# Clinical evaluation of orphan devices

Specific considerations for MDR clinical evidence requirements

Dr Gearóid McGauran, MB BCh BAO, MSc, MRCPI Medical Officer – HPRA

MDCG Clinical Investigation and Evaluation (CIE) working group member

#### 18 April 2024





## **Clinical evidence and OD – the challenge**

#### **MDR improvements**

- Increased clinical evidence
- Additional scrutiny
- Mandatory clinical investigations
- Life-cycle clinical evaluation
- PMCF
- Transparency
- Safe, effective, performs as intended

#### **OD Challenges**

- Small population
- Unmet clinical need
- Insufficient alternatives
- Practical difficulties
- Risk of delay
- Costs
- Vulnerable populations





## **MDCG Draft guidance – Orphan Devices**



- Guidance for manufacturers and NB on the application of clinical evaluation requirements to OD
- MDCG ODTF clinical evaluation drafting group
  - Regulatory representatives:
    - IE, BE, ES, FR, IT, NL, COM, EMA
  - External representatives:
    - Notified bodies, Industry, Academic and Clinical experts including ESC
- PART A Clinical Evaluation Considerations
- PART B Procedural Considerations
- Guidance in development



## **Clinical considerations for Orphan Devices**



- Acceptable limitations in pre-market clinical evidence
- Non-clinical data
- Clinical investigations for OD
- Post-market clinical data / PMCF
- Extrapolation of data from non-orphan indications



#### Acceptable limitations in pre-market clinical evidence



#### • Limitations acceptable if the following can be justified:

- Non-clinical and clinical data evaluated; limitations identified
- Risks reduced as far as possible; GSPRs fulfilled
- Non-clinical and limited clinical data provides sufficient evidence to expect that the device will provide a clinical benefit
  - considering the clinical condition, state of the art, and patient safety
- Not feasible or proportionate to generate further pre-market clinical data
- PMCF plan to generate additional clinical data
  - to address specific limitations within an acceptable timeframe
- Users of the device adequately informed
  - e.g., information in IFU



## **Clinical investigations**



#### • Specific considerations for studies in rare populations

- Population / Cohort
- Comparator / Control
- Outcomes
- Endpoints
- Design
  - Cross-over, N-of-1
  - Adaptive and sequential designs
  - Bayesian approaches



## Post-market clinical follow-up



#### • PMCF must generate additional clinical data

- Appropriate timeframe
- Address pre-market limitations in clinical evidence

#### • PMCF plan should be clear, well designed, prescriptive, and achievable

- PMCF investigations
- Registries and registry-based studies
- Real world evidence & PMS
- Off label use



## e.g. US FDA - EXCOR Pediatric VAD



- HDE Approval 2011
- IDE Multi-centre, single arm study
  - 48 paediatric subjects 2 cohorts (BSA)
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> cohort compassionate use



- Endpoints
  - Effectiveness survival to 30 days/explant vs historical control (ECMO ELSO registry)
  - Safety SAE rate vs performance goal of 0.25 SAEs per patient-day (ppd) of support
- Results
  - 30-day mortality higher in ECMO vs EXCOR (Cohort 1 10x, Cohort 2 50x)
  - SAE rate acceptable Cohort 1 0.068 ppd, Cohort 2 0.079 ppd
  - Limitations historical control, duration of ECMO vs EXCOR, L/T survival



## e.g. US FDA - EXCOR Pediatric VAD

- PMA Approval 2017
- Clinical data from 565 patients
  - IDE 148 subjects
    - including 54 in Cohort 3 compassionate use
  - HDE Post-approval study
    - 39 subjects across 19 sites
    - Followed up to 24 months post-explant
  - Compassionate use data 187 total
  - Other 245 patients implanted across 45 hospitals







## Conclusion



- Clinical evidence challenges for OD
- Balance: clinical evidence vs unmet clinical need
- Acceptable limitations in clinical evidence
- Alternative clinical investigation approaches
- PMCF essential



## Thank you

devices@hpra.ie gearoid.mcgauran@hpra.ie



