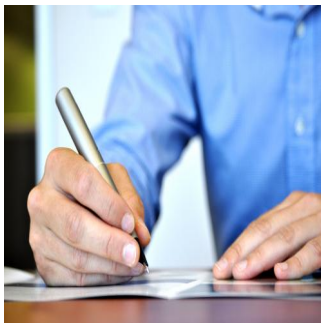

EU Clinical Trials Register Goes Live



The EU Clinical Trials Register was launched today by the European Medicines Agency (EMA). The online register gives for the first time public access to information on interventional clinical trials for medicines authorised in the 27 EU Member States and Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. The database also allows the public to search for information on clinical trials authorised to be carried out outside the EU if these trials are part of a paediatric investigation plan.

The information contained in the EU Clinical Trials Register is extracted from EudraCT, the EU clinical trials database. It is provided by the sponsor of the clinical trial, and is a component of its application to a national medicines regulatory authority for authorisation to conduct a trial. The information from the sponsor is loaded into the EudraCT database by the national medicines regulatory authority. The authority adds to this information the authorisation of the clinical trial and the opinion from the relevant ethics committee. Information on third-country trials that are listed in a paediatric investigation plan (PIP) is provided by the PIP addressee directly, via the EMA, to the system.

Throughout the project the Agency worked together with stakeholders, including patients and healthcare professionals, to ensure that their needs were taken into account, to the extent possible at this stage, when designing the register.

Lise Murphy, co-chair of the Agency's Working Party with Patients' and Consumers' Organisations said: "We welcome the launch of the EU Clinical Trials Register. It increases transparency of medical research and will make it much easier for patients to find information about clinical trials taking place in Europe. We are committed to continue working with the EMA to further develop the system so that it becomes a valuable and useful resource for patients across the EU."

The Agency will continue to work with stakeholders to improve the functioning of the EU Clinical Trials Register, in particular by enhancing the quality and completeness of data, and improving the search functionality. Plans for the future also include the publication of summaries of clinical trial results, on which draft guidance has already been published for consultation by the European Commission. Publication of trial results summaries will require a major upgrade to the existing system, the start of which will depend on finalisation of the guideline and availability of budget and resources.

Further info can be found by visiting:

(<https://www.clinicaltrialsregister.eu>)

Published on : Fri, 1 Apr 2011