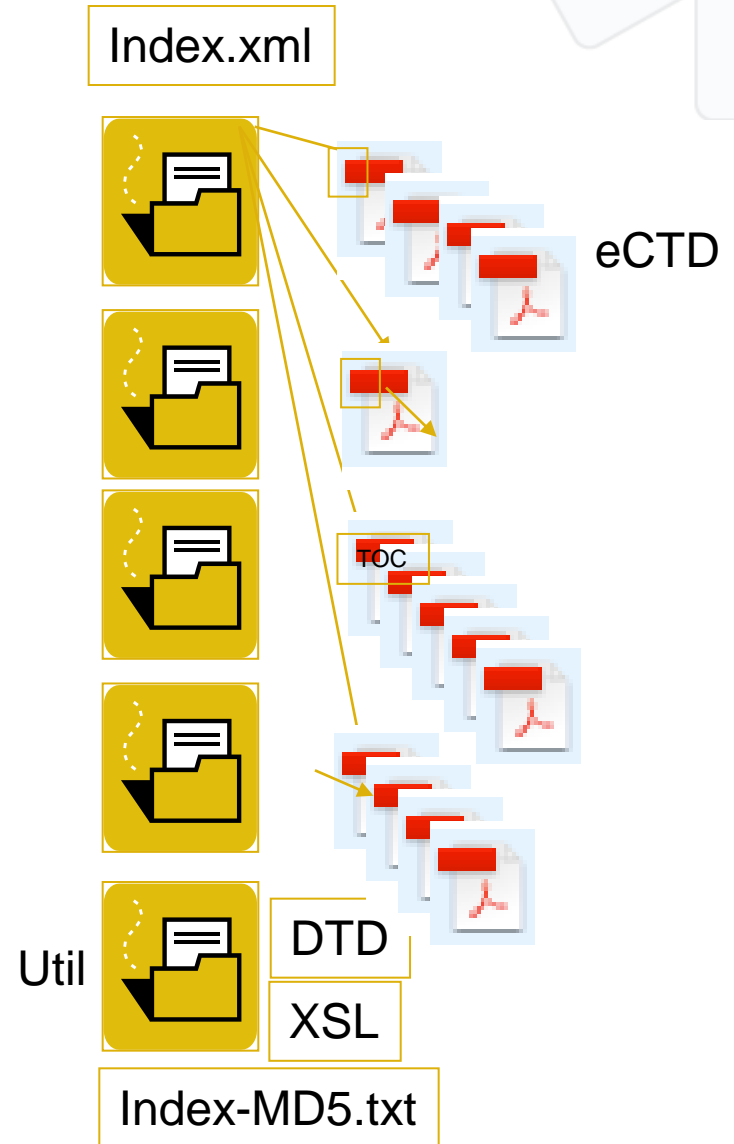
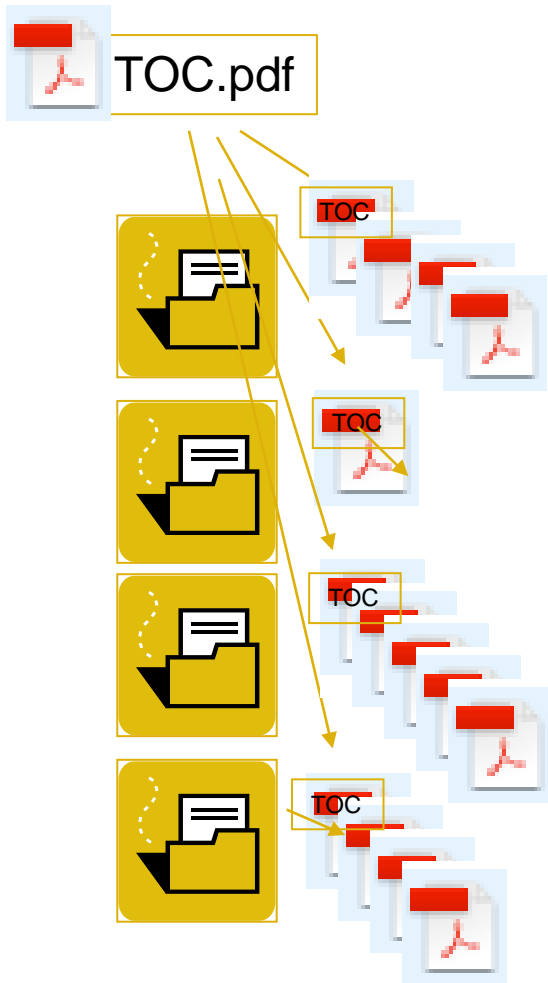
# Agenda

- \* eCTD introduction
- \* eCTD Lifecycle
- \* Global use of the ICH eCTD
- \* Modules 2-5
- \* Regional part – module 1
- \* eCTD Adoption
  - \* EFPIA experience
  - \* Timelines
  - \* Maintenance
- \* Overall EFPIA Recommendations

# ICH eCTD The Basics



# eSubmission vs eCTD



# ICH eCTD – Organisation (M4) and Key concepts

- ▼ 0000
  - > m1
  - ▼ m2
    - 22-intro
    - 23-qos
    - 24-nonclin-over
    - 25-clin-over
    - 26-nonclin-sum
    - 27-clin-sum
  - ▼ m3
    - > 32-body-data
    - 33-lit-ref
  - ▼ m4
    - > 42-stud-rep
    - 43-lit-ref
  - ▼ m5
    - 52-tab-list
    - > 53-clin-stud-rep
    - 54-lit-ref
  - > util

- \* PDF file naming and location
  - \* But not critical with good navigation
- \* Navigation (see above)
- \* Controlled vocabularies (application types, submission types) – can be regional
- \* Context of use – this document relates to e.g. manufacturer, product
- \* Lifecycle – what is current (not yet deleted or replaced)?

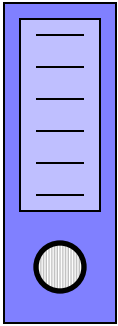
# eCTD Lifecycle Management



# eCTD Lifecycle Management

- Sequences
  - All eCTDs have a four digit sequence number
  - Start at 0000
  - Any change to eCTD content is submitted as the next sequence
  - You only submit what has changed – not the whole MAA!
- Operation Attribute
  - For each document submitted, the operation attribute describes its lifecycle status
    - **New** – first time this document has been seen in eCTD
    - **Append** – read in conjunction with a previously submitted eCTD document
    - **Replace** – use this instead of a previously submitted eCTD document
    - **Delete** – delete this document – no longer relevant

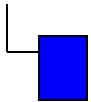
MAA



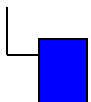
m1



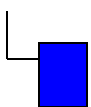
m2



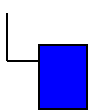
m3



m4



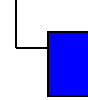
m5



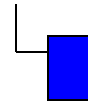
Cumulative



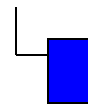
m1



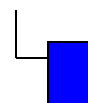
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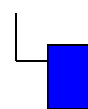
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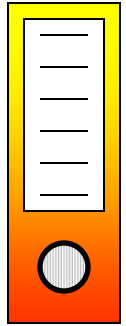
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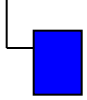
m5



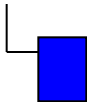
Current



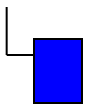
m1



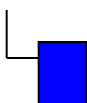
m2



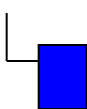
m3



m4

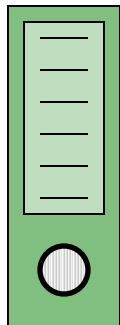
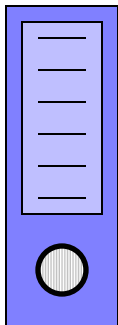


m5



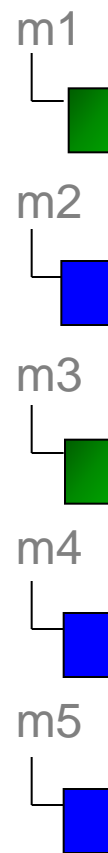
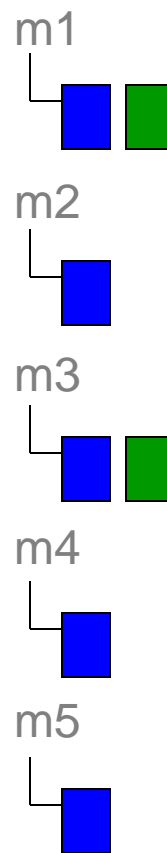
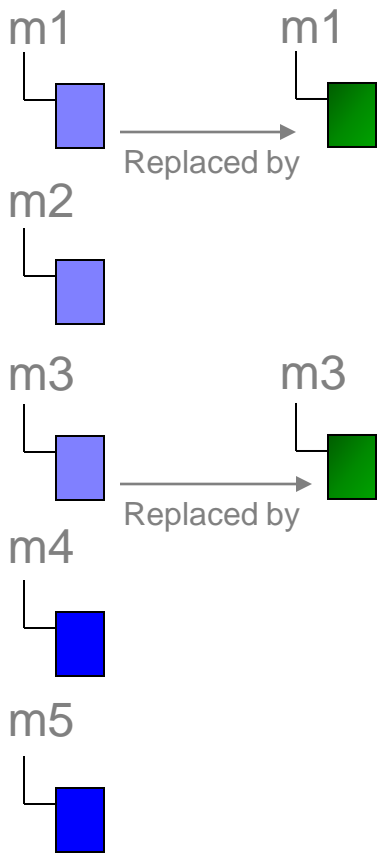
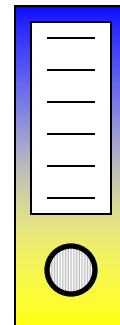
MAA

Var 1 (CMC)



Cumulative

Current

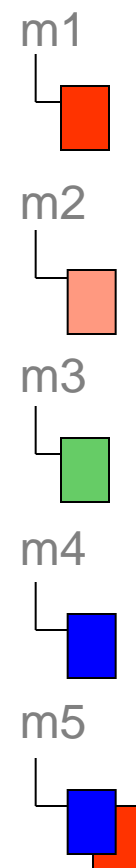
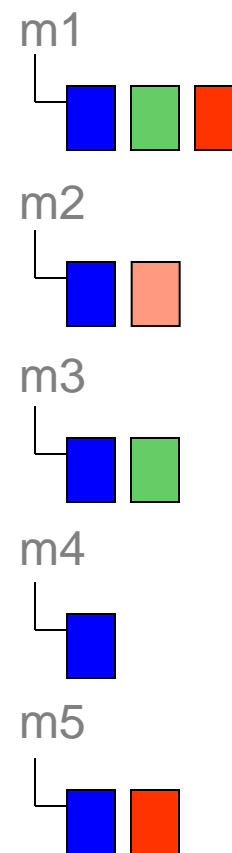
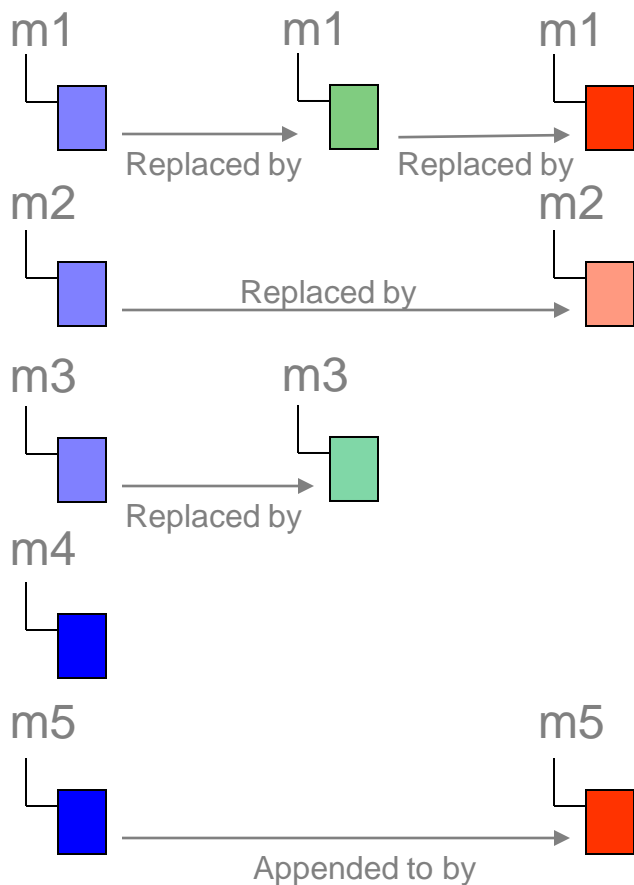
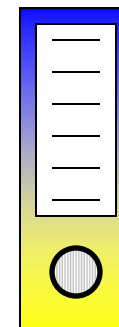
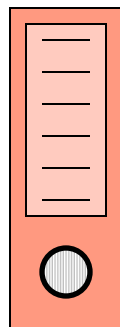
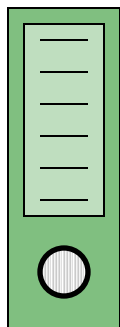
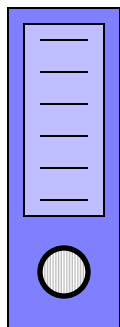


MAA

Var 1 (CMC)

Cumulative

Current

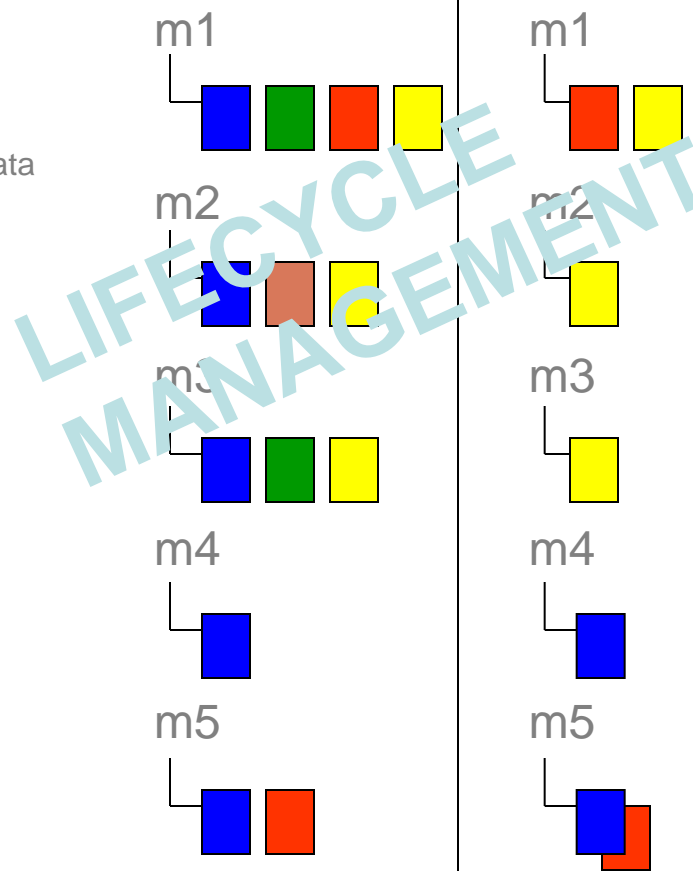
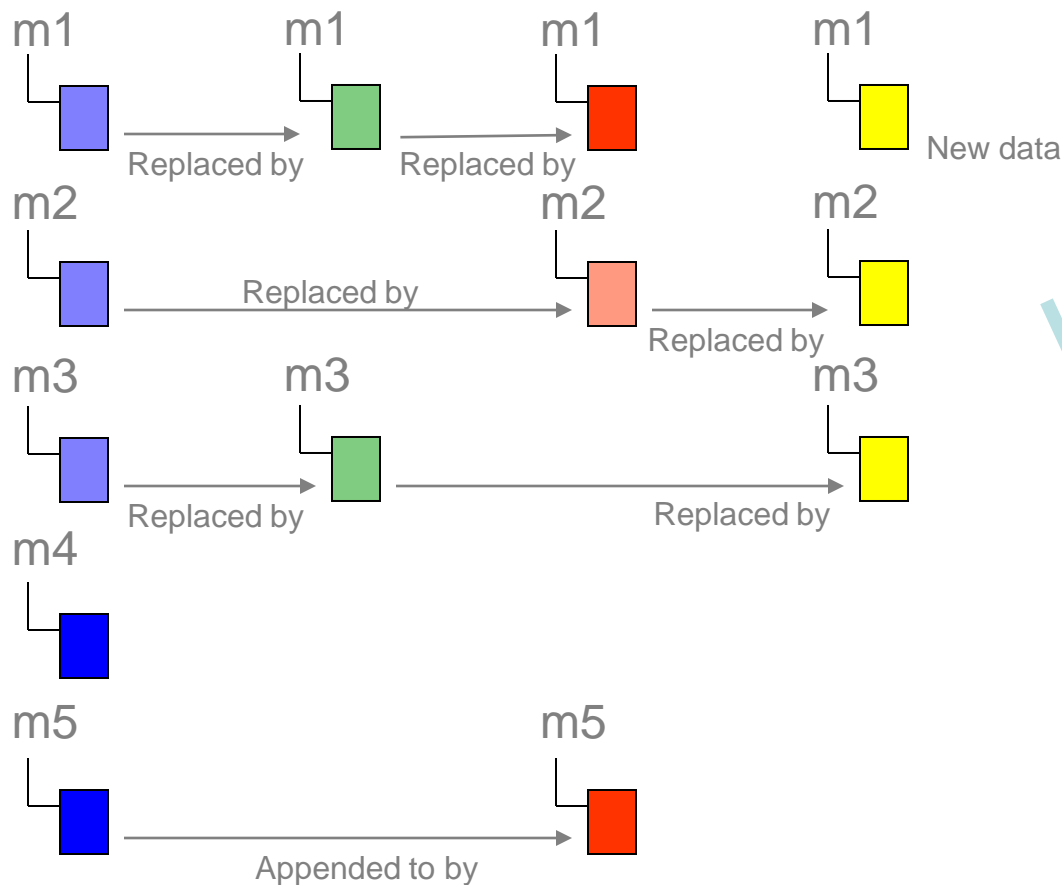
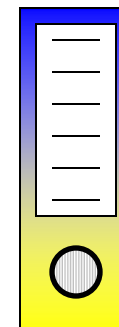
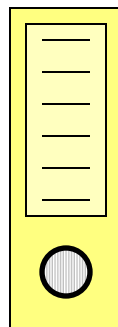
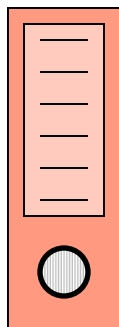
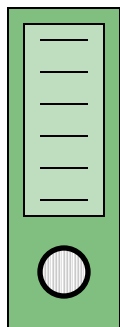
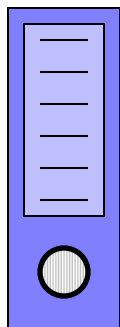


MAA

Var 1 (CMC)

Cumulative

Current



# eCTD and Lifecycle Management

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- Manual creation of Cumulative and Current dossiers would be a laborious and repetitive task
  - Manual updates following each submission
- eCTD specification allows viewing tools to derive them as **Views**
  - **Sequence View** i.e. separate conventional Dossiers
  - **Cumulative View** i.e. everything in one Dossier
  - **Current View** i.e. most recent in one Dossier

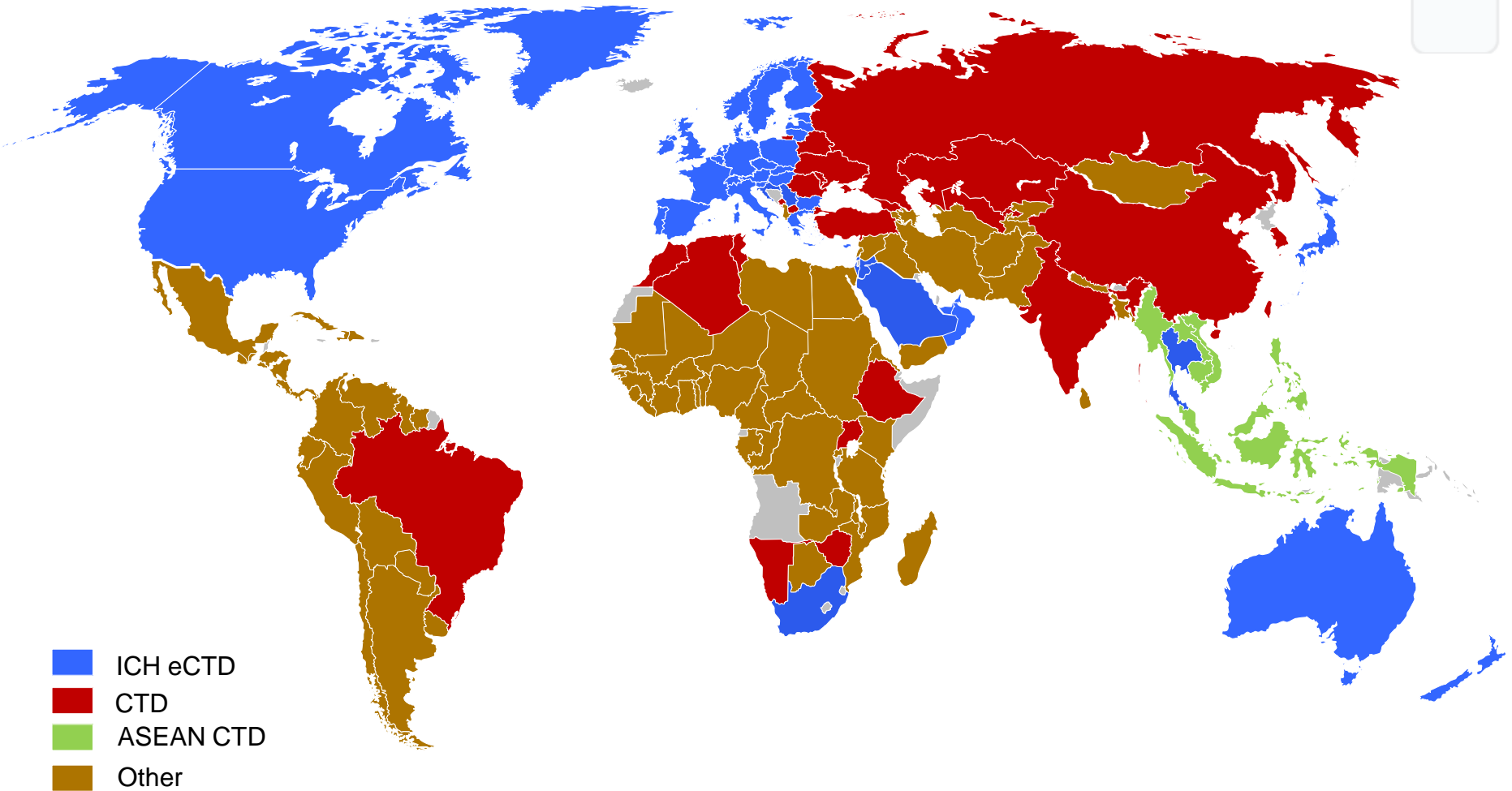
# Global eCTD Adoption

An EFPIA view, October 2019



# ICH CTD and eCTD Scope October 2019

## One Company's View



## Established eCTD Regulators

- \* US FDA, Health Canada, Japan PMDA – >10-15 years experience, eCTD mandated
- \* EU – eCTD Mandated for Centralised procedure from 2009, MR/DCP from 2018, all others from 2019
- \* Switzerland – eCTD since 2010 but still accept electronic alternative (eDOK)
- \* Gulf Cooperation Council – GCC Specifications and guidance from 2011, mandatory Saudi Arabia, UAE, Oman, Bahrain - eCTD since 2014, baselines mandatory (only region globally)
- \* Thailand – eCTD since 2015, new chemical entities

# Timeline, Newly Adopting Countries

	Q2 2019	Q3 2019	Q4 2019	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	
EAEU	* XML Submission Mandatory						
Jordan	* eCTD Mandatory for new			* eCTD Mandatory for All?			
Qatar	← eCTD for Renewal (with baseline) →				* eCTD Mandatory for All?		
China	← * eCTD Pilots →				} * Timelines for eCTD Mandatory not clear		
Turkey				* Planned EFPIA Meeting with TITCK			
Brazil	<--Tender--> * Contract to vendor						
Australia				* eCTD Mandatory for ext?		* eCTD Mandatory for All?	
Taiwan	← eCTD Specification Development →			← Build system →		Live '21 →	

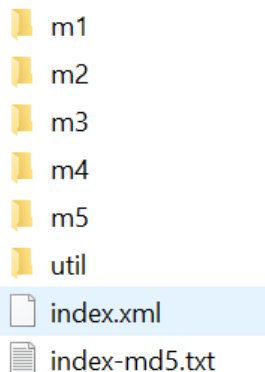
*\* Timelines for eCTD Mandatory not clear*

# Modules 2-5 in the ICH eCTD

Regional Specifications



# Modules 2-5 ICH eCTD



- \* m2 - 2-7-3-summary-of-clinical efficacy
  - \* Indication
- \* m3 – 3.2.S Drug Substance
  - \* Substance
  - \* Manufacturer
- \* m3 – 3.2.P Drug Product
  - \* Product
  - \* Manufacturer
  - \* Dosage form
- \* m5-3-5-reports-of-efficacy-and-safety-studies
  - \* Indication

# Module 1 in the ICH eCTD

Regional Specifications



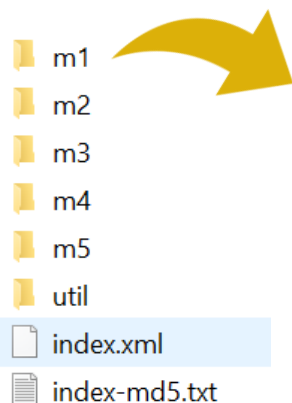
- m1-administrative-information-and-prescribing-information
  - [eu-regional](#) [new] ←
- m2-common-technical-document-summaries
  - m2-2-introduction
    - [Introduction](#) [new]
  - m2-3-quality-overall-summary
    - m2-3-introduction
      - [Introduction](#) [new]
    - m2-3-s-drug-substance [manufacturer: 3rd-Party] [substance]
      - [Drug Substance](#) [new]
    - m2-3-p-drug-product [manufacturer: gsk] [product name: Gel]
      - [Drug Product](#) [new]
    - m2-3-a-appendices
      - [Appendices](#) [new]
    - m2-3-r-regional-information
      - [Regional Information](#) [new]
  - m2-4-nonclinical-overview
    - [Nonclinical Overview](#) [new]
  - m2-5-clinical-overview
    - [Clinical Overview](#) [new]
  - m2-6-nonclinical-written-and-tabulated-summaries
    - m2-6-1-introduction
      - [Introduction](#) [new]
    - m2-6-2-pharmacology-written-summary
      - [Pharmacology Written Summary](#) [new]
    - m2-6-3-pharmacology-tabulated-summary
      - [Pharmacology Tabulated Summary](#) [new]
    - m2-6-4-pharmacokinetics-written-summary
      - [Pharmacokinetics Written Summary](#) [new]
    - m2-6-5-pharmacokinetics-tabulated-summary

etc etc.....

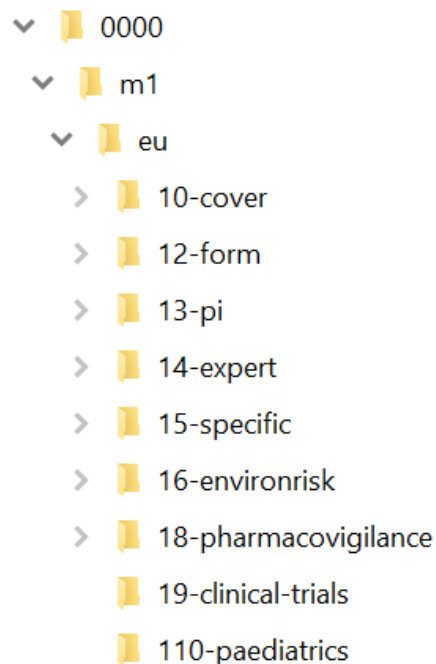
Link to the  
regional Table  
of Contents

The  
ICH  
CTD

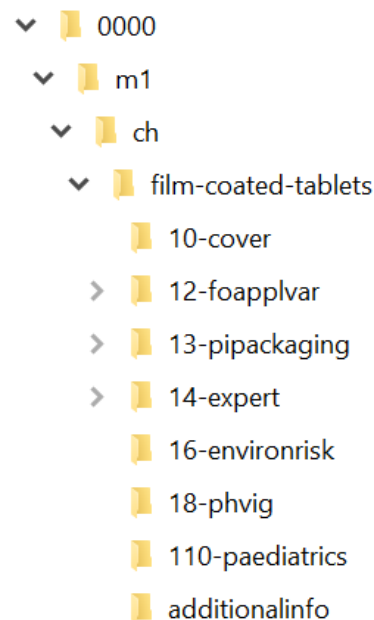
# ICH eCTD Structure



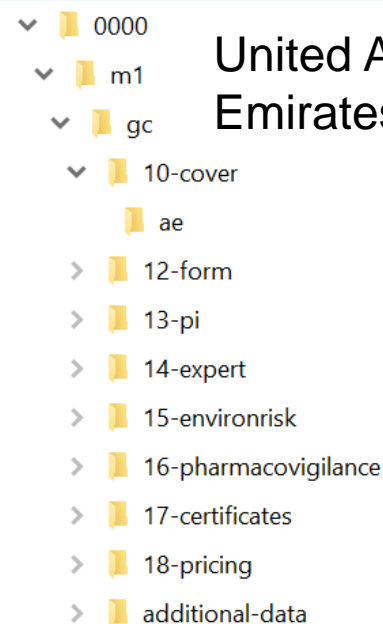
## European Union



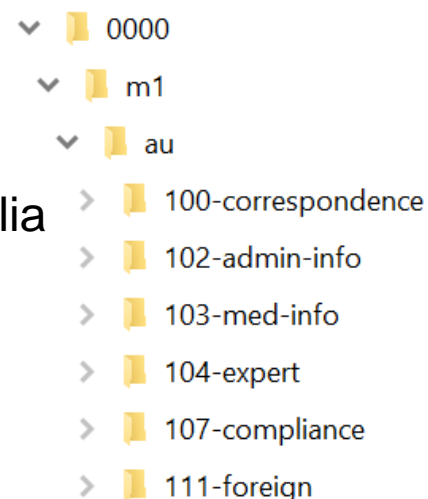
## Switzerland



## United Arab Emirates



## Australia



# EU Module 1

DTD version 3.0.1

## Envelope for EMA

Identifier: badfcc2-cf51-4be7-b15f-24749a4929f1  
Submission: Type: Marketing Authorisation  
Number: H0004102  
Procedure Tracking Number(s): H0004102  
Submission Unit: Type: Initial submission to start any regulatory activity  
Applicant: GlaxoSmithKline  
Agency: EMA - European Medicines Agency (EU-EMA)  
Procedure: Centralised  
Invented Name: Dectova  
INN: zanamivir  
Sequence: 0000  
Related Sequence: 0000  
Submission Description: Marketing Authorisation Application for Dectova

## Module 1 EU

### 1.0 Cover Letter

For EMA:

- [Cover Letter](#) (new)
- [Notes to Reviewer](#) (new)
- [Notes of EMA Pre-submission Meeting](#) (new)
- [Notes of NoMA Pre-submission Meeting](#) (new)
- [Notes of MHRA Pre-submission Meeting](#) (new)
- [FDA Scientific Advice](#) (new)
- [Investigators Table - NAI114373](#) (new)

# GCC Module 1

DTD version 1.1

## Envelope for BH

Application	
Reference Number:	n/a
Applicant:	GlaxoSmithKline
Agency:	BAHRAIN - Ministry of Health (BH-MOH)
ATC:	PO2CA03
Submission:	None
Submission unit:	Reformatting of an existing submission application from any format to eCTD
Procedure:	National Procedure
Invented Name:	Zentel
INN:	Albendazole
Sequence:	0000
Related Sequence:	
Submission	
Description:	Baseline

## Module 1

### 1.0 Cover Letter

For BH:

- [Cover Letter](#) (new)

### 1.2 Application Form

For BH:

- [Application Form](#) (new)

# AU Module 1

Schema version 3.0  
Style sheet version 3.0

eSubmission Id:	e000026
Applicant:	ViiV Healthcare Pty Ltd
AAN:	dolutegravir
Product Name:	Tivicay
ARTG Number:	205212
Sequence Type:	J - PI Change requiring evaluation
Regulatory Activity Lead :	Prescription
Sequence:	0000
Related Sequence:	0000
Sequence Description:	Initial

## Module 1 AU

### 1.0 Correspondence

#### 1.0.1 Cover letter

- [Cover Letter](#) (new)
- [Media statement](#) (new)

#### 1.0.2 Lifecycle management tracking table

- [Lifecycle management tracking table](#) (new)

#### 1.0.3 Response to request for information

### 1.2 Administrative Information

# CH MODULE 1

DTD VERSION 1.1

Envelope for **CH**

Application Number:	<b>pending</b>
Submission Description:	Initial Marketing Authorisation
Invented Name:	<b>Eperzan</b>
Galenic Form:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Powder and solvent for solution for injection in pre-filled pen</b> Swissmedic Number: <b>pending</b> Galenic Name: German: <b>Pulver und Lösungsmittel zur Herstellung einer Injektionslösung in einem Fertigpen</b>
DMF Number:	<b>n/a</b>
PMF Number:	<b>n/a</b>
INN:	<b>Albiglutide</b>
Applicant:	<b>GlaxoSmithKline</b>
DMF Holder:	<b>n/a</b>
PMF Holder:	<b>n/a</b>
Agency:	<b>Swissmedic</b>
Submission:	<b>New Application: New Active Substance(na-nas)</b>
Paragraph 13 TPA:	<b>no</b>
eCTD Sequence:	<b>0000</b>
Related eCTD Sequence:	<b>none</b>

Module 1

☒ **Powder and solvent for solution for injection in pre-filled pen**

- 1.0 Cover Letter  
[ch cover \(new\)](#)
- 1.2 Application for Marketing Authorisation and Variation
- 1.2.1 Form Application for Marketing Authorisation and Variation  
[ch foapplvar \(new\)](#)

# Regional Module in ICH eCTD – Common Aspects

\* Envelope – information about the dossier

\* Leaf elements (like m2-m5):

```
<m1-0-cover>
```

```
<specific country="ema">
```

```
<leaf>
```

```
operation="new"
```

```
xlink:href="10-cover/emea/emea-cover.pdf"
```

```
xlink:type="simple"
```

```
checksum-type="md5"
```

```
ID="isi22836"
```

```
application-version="PDF 1.4"
```

```
checksum="19bbe4263c71b02b4064c72abd48e2ab">
```

```
<title>1.0 Cover Letter</title>
```

```
</leaf>
```

```
</m1-0-cover>
```

Lifecycle

Link to file

Security

File ID

Title when viewed as  
Contents Page

# What a Regional Specification Consists of

- \* Written specification – guidance to applicants
- \* XML template (DTD or XSD) defining envelope, pick lists, module 1 sections
- \* Style sheet – to display module 1 in an internet browser
- \* Validation criteria – to determine if a submitted eCTD is correct valid, readable, assessable or not
  - \* Not for content checks, this is done at a secondary stage

# eCTD Adoption



# eCTD Adoption – EFPIA Company Experience

- \* ‘Electronic submission’ vs ICH eCTD
- \* Electronic instead of paper vs metadata, structure, standard
- \* Need good software to maximise value – vendors critical
- \* Ideally one global vendor – for the whole company
  - \* More on next slide

# eCTD transition planning – Vendor and tool selection

- \* Engage with vendor(s) or developers to establish timelines and infrastructure needs in order to implement software solutions
- \* Health Authority and Applicants use vendor supplied technologies (tools) to ① Build ② Validate ③ View & Review eCTD submissions
- \* Common standards and criteria for ① ② ③ = success
  - \* Validation tools differ, all aim to follow identical criteria per market – ensures choice of technology vendor, same validation results
  - \* When interpretation differs between vendors, there needs to be a mechanism to work with the agencies
  - \* EU solution is change request process. Vendor webinars for new releases have also helped applicants.
- \* As with Validation tools, Health Authority and Applicants do not always buy the same vendor viewing/reviewing tool
  - \* eCTD vendors provide different ways to provide the same standard views: Individual Sequence; Cumulative; Current View

# Focus on what Adds value - to Regulator and Applicant

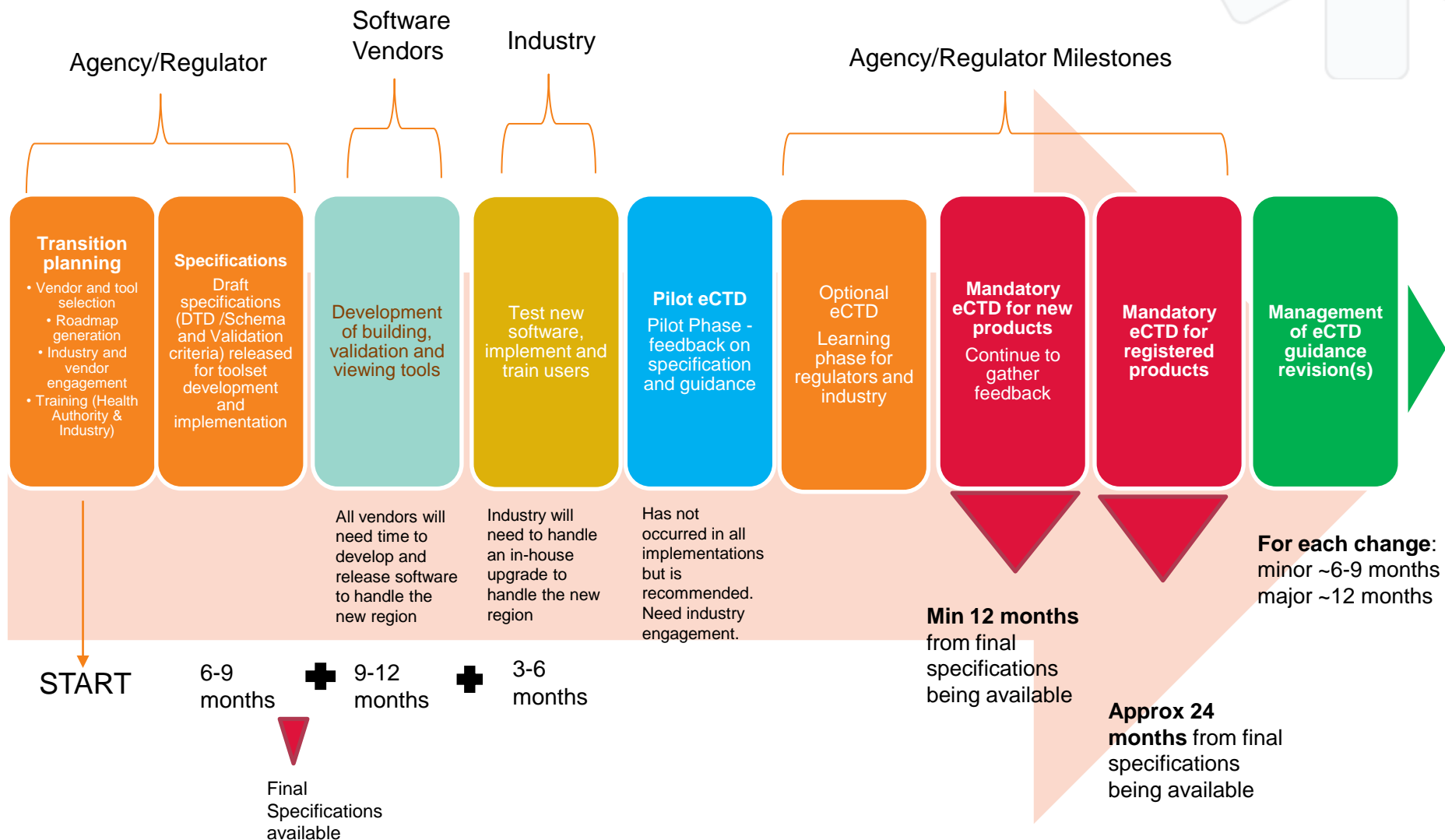
## Regulator

- \* Receipt and handling
- \* Categorisation
- \* Assessment
- \* Searching
- \* Links, bookmarks
- \* Creation of assessment report
- \* Archiving
- \* Working with other regulators
- \* Pharmacovigilance

## Applicant

- \* Building process
- \* Submission process
- \* Records maintenance
- \* Sharing across the company
- \* Cloning for other regions

# Suggested EFPIA eCTD adoption timelines



# eCTD transition planning – roadmap guide

- \* After any vendor selection activities it is usual that the Health Authority will build a roadmap \* that outlines the path towards full eCTD adoption.
- \* This usually takes into consideration
  - \* Tool selection and testing
  - \* **Training** for Health Authority reviewers and technical processing teams; industry authors, submission groups
  - \* Staged New Product implementation
    - \* Optional -> Mandatory timelines
  - \* Registered Product implementation
    - \* Optional -> Mandatory timelines
  - \* Management of eCTD guidance revision(s)
  - \* Consideration of benefits associated with the establishment of a secure and stable **gateway**/portal for submission delivery enabling large sized (>1GB) filings to be made from virtual support locations
  - \* Establishment of **service desk** in support of MAHs technical questions / issues

\* Link to current EU roadmap, older version with eCTD timelines on next slide

# eSubmission Roadmap - timelines

(reflecting final adopted version 2.0 dated 24-02-17)

eCTD  
v.4

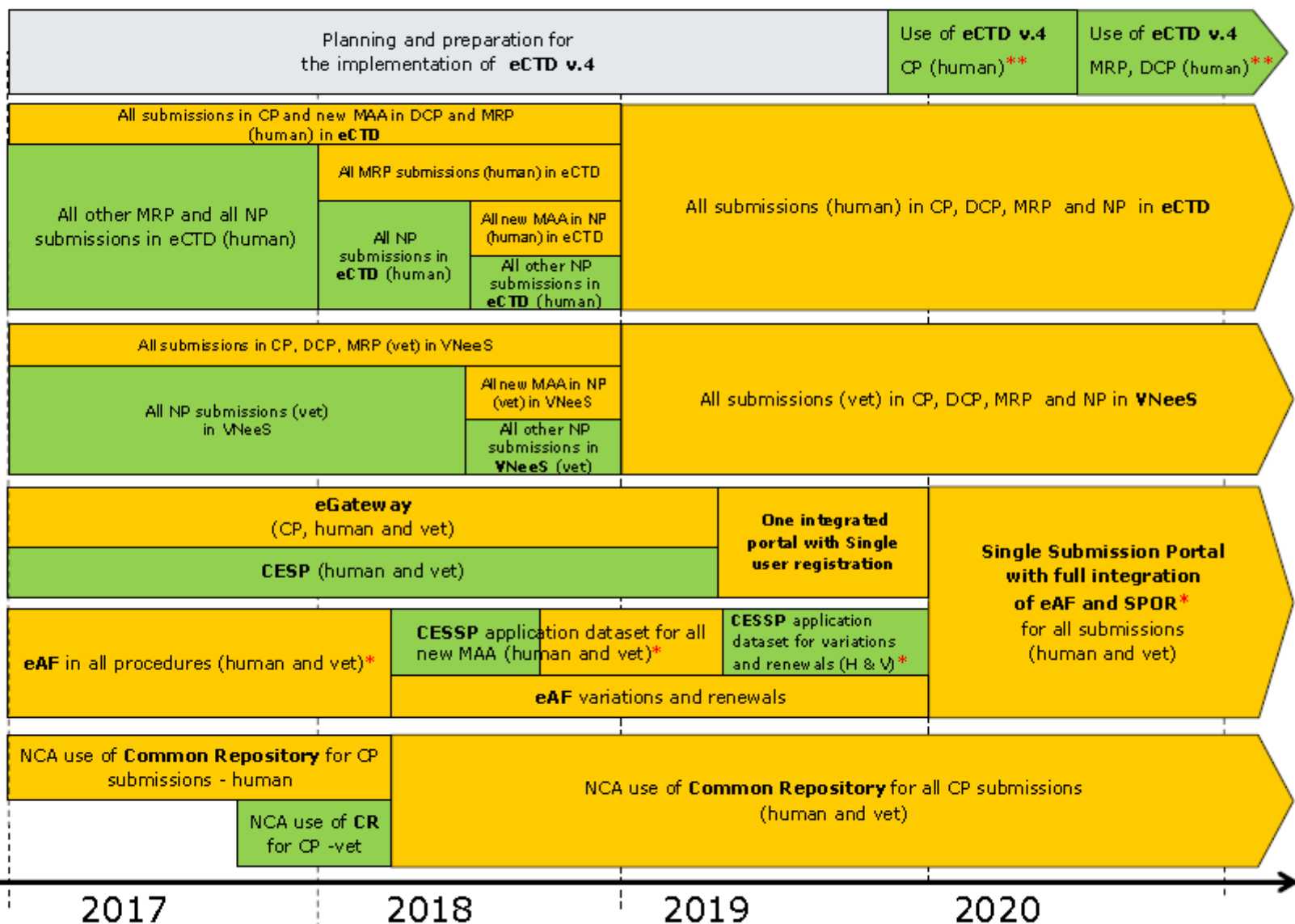
eCTD  
v.3.2

VNeeS

eGateway  
CESP

eAF<sup>\*</sup>  
CESSP<sup>\*</sup>

CR



2017

2018

2019

2020

Ongoing or optional  
Mandatory



<sup>\*</sup>) The SPOR project will stepwise (see specific [Roadmap](#)) deliver master data services (RMS, OMS, SMS, PMS) to be integrated with the eAF and CESSP during the roadmap period.  
<sup>\*\*</sup>) Timelines subject to planning

# Critical success factors (1)



- \* Timelines (consider sufficient time for each stage of the adoption)
- \* Roadmap (carefully planned and aligned with industry)
- \* Vendor engagement
- \* Alignment and learning from other health authorities
- \* Gateway and eCTD logistics – ideally electronic transfer from applicant to regulator

# Critical success factors (2)



## \* Partnership between regulators and industry leveraging experience

- Advice, testing, pilots and discussion
- Example - EU wide collaboration on eCTD & e-submission topics:

Joint HA and Industry e-forum— active since 2003 with high participation

Change Control process – ongoing, hundreds of changes implemented

Examples of collaboration include the support and co-development of the roadmap, gateways and automated dossier handling and validation criteria



# Maintaining the eCTD



# Management of eCTD guidance revision(s)

- \* Any change to the eCTD technical specification can involve:
  - \* Development and testing of the new specification and technical files (DTD, XSL, MOD, Schema)
  - \* Vendors develop and release updated eCTD solutions for the updated specification
  - \* Health Authorities and industry then verify, test and implement new or updated solutions into production environments
  - \* Transition into full production and withdrawal of previous guidance
- \* Health Authorities therefore need to allow sufficient lead time for technical implementation before mandating or changing Guidance or Standards
- \* Industry recommendations:
  - \* Follow ICH guideline for Module 2 to Module 5.
  - \* Updates to eCTD specifications are managed carefully to minimise the number and frequency of changes.
  - \* Upon issue of new or revised eCTD Guidance a period of transition where clear optional and mandatory timelines are provided, with a minimum of 12 months between availability of the new standard and mandatory use.

# Overall EFPIA Recommendations



# EFPIA Recommendations

- ✱ EFPIA fully supports the adoption of ICH eCTD and recognises the many benefits, including:
  - ✱ Global regulatory harmonisation
  - ✱ Better information management, document storage, retrieval, archiving
  - ✱ Electronic working, searching, cross referencing
  - ✱ Management of product information in the dossier over time
- ✱ EFPIA recommendations in these slides:
  - ✱ Collaboration – regulator<>industry<>software vendors
  - ✱ Timelines – allow time for transition (minimum 12 months)
  - ✱ Consistency with existing standards
  - ✱ Maximise use of technology – electronic gateways and automated upload, use of metadata.



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