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Mission
To serve human health by developing and implementing regulatory, supervisory, and guidance policies in regard to pharmaceuticals, medical devices and cosmetic products.

Vision
Being a pioneer and a reference institution in the international arena aiming for excellence, on the basis of health and science

Values
The core values of Turkish Medicines and Medical Devices Agency (TİTCK) are:
- scientificness
- transparency
- honesty equity
- service with quality
- acting with diligence
- liability
- self-criticism
- respectability
- value all people

President’s Message
As Turkish Medicines and Medical Devices Agency, we serve as a supervisory, regulatory and leading authority relating to products such as medicines, medical devices, cosmetics, traditional herbal medicinal products, advanced therapy products, medicinal nutrition products that public can encounter at any time in their daily life.

These products mentioned above are strategic with regard to country politics, huge in terms of market size and substantial product groups that should be evaluated well as they are in contact with public health. We manage such a critical area with a well-trained, well-equipped, more than 1000 staff group consisting of pharmacists, doctors, engineers, chemists and biologists.

While we have an important role as a regulatory authority of which past based on many years, especially in the field of medicine, we come to the forefront with our leading role in recent years. In this context, we have put a new approach called “Value Based Licensing” into force. As a part of this approach we have established a prioritization mechanism in order to ensure that authorization processes of significant medicine groups such as innovative medicines, generic medicines which reduce health expenditures and guarantee the access to medicines and medicines that have export potential are carried out more quickly.

As a part of our leading activities, we have undertaken the secretariat duty of the Health Industries Steering Committee which can gather medicine and medical device sector and relevant ministries and public institutions around a table and overcome a huge gap in this area.

In the upcoming period, we will also continue to develop together with the sector towards the goal of becoming an institution recognized and referenced internationally.

Asım HOCAOĞLU, PhD
President of Turkish Medicines and Medical Devices Agency
National Regulatory Authority
We evaluate and closely monitor the clinical trials of all human medicinal products in compliance with international legislation.
Marketing Authorization

Marketing authorization applications are classified based on product's indication and

* GMP 1 is for finished product and active substance: Application is acceptable without GMP certification.
**Guideline on Advanced Therapy Medicinal Product is work in progress

* When marketing authorization application for unauthorized medicinal products in worldwide is obtained at the same/close date as in another country, this application is named as parallel application.

New Medicinal Product Dossier
- Clinical Assessment
- Quality Assessment
- BA/BE Assessment
- Pharmacological Assessment
- Laboratory Analysis

Generic Medicinal Product Dossier
- Quality Assessment
- BA/BE Assessment
- Laboratory Analysis

Biological and Biotechnological Medicinal Product Dossier
- Clinical Assessment
- Quality Assessment
- BA/BE Assessment
- Pharmacological Assessment
- Laboratuvar Analizi

Biosimilar
- Quality Assessment
- BA/BE Assessment
- Pharmacological Assessment
- Clinical Assessment
- Laboratory Analysis

Co-marketing Product Dossier
- No scientific assessment

Traditional Herbal Medicinal Product Dossier
- Quality Assessment
- BA/BE Assessment
- Laboratory Analysis

IN COMMON TECHNICAL DOCUMENT (CTD) FORMAT

APPLICATION

APPLICANT

LOCAL MANUFACTURED MEDICINAL PRODUCT

IMPORTED MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Agency

*GMP INSPECTION

MARKETING AUTHORIZATION APPLICATION

APPLICATION
Marketing Authorization Process
GMP Inspections

1. **GMP Prioritization Application**
2. **GMP Inspection**
3. **GMP Certification**

- GMP Prioritization Applications can be made before the GMP Inspection Applications or simultaneously. (GMP 1, 2, 3)
- Marketing authorization process is **150 days** for high priority status.

**Conventional Products**

1. GMP for finished product must be issued by TİTCK
2. GMP for active substance is acceptable approval of other authorities
3. * GMP 1 is only for finished product: Application is acceptable without GMP certification

**Biotechnological Products**

1. GMP for finished product and active substance must be issued by TİTCK
2. * GMP 1 is for finished product and active substance: Application is acceptable without GMP certification.

*For the applications we accepted without the GMP documents to be issued by TİTCK, a document showing that GMP application has been made should be submitted to the Agency and GMP document...

Prioritization

- **HIGH PROIRITY ***: Time of marketing authorization is **150 days**
- **PROIRITY ****: Time of marketing authorization is **180 days**
- **NORMAL *****: Time of marketing authorization is **210 days**

**Note**
These periods do not include "clock stop" and "analysis" processes.

Slot Implementation

- **Application**
- **Pre-assessment**
- **Number of application according to assessment capacity**
- **Scientific Assessment**
Certificates for Export

Certificate of a Pharmaceutical Product (CPP)
The Certificate of a Pharmaceutical Product (CPP) is a certificate issued in the format recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO), which establishes the status of the pharmaceutical product and of the applicant for this certificate our country. (Ref: www.who.int)

GMP and Free Sale Certificate
GMP and Free Sale Certificate indicate that the pharmaceutical product has been authorized to be placed on the market for use in our country and is subject to our supervision as stipulated in Türkiye. It certifies that the manufacturer conforms to the requirements for current GMP as recommended by the World Health Organization in respect to be sold or distributed within the country of origin or to be exported. (Ref. www.who.int)

Statement of Licensing Status of Pharmaceutical Product (SLSPP)
The Statement of Licensing Status of Pharmaceutical Product indicates the licensing status of pharmaceutical products and undertakes to provide, at the request of the applicant (and, if different, the product-license holder), a separate and complete Certificate of a Pharmaceutical Product in the format recommended by WHO, for each of the products listed. (Ref. www.who.int)
We closely monitor the safety of medicines and take measures to minimize risk.
We conduct analysis for all medical products.
We inspect and audit all human medicinal products.

GxP Inspections

Establishment of GMP in Türkiye;
First GMP Guideline was published in 1994 for Medicinal Products for Human use in 1984 and GMP inspections was started for local manufacturers in Türkiye by the Ministry of Health.

Legislation for GMP Inspections:
1. Pharmaceutical and Medical Preparations Law, No: 1262 (14/5/1928)
2. Regulation on Manufacturing Plants of Medicinal Products for Human Use (Last Update June 10, 2022)
3. First GMP Guideline on Good Manufacturing Practice for Manufacturing Plants of Medicinal Products for Human Use was published in 1994.

International regulations and guidelines have been implemented into our legislation. All manufacturers must comply with the cGMP requirements.

In scope of GMP Inspections:
Medicinal Products for Human use Finished Product Manufacturing Sites and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) Manufacturing Sites.
Inspections carried out within the scope of GMP;
• Routine Inspections (Risk based approach)
• Inspections for new sites or new activities
• Follow-up Inspections
• Special-Triggered Inspections (e.g. for a particular complaints, quality defects, recall)

About imported products; product based inspections are conducted. Finished products & APIs (biologicals and biotechnological) manufacturing sites are inspected all over the world.

TİTCK made full membership application to PIC/S on May 03, 2013. The PIC/S membership of TİTCK has been effective as of January 01, 2018.
GCP, GDP, GVP inspections and marketing control for medicinal products for human use

In scope of the GDP (Good Distribution Practices) inspections:

GDP inspections are carried out by our Agency in line with the legislation and guideline compliant with the European Union. GDP inspections are conducted in order to ensure that the quality, efficacy and safety of medicines are maintained throughout the supply chain.

In scope of the GCP (Good Clinical Practices) inspections:

GCP inspections are carried out to ensure that the rights, health and privacy of the volunteers are protected and that the data obtained from the research is reliable. In scope of this, Phase 1 centers and Bioavailability/Bioequivalence centers are inspected by Inspectors and certified within the scope of routine system inspection. In addition, study-based inspections are carried out for clinical trials selected on a risk-based basis.

In scope of the GVP (Good Pharmacovigilance Practices) inspections:

GVP inspections are planned risk-based approach and conducted in order to ensure that marketing authorization holders and contracted pharmacovigilance service organizations comply with the pharmacovigilance obligations in Türkiye.

In scope of marketing control:

The human medicinal product samples taken from the market according to a risk based market surveillance program and those samples are sent to our laboratories for analysis in order to check the quality of products.

Pharmacies

In order to increase quality of pharmacy service, make people benefit more effectively from the pharmacy service and help public health protection, health-oriented, science-based regulations aiming excellence have been carried out.

It is allowed to open pharmacies through the Pharmacist Placement System (PPS) in accordance with the planning of pharmacy numbers in terms of population.
Medical devices; another big area of responsibility

Legislation

Two main EU Directives relating to medical devices are harmonized to Turkish Legislative Acts by Agency


Relevant Turkish Legislation: Regulation (EU) 2017/745 on Medical Devices published in Official Journal numbered 31499 and dated 02.06.2021


Relevant Turkish Legislation Regulation on In Vitro Diagnostic Medical Devices published in Official Journal numbered 31499 and dated 02/06/2021

Notified Bodies

Medical Devices are subject to conformity assessment procedures to ensure compliance to new harmonized EU regulations (EU 2017/745 MDR and EU 2017/746 IVDR) provisions before placing them on the market.

As well as manufacturers, Notified Bodies also take part in conformity assessment procedures for all medical devices excluding Class I non-sterile, without measuring and resusable function (low risk) ones.

Designations and inspections of Notified Bodies taking place in the territory of Türkiye are carried out by our Agency.

In the EU region, over 30 Notified Bodies are currently designated within the scope of MDR and IVDR.

As well as manufacturers, the NBs designated under the former medical device directives are responsible for the products placed on the market within the scope of the relevant directives.
Clinical Investigations

Permission is required from our Agency for clinical investigations relating to medical devices. The application process for medical device clinical investigations is as follow:

The Application Process for Medical Device Clinical Investigations

- Preparation of documentation such as research protocol and form
- Application to Ethical Committee
- Ethical Committee Approval
- Return of documentation for elimination of deficiencies
- Approval (Permission)
- Initiation of investigation
- Refusal if it is not ethically

Performance Evaluation Studies for IVD

Recording of performance evaluation and verification studies performed with in vitro diagnostic medical devices is carried out by our Agency. The application process for performance evaluation studies is as follow:

The Application Process for Performance Evaluation Studies on In Vitro

- Preparation of documentation such as research protocol and form
- Application to Ethical Committee
- Ethical Committee Approval
- Notification to Agency
- Initiation of the Study
- Refusal if it is not ethically
Medical Devices Sales, Advertising and Promotion

Our Agency has the tasks to regulate and manage the sales, advertising and promotion activities of:

- Optician establishments where eyeglass lenses and frames that are considered as medical device are sold,
- Custom made orthotics and prosthetic centers where custom made orthoses and prostheses are produced and sold,
- Hearing aid centers where hearing aids, excluding implantable ones, are sold,
- Dental prosthesis laboratories where custom made dental prostheses are produced and sold, and
- Medical device sales centers where other medical devices are sold.

Clinical Engineering Services

Services related to after-sales maintenance, repair, testing, control and calibration and also warranty processes of medical devices, as well as quality assurance of medical devices that produce or emit ionizing radiation are carried out under the control of our Agency.

Test, Control and Calibration Body / Quality Compliance Body Application Process

Application, authorization and inspection activities of institutions that will perform testing, control and calibration of medical devices are carried out through the Product Tracking System.

Technical service providers who maintain and repair medical devices are required to register with the Product Tracking System.

Quality conformity and quality control tests to be applied to medical devices that produce or emit ionizing radiation have been determined by our Agency in accordance with international standards.

Evaluation of Chemotherapy Drug Preparation Systems

In our country chemotherapy drugs are prepared by: manual, semi automated, automated and robotic systems. The technological evaluation of the devices used for the preparation of chemotherapy drugs are carried out by our Agency.

* In case of deficiencies in the application file or on-site inspection, the applicant is given 45 working days to correct the deficiencies.
Safe medical devices & improved patient safety and public health

- **Medical Device Inspections**

- **Vigilance**

  - Medical devices vigilance system to improve the protection of health and safety of patients, users and others by reducing the likelihood of reoccurrence of the incidents.

  - Market surveillance activities to ensure that medical devices are safe, perform as intended and do not pose unacceptable risks to patients, users and others.

  - An ongoing project: Good Manufacturing Project at medical device manufacturing sites by voluntarily basis.

- **Market Surveillance**

  Inspections related to sales, advertisement and promotions of medical devices
  On-site inspection to monitor compliance with relevant standards and legislation when necessary
  Undertaking all necessary measures such as corrective and preventive actions, withdrawal, recall, and prohibition to supply to market when concerns relating to safety and performance of medical devices are identified
We are responsible of cosmetic products used daily by everyone

Vision & Aims of Cosmetic Products Department

It is attempted to reach corporate excellence keeping in the forefront of scientific truths at the operations and the decisions taken concerning cosmetics, manufacturers and consumers. In this process, Cosmetic Products Department aims to be a pioneer and reference unit at the international level.

**Vision**

**LEGISTATION**
Preparing legislations within the scope of cosmetics for needed areas and within the Customs Union consideration the conditions of our country, making adaptation studies of the EU legislations and legal arrangements for them.

**REGISTRATION & NOTIFICATION**
In the points of the cosmetic products diversity, ensuring more effective registration and notification processes. Product Tracking System (ÜTS), is the World’s leading portal in its field where cosmetic products and cosmetic firms are registered and it offers an infrastructure for providing “TRACEABILITY” which is a requirement for European Union. Furthermore, ÜTS includes registration with Barcode which is an argument for commercial tracking in European Union and other countries.

**CERTIFICATION**
Engaging in activities for the improvements of the quality of manufacturing and exporting of cosmetics.

**PROJECT**
Executing processes of registration and tracking system project based on the unique identifiers for medical devices and cosmetics with Product Tracking System Project.

**CLINICAL RESEARCH AND STUDIES**
Efficiency, safety studies or clinical research on cosmetic products or ingredients which are performed on human volunteers and organizing Ethics Committees of Cosmetic Clinical Research Studies, are conducted with the permission of our department.

**EDUCATIONAL, COMMUNICATIVE AND COORDINATION ACTS**
Conducting training activities related to cosmetic products, following and participating to trainings and organizations in the field of cosmetics, planning sectorial trainings, following the news regarding cosmetic products and organizing cosmetics scientific advisory commission meetings.
Types of Inspections on Cosmetics

As a Competent Authority we carry out;

- **Good Manufacturing Practices** inspection of cosmetic production sites (according to ISO 22716 standard and national regulations).

- **Cosmetic Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) Certification Process** by application.

- **Market surveillance** of cosmetic products (Notification control and sensory investigation of cosmetic products and its packaging, control of cosmetic products information file-PIF, control of responsible

- **Inspection of cosmetics related to consumer complaints and cosmoefficiency notifications.**

- **Inspection of cosmetics and health-claimed products related to advertisements & promotions and sales.**

After the result of inspections some measures are taken such as stopping the supply of products to the market, recall and withdrawal of the products supplied to the market, prohibition of supply to the market, implementation of permanent measures as disposal of non-compliant products, implementation of administrative fine process and announcement of non-compliant products to the public for the purpose of informing the public and warning of consumers who are at risk.

Within the scope of the procedures carried out within the framework of health claim regulations; administrative fines, prevention of access and criminal prosecution procedures are implemented in radio and TV channels, internet sites and all kinds of promotional media.
Health Industries Coordination And Tracking

Health Industries Steering Committee established by Prime Ministry Circular No 2015/19 published on the Official Gazette dated 23 Dec 2015 No 29571 has been reformed with Presidency Circular dated 13 Dec 2018 No 2018/15. The committee has been established to assess and coordinate in an integrative way issues like investment in health industries, manufacturing, increasing export, pricing for the development of technology, reimbursement, marketing authorization, public procurements, trade policies, health industries policies, data management, dialogue with private sector.

Human Medicinal Products Priority Assessment

Prioritization

Prioritization practice is carried out in order to provide earlier access to the patients of medicines that are important in terms of public health and country economy. With this prioritization practice, it is aimed to accelerate the evaluation processes of prioritized drugs carried out by our Agency.

Prioritization Criteria

- Applications relating to first generic products or products of which equivalent is authorized but not on the market
- Applications relating to biosimilar products
- Applications relating to innovative products
- Applications relating to the production of imported medicines in our country
- Applications relating to locally manufactured products for exportation purposes
- Applications relating to products of companies which are benefited from the governmental incentives in the fields of R&D, manufacturing and production
- Special importation permit applications
- Applications relating to the Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) Inspections
- Applications relating to products which have strategic importance in terms of country policies

Applications relating to products which cause serious public health problems in case they are not ready for use including vaccines or those which are included in the Agency’s foreign medicine procurement list on
Pharmaceutical Track & Trace System’s Advantages

- Prevents counterfeiting and smuggling
- Provides patient safety
- Supports rational use of medicines
- Enables drug market tracking
- Expedites reimbursement processes between pharmacies and reimbursement agencies
- Providing information for inspections and legal issues.

İTS Mobile Application

- İTS mobile application that developed for public use, is available on AppStore, GooglePlay and Windows Store.
- Patients can see their drug’s status by reading data matrix on the drug box by using their smartphone’s camera.
- İTS mobile also shows the expiration date, recall information, price of the drug.
- Patients can report adverse effects by using İTS mobile application.

Statistics

It is currently used by 48 thousand active stakeholders.

- 679 Warehouses
- 28788 Pharmacies
- 413 Manufacturers / Importers
- 51 Reimbursement Institutions
- 18272 Consumptions Centers
- 83 Exporters

Over 10 billions of drug units are being currently tracked with İTS. Response time is less than 0.2 second.
Electronic Process Management (ESY)

Transferring the work to the electronic environment is carried out by the EPM Project. All documents circulated in the Agency and sent to outside have been signed by e-signature.

Applications of the CTD format were accepted for the marketing authorization in 2005.

Applications of the e-CTD format were accepted for the marketing authorization in 2011.

EPM System’s Advantages

- Accepting the applications and works electronically coming from the contacting firms, persons and institutions,
- Forming the related domains in the web interface in order to enable the applications to be made electronically,
- Forming an electronic database covering the pharmaceutical information,
- Accepting the marketing authorization applications in the electronic environment in the form of e-CTD,
- Accepting all applications in the electronic environment,
- Forming the electronic document management system,
- Ensuring the circulation of the documents electronically in the institution,
- Reduction of physical paper flow,
- Reduction in requirement for physical storage during review,
- Preparing, storing and accessing Marketing Authorization Licenses and other licenses through EPM,
- Forming an electronic archive.

Electronic Application System

E-Submissions

- General applications made to the various departments of the TİTCK
- EMAA
- Import and Export Permit Applications
- Pricing Applications
- Meeting Applications

Advantages

- Applicants can only see their company information, applications and drugs.
- Applicants can access to real time information of their own products.
- The applicants can easily follow their previous applications.

The Flow Process of e-MAA on EPM (ESY)

Applicants

Submitting the electronic application on the Electronic Application System

Preparing the dossier

Sending e-CTD documents from a pc located in our building

Technical validation (by validator)

Pre-examination period

Scientific validation

Assessment

Applications of the CTD format were accepted for the marketing authorization in 2005.

Applications of the e-CTD format were accepted for the marketing authorization in 2011.

Drug Information Database

Data Entry

- by applicant

Verification of Database

- By registration department
- Synchronous with the assessment of the application

TİTCK has a huge drug database. Drug information database is used by both our agency and pharmaceutical companies. Applicants have to register to the Electronic Application System and enter the data of their all drugs in our database. Verification of database is made by the registration department and updating of the data is synchronous with the assessment of the application.