Comparison of the procedure for registration of medicines in the European Union and the Republic of Macedonia

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Introduction

Registration is a necessary step which follows every pharmaceutical preparation before being sent to the market and becoming available to patients. The approval follows two stages, the first clinical stage which provides security, safety and optimization of dosage integratively used in the four steps of clinical trials, and the second phase that provides marketing authorization. There are four agencies which operate with the procedure for approval and regulation of drugs: EU Legislation - Eudralex, European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines and Healthcare (EDQM), European Medicines Agency (EMA), Heads of Medicines Agencies (HMA) in the European Union.

Objectives

Literature review of drugs registration procedure in our country and its connection to the form and content in the available literature documentation for the medicines registration in the European Union.

Materials and methods

Comparative methods are used to compare the available literature data on the registration of medicines. Used data is from the guide on the form and content of the common technical document (Presentation and format of the dossier Common Technical Document (CTD) Volume 2B) and the Law on medicines and medical devices in the Republic of Macedonia.

Conclusions

Registered drugs in the country are registered under the national procedure for the registration of medicines in the country, according to the Law on medicines and medical devices. The national procedure is controlled by the Drug Bureau. The Republic of Macedonia needs to adopt guidelines as bylaws with exactly defined form and content of each part of the documentation.

Results

The main difference between the European and Macedonian legislation for the registration of medicines is that the European legislation through extensive guides, closely defines every part of the documentation. The entire documentation should be submitted in the format designated as common technical document, whose form and content is on the EMA website with a guide of 303 pages. Here, we explain each module in a detailed manner, ranging from font, text size, the length of the text, to the content of each section. Thus, each application takes the form of a standardized and uniform document. On the other hand, in the Republic of Macedonia there are no such guides, so the applications can exhibit significant variations in form and content.

European Union	Republic of Macedonia
Administrative information	**Administrative section**
Cover letter	Information about the drug and issued for circulati
Content for all modules	Information for manufacturer
Application form	Production sites
Product information	Production approval
Information for experts	GMP Certificate
Specific requirements for different types of applications	Information for future holder of the marke authorization for medicinal product
CTD summaries	**Analytical part**
Content CTD (Module 2 Module 5)	Information about drug quality: qualitative quantitative composition of the drug
Introduction	Description of production methods
General summary of the quality (QOS)	Quality control of raw materials
Summary of the active substance (name, manufacturer)	Quality control in the production process
Summary of the finished product (name, dosage form)	Quality control of the finished product
Contributions	Stability study
Pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic characteristics of the drug	Other information for quality
Quality	**Pharmacological toxicological part**
Content Module 3	Pharmacodynamic characteristics
Data quality assurance	Pharmacokinetic characteristics
Active substance of the drug (name, manufacturer)	Toxicity
Finished product	Effects on reproductive function
Contributions	Embryo-fetal toxicity
Regional information	Mutagenic and carcinogenic potential
Preclinical studies	**Clinical part**
Content Module 4	General information of clinical trials
Reports of studies	Methods of implementation
Pharmacology	Compliance with ethical requirements
Pharmacokinetic	Obtained results
Toxicology	Clinical pharmacological data