

# Standardised MedDRA Queries (SMQs)





MedDRA was developed under the auspices of the International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH). The activities of the MedDRA Maintenance and Support Services Organization (MSSO) are overseen by an ICH MedDRA Management Committee, which is composed of the ICH parties, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) of the UK, Health Canada, and the WHO (as Observer).



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#### MedDRA Course Overview

- Review content of the MedDRA Data Retrieval and Presentation: Points to Consider document
- Review key principles in use of MedDRA to develop queries
- Discuss the features of Standardised MedDRA Queries (SMQs) including:
  - Background and data characteristics
  - Impact of MedDRA versioning on SMQs
  - Benefits/limitations of SMQs



## MedDRA | Course Overview (cont)

- Demonstration of SMQ Analysis Tool embedded in MedDRA browsers
- SMQ Applications
- Two clinical scenarios for the use of SMQs
- Discuss the creation of customized searches
- Conclude with question and answer session

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MedDRA Data Retrieval and Presentation: Points to Consider





#### MedDRA Data Retrieval and Presentation: Points to Consider (DRP:PTC)

#### MedDRA® DATA RETRIEVAL AND PRESENTATION: POINTS TO CONSIDER

ICH-Endorsed Guide for MedDRA Users on Data Output

#### Release 3.21

#### March 2021

March 2021

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 Provides data retrieval and presentation options for industry or regulatory purposes

- Most effective when used in conjunction with MedDRA Term Selection: PTC document
- Recommended to be used as basis for individual organization's own data retrieval conventions



## MedDRA Data Retrieval and Presentation: PTC (cont)

- Developed by a working group of the ICH Management Committee
- Updated annually in step with the March release of MedDRA
- Complete versions available in English, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, and Spanish
- Condensed versions available for other MedDRA languages
- Available on MedDRA and JMO websites



## Data Retrieval PTC Points Addressed

- General Principles
  - Quality of Source Data
  - Documentation of Data Retrieval and Presentation Practices
  - Do Not Alter MedDRA
  - Organisation-Specific Data Characteristics
  - Characteristics of MedDRA that Impact Data Retrieval and Analysis
  - MedDRA Versioning
- General Queries and Retrieval
- Standardised MedDRA Queries
- Customised Searches

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## MedDRA Versioning

- MedDRA is updated twice a year
  - 1 March X.0 release (all levels)
  - 1 September X.1 release (LLT and PT levels only)
- Version used in data retrieval and presentation should be documented
- Resources:
  - "What's New" document
  - Version report
  - MedDRA Version Analysis Tool (MVAT)
- Terms used for queries should be in same version as data being queried

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# MedDRA Version Analysis Tool (MVAT)

- Web-based (https://tools.meddra.org/mvat)
- Free to all users
- Features
  - Version Report Generator (produces exportable report comparing any two versions)
  - Data Impact Report (identifies changes to a specific set of MedDRA terms or codes uploaded to MVAT)
  - Search Term Change (identifies changes to a single MedDRA term or code)

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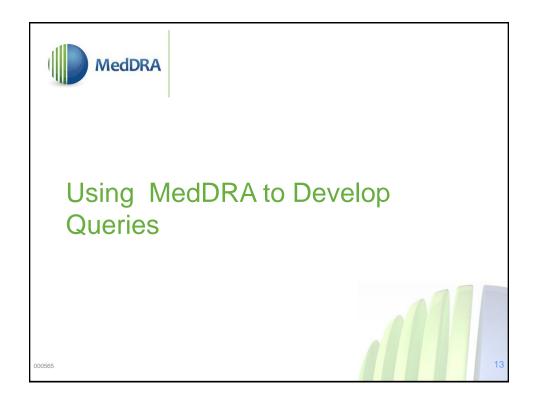
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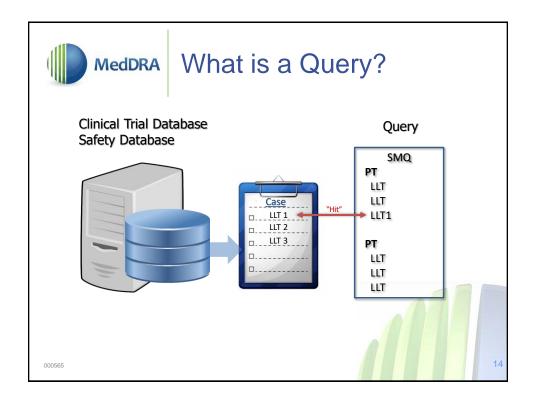


## MedDRA Version Analysis Tool (MVAT) (cont)

- User interface and report output available in all MedDRA languages
- Ability to run reports on supplemental changes
- Option to run reports on secondary SOC changes
- Watch the two-part webinar on the use of MVAT under "Tools" tab on the "Training Materials" page of MedDRA website

https://www.meddra.org/training-materials







## General Tips for Building Queries with MedDRA

- Define the condition
- · Develop inclusion/exclusion criteria
- Good browser is key component
- Search "non multi-axial" and "other/support" SOCs
- Search a term's "neighbors", including secondary locations
- Use grouping terms where applicable
- Avoid using LLTs (Exception: species information at LLT level in SOC *Infections and infestations*)
- Store for future use
- Review for impact of new MedDRA versions

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# Standardised MedDRA Queries (SMQs)

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# Standardised MedDRA Queries (SMQs)

- Groupings of terms from one or more MedDRA SOCs related to medical condition or area of interest
- Terms relate to signs/symptoms, diagnoses, syndromes, physical findings, laboratory and other test data, etc.
- Intended to aid in case identification

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# SMQs in Production - Examples

As of Version 24.0, a total of 108 level 1 SMQs in production

- Agranulocytosis
- Anaphylactic reaction
- Central nervous system vascular disorders
- Convulsions
- COVID-19
- Depression and suicide/selfinjury
- Hepatic disorders
- Hypersensitivity
- Ischaemic heart disease
- Lack of efficacy/effect

- Medication errors
- Osteonecrosis
- Peripheral neuropathy
- Pregnancy and neonatal topics
- Pseudomembranous colitis
- Rhabdomyolysis/myopathy
- Severe cutaneous adverse reactions
- Shock
- Systemic lupus erythematosus

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### MedDRA SMQ Data Characteristics

- MedDRA term inclusion
- Broad/narrow
- Algorithms
- Hierarchy
- SMQ status/term status within an SMQ
- Term versioning in an SMQ

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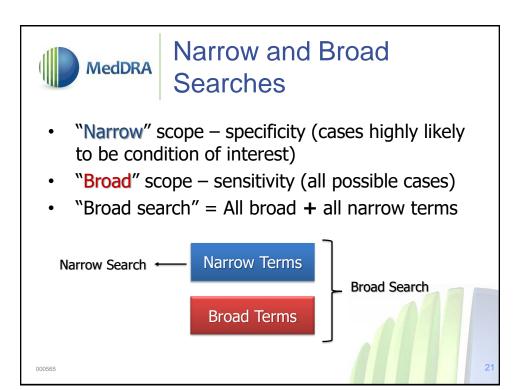
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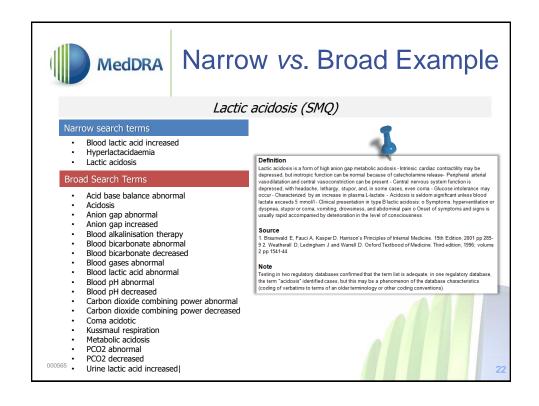


## MedDRA Term Inclusion

- SMQs are constructed at MedDRA PT level
- LLTs that are subordinate to an included PT are also included



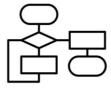






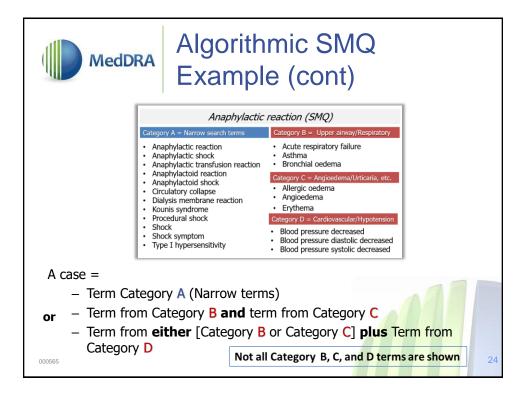
### MedDRA | Algorithmic SMQs

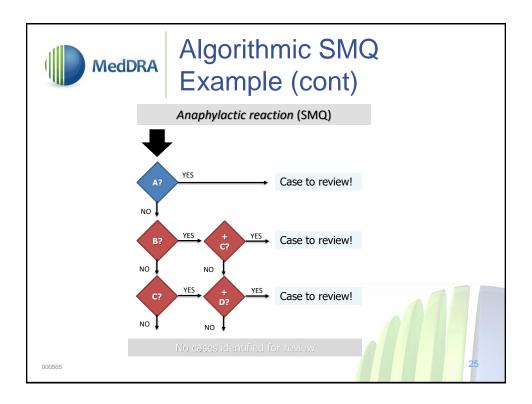
 Some SMQs are designed to utilize algorithms



 Better case identification among broad search terms may result if cases are selected by a defined combination of selected terms

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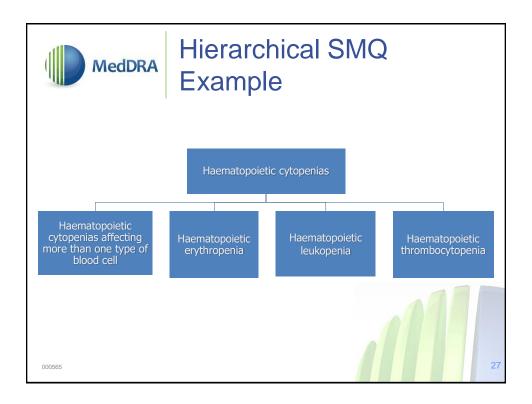


### Hierarchical SMQs



- Some SMQs may develop as set of queries related to one another in a hierarchical relationship
- Not related to MedDRA standard hierarchy
- One or more subordinate SMQs combined to create a superordinate, more inclusive SMQ

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## SMQ Status/Term Status

- Each SMQ has a status (Active/Inactive)
- Similar in concept to MedDRA currency
- Terms assigned to an SMQ also have a status flag
  - Once a term is added to an SMQ, it will always be included in the SMQ but the status may be inactive

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### MedDRA SMQ Versioning

- It is recommended that organizations use the SMQs with data coded with the same version of MedDRA
  - Match the MedDRA version of the SMQ with the MedDRA version of the coded data
  - Mismatches of SMQ and MedDRA coded data could produce unexpected results

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### SMQ Versioning (cont)

- Example of PT added to SMQs in MedDRA Version 23.0:
  - PT Hormone receptor positive breast cancer in SMQ Breast malignant tumours
- Using version 22.1 SMQs which do not contain these PTs would fail to identify cases coded to these terms in a database using MedDRA Version 23.0

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## SMQ Benefits and Limitations



#### **Benefits**

- Application across multiple therapeutic areas
- Validated reusable search logic
- Standardized communication of safety information
- Consistent data retrieval
- Maintenance by MSSO/JMO



#### Limitations

- Do not cover all medical topics or safety issues
- Will evolve and undergo further refinement even though they have been tested during development

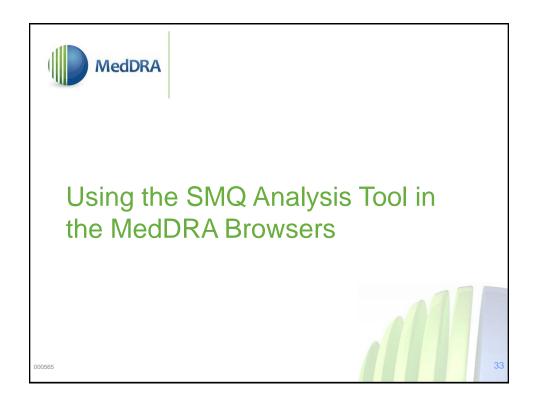
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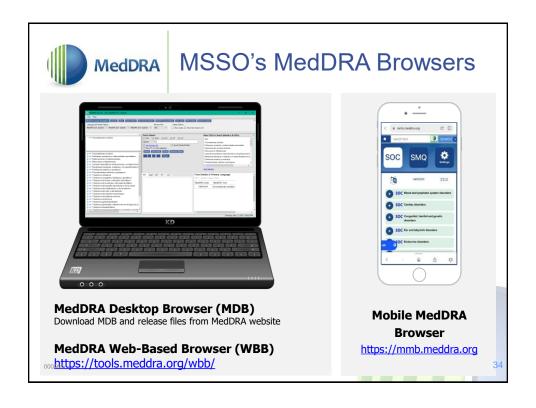
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## Browser Demonstration SMQ View

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## MSSO's MedDRA Browsers (cont)

- Features
  - Each require MedDRA ID and password
  - View/search MedDRA and SMQs
  - Support for all MedDRA languages
  - Language specific interface
  - Ability to export search results and Research Bin to local file system (MDB and WBB only)





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## MDB and WBB Special Features

- Preview upcoming (supplemental) changes in next release\*
- View primary and secondary link information
- Upload terms to run against SMQs
- Advanced search options (e.g., NOT, OR)

\*Supplemental view not available on MDB

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#### How to "Run" SMQs

- IT perspective of SMQs = stored queries
- Most organizations code and store data as LLTs
- SMQ ASCII files include PTs and LLTs
- Load SMQs into a query tool; run query against coded MedDRA terms in database for "Hits"
- Use SMQ options, if applicable
  - Narrow/broad search
  - Algorithms
  - Hierarchy

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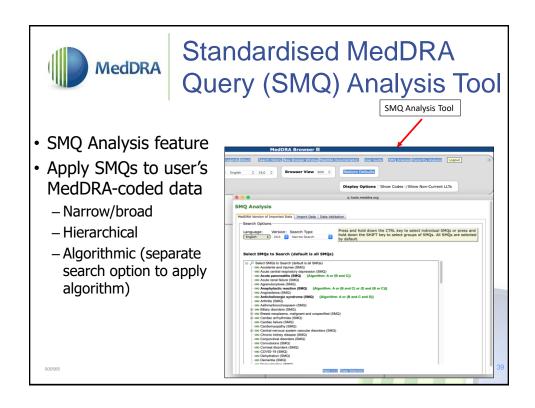


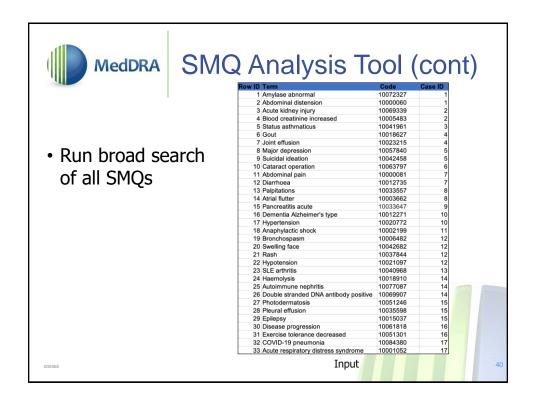
#### MedDRA | A Practical Question

 In my dataset, which cases are "hits" for SMQs (potential cases of interest)?

Row ID		Code	Case ID
	Amylase abnormal	10072327	1
2	Abdominal distension	10000060	1
3	Acute kidney injury	10069339	2
4	Blood creatinine increased	10005483	2
5	Status asthmaticus	10041961	3
6	Gout	10018627	4
7	Joint effusion	10023215	4
8	Major depression	10057840	5
9	Suicidal ideation	10042458	
10	Cataract operation	10063797	6
11	Abdominal pain	10000081	7
12	Diarrhoea	10012735	7
13	Palpitations	10033557	8
14	Atrial flutter	10003662	8
15	Pancreatitis acute	10033647	9
16	Dementia Alzheimer's type	10012271	10
17	Hypertension	10020772	10
18	Anaphylactic shock	10002199	11
19	Bronchospasm	10006482	12
20	Swelling face	10042682	12
21	Rash	10037844	12
22	Hypotension	10021097	12
23	SLE arthritis	10040968	13
24	Haemolysis	10018910	14
25	Autoimmune nephritis	10077087	14
26	Double stranded DNA antibody positive	10069907	14
27	Photodermatosis	10051246	15
28	Pleural effusion	10035598	15
29	Epilepsy	10015037	15
	Disease progression	10061818	16
31	Exercise tolerance decreased	10051301	16
32	COVID-19 pneumonia	10084380	17
33	Acute respiratory distress syndrome	10001052	17

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## MedDRA SMQ Analysis Tool (cont)

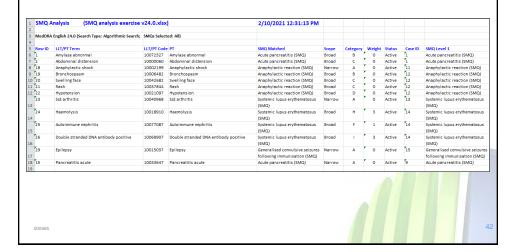
- Results of broad search on all SMQs
  - Includes narrow search
  - Includes hierarchical SMQs
  - Algorithmic
     SMQ analysis
     not shown

1 SMQ	Analysis (SMQ analysis e	xercise v24.0.xl	sx)	2/10/2021 12:26:46 PM						
3 MedDBJ	Lengtish 24.0 (Search Type: Broad Search	h: SMOs Selected: A	en .							
4										
5 Row ID	LLT/FT Term	LLT/PT Code	PT	SMQ Matched	Scope	Category	Weight	Status	Case ID	SMQ Level 1
6 1	Amylase abnormal	10072327	Amylase abnormal	Acute pancreatitis (SMQ)	Broad	В	0	Active	1	Acute pancreatitis (SMQ)
7 /2	Abdominal distension	10000060	Abdominal distension	Acute pancreatitis (SMQ)	Broad	C	. 0	Active	5	Acute pencreatitis (SMQ)
2	Abdominal distension	10000060	Abdominal distension	Gastrointestinal nonspecific	Narrow	A	. 0	Active	5	Gastrointestinal nonspecifi
				symptoms and therapeutic procedures (SMQ)						inflammation and disfunctional conditions
9	Acute kidney injury	10069339	Acute kidney injury	Rhabdomyolysis/myopathy (SMO)	Broad	A	. 0	Active	5	Rhabdomyolysis/myopathy (SMO)
10 3	Acute kidney injury	10069339	Acute kidney injury	Acute remail failure (SMQ)	Narrow	A	. 0	Active	5	Acute renal failure (SMQ)
3	Acute kidney injury	20069339	Acute kidney injury	Shock-associated circulatory or cardiac conditions (excl torsade de pointes! (SMQ)	Broad	A	. 0	Active	5	Shock (SMQ)
3	Acute kidney injury	10069339	Acute kidney injury		Broad	A	. 0	Active	5	Shock (SMQ)
3	Acute kidney injury	10069339	Acute kidney injury	Hypovolaemic shock conditions (SMQ)	Broad	A	. 0	Active	2	Shock (SMQ)
3	Acute kidney injury	10069339	Acute kidney injury	Taxic-septic shack conditions (SMQ)	Broad	A	. 0	Active	5	Shock (SMQ)
3	Acute kidney injury	10069339	Acute kidney injury	Anaphylactic/enaphylactoid shock conditions (SMQ)	Sroad	A	. 0	Active	2	Shock (SMQ)
3	Acute kidney injury	10069339	Acute kidney injury	Hypoglycaemic and neurogenic shock conditions	Broad	A	0	Active	2	Shock (SMQ)
17 3	Acute kidney injury	10069339	Acute kidney injury	Tumour lysis syndrome (SMQ)	Broad	C	0	Active	2	Tumour lysis syndrome (SMI
5	Acute kidney injury	10069339	Acute kidney injury	Drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms syndrome (SMO)	Broad	В	0	Active	5	Drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms syndrome (SMQI)
19 3	Acute kidney injury	10069339	Acute kidney injury	Dehydration (SMQ)	Broad	A	. 0	Active	2	Dehydration (SMQ)
74	Blood creatinine increased	10005483	Blood creatinine increased	Rhabdomyolysis/myopathy (SMQ)	Broad	A	0	Active	2	Rhabdomyolysis/myopathy (SMQ)
21 4	Blood creatinine increased	10005483	Blood creatinine increased	Acute renal failure (SMQ)	Broad	A	. 0	Active	2	Acute renal failure (SMQ)
12 4	Blood creatinine increased	10005483	Blood creatinine increased	Retroperitoneal fibrosis (SMQ)	Broad	A	. 0	Active	2	Retroperitoneal fibrosis (5)

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## SMQ Analysis Tool (cont)

· Results of algorithmic SMQ analysis





### **SMQ Applications**

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## **SMQ** Applications

#### Clinical trials

- Where safety profile is not fully established, use multiple SMQs on routine basis as screening tool
- Selected SMQs to evaluate previously identified issue (pre-clinical data or class effect)

#### Post-marketing

- Selected SMQs to retrieve cases for suspected or known safety issue
- Signal detection (multiple SMQs employed)
- Single case alerts
- Periodic reporting (aggregate cases for safety and other issues, e.g., lack of efficacy)

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# EMA: Signal Detection Analysis

- ICSR coding at LLT level, analysis at PT level (medical concept):
  - ✓It may be important to conduct analysis at **higher level** of hierarchy: SOC, HLGT, HLT
    - When doing so, impact of axial and non multi-axial SOCs needs to be taken into account: relevant PTs in more than 1 SOC
  - ✓It may be important to conduct analysis at SMQ level to maximise likelihood that all terms related to a specific medical condition of interest are identified
- Challenge: strike the correct balance
  - √ Too narrowly focused search (specificity): exclude events of potential relevance
  - √ Too broad search (sensitivity): difficult to identify a trend or signal that
    may require further analysis (incl. case review)

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Acknowledgement: Dr. Aniello Santoro, EMA



# Use of SMQs at FDA – Reviewing Prescribing Information

- · Proposed Prescribing Information:
- Warnings & Precautions:
  - Dizziness/Somnolence
  - Withdrawal of Antiepileptic Drugs
  - Suicidal Behavior and Ideation (class labeling)

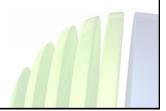
SMQ (Narrow Search)	RR		
(1) Hostility/aggression	4.4		
(2) Vestibular disorders	4.258		
(1) Hearing and vestibular disorders	4.088		
(1) Hyponatraemia/SIADH	3.832		
(2) Hearing impairment	3.832		
(1) Dyslipidaemia *	2.555		
(1) Biliary disorders	2.135		
(2) Functional, inflammatory and gallstone related biliary disorders	2.135		

- Final Prescribing Information
- Boxed Warning:
  - Serious Psychiatric and Behavioral Reactions
- · Warnings & Precautions:
  - Falls
  - Dizziness & somnolence
  - Withdrawal of Antiepileptic Drugs
  - Suicidal Behavior and Ideation (class labeling)





### Two SMQ Data Analysis Scenarios





### MedDRA Scenario #1

 Your company started development of a new drug for onychomycosis projected to take eight years and cost \$1.2 billion dollars



## Onychomycosis



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### Scenario #1 (cont)

- As part of safety surveillance, you decide to periodically run SMQs for serious AEs against your data
- You identify <u>five</u> possible cases of hemolytic anemia in your 1,000 patient exposures
- Based on this unfavorable risk/benefit ratio (remember, your drug is for nail fungus), you suggest stopping the development project



## MedDRA | Scenario #1 (cont)

 Your management reviews and follows your recommendation saving time, money and potential patient risk

Job well done !!!!!!



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### MedDRA Scenario #2

- You are developing the fourth drug in a therapeutic class
- Other products in class are associated with development of high blood pressure and angioedema but, given the seriousness of the target disease, this is an acceptable risk



## MedDRA | Scenario #2 (cont)

- During development and early post-marketing on your product, you routinely run *Hypertension* (SMQ) and *Angioedema* (SMQ) against your expanding safety data
- Over time, it becomes clear that your drug is not associated with either of these risks for the other drugs in your therapeutic class
- Your diligence has given patients a safer alternative for the treatment of their disease

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### Congratulations





#### **Customized Searches**



## Customized Searches – Modified SMQs

- Do not modify SMQ unless there is a compelling reason – makes it non-standard
- "Modified MedDRA query based on an SMQ"
  - To be used to refer to an SMQ that has been modified
  - All modifications must be documented
  - Version updates and maintenance are responsibility of organization that created it
  - SMQ Lack of efficacy/effect often modified based on particular product

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### Customized Searches – Ad Hoc Queries

- · Need medical knowledge
- Need knowledge of structure and characteristics of MedDRA and of your data
- Refer to the MedDRA Data Retrieval and Presentation: Points to Consider document for query construction tips
- Save query for future use; maintenance needed for MedDRA version changes
- Consider submitting ad hoc query to MSSO via change request for possible development as an SMQ

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### Summary

#### In this course, we:





Presentation: Points to Consider document



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#### **MSSO Contacts**

- Website
  - www.meddra.org
- Email
  - mssohelp@meddra.org
- Frequently Asked Questions
  - www.meddra.org/faq
- MedDRA Browsers
  - https://www.meddra.org/meddra-desktopbrowsers (Desktop Browser)
  - https://tools.meddra.org/wbb/ Browser)
     (Web-Based
  - <u>https://mmb.meddra.org</u> (Mobile Browser)

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## MSSO Contacts (cont)

- Training Schedule
  - https://www.meddra.org/training/schedule
- MedDRA Support Documentation
  - https://www.meddra.org/how-to-use/supportdocumentation

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