Regulatory Systems' Strengthening in Americas: Regional Approaches to Regulatory Convergence

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Technical cooperation approach for RSS in the Americas

- 1. Facilitating the development of **contextspecific** national regulatory systems
- 2. Promoting regulatory convergence and harmonization
- 3. Supporting the efficient use of resources by **leveraging the work of others**





Regulatory System Strengthening in the Americas: critical milestones







"The objective of this system is to facilitate the establishment of mechanisms for cooperation among regulatory authorities in the Region and progress toward possible interinstitutional recognition, with the consequent optimization of human and financial resources"

Oaxaca, 2006



Agência Nacional

de Vigilância Sanitária





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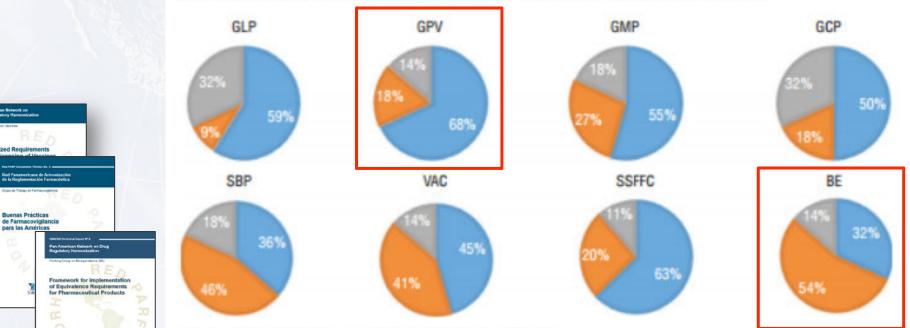
Health Santé Canada Canada





PANDRH - 23 Technical Documents (1999 – 2013) Level of adoption

FIGURE 1. Rate of use of PANDRH TDs,** Americas Region, 1999-2013



Source: compiled by the authors based on the study results.

Harmonized Requirements

Buenas Prácticas

para las Américas

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Pan American Network for Drug Regulatory Harmonization Technical Documents.

^b GLP: TD on self-evaluation of good laboratory practices; GPV: TD on good pharmacovigilance practices for the Americas; GMP: TD on good manufacturing practices inspection; GCP: TD on good clinical practices for the Americas; SBP: TD on evaluation of similar biotherapeutic products; VAC: TD on harmonized requirements for licensing of vaccines in the Americas and guidelines for preparation of applications; SSFFC: TD for health authorities on suspected counterfeit medical products; BE: TD on framework for implementation of equivalence requirements for pharmaceutical products.

^e Blue shading: survey participant reported country used the TD; orange shading: survey participant reported country did not use the TD; grey shading; survey participant did not respond to the question.

> Pombo ML, Porrás A, Saidon PC, Cascio SM. Regulatory convergence and harmonization: barriers to effective use and adoption of common standards. Rev Panam Salud Publica. 2016;39(5):217-25.



Medicines Regulatory Systems Core Elements

PRINCIPLES

- Independence
- Equity
- Transparency
- Ethical
- Code of conduct
- Absence of conflict of interest
- Risk Management Plan
- Accountability
- Regulatory Science

Legal basis

CROSS-CUTTING ELEMENTS

- Standard, guidance, specifications, and procedures
- Financing and other resources
- Quality assurance system
- Competent
 human
 resources
- Information systems

CORE REGULATORY FUNCTIONS ACROSS MAJOR PRODUCTS CATEGORIES

National Regulatory System Framework

Registration and marketing authorization

Licensing activities

Post-marketing surveillance (including lot release for vaccines)

Oversight of clinical trials

Inspections and enforcement activities

Laboratory access and quality testing

Others (no common across specific products), such as: vigilance and risk management, control of promotion and advertising, control of narcotics, psychotropic substances and precursors, pharmaceutical personnel

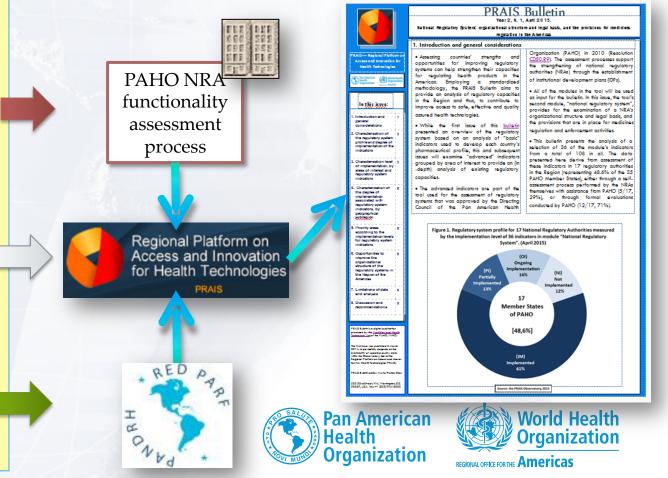
Strengthening National Regulatory Authorities



- October 2010 (PAHO Directing Council) ✓ CD50.R9 "STRENGTHENING NATIONAL REGULATORY AUTHORITIES FOR MEDICINES AND BIOLOGICALS."
- To request the Director to:
 - Support initiatives for the <u>strengthening and qualification of</u> <u>national regulatory authorities</u> to guarantee the quality, safety, and efficacy of medicines, biologicals, and other health technologies;

To the Member States:

- Strengthen and evaluate their regulatory capabilities through an assessment of the performance of their essential functions;
- Promote the dissemination of information on the results and processes for the regulation;
- Promote interaction and technical cooperation among countries.



Towards functional national regulatory systems

Functional Regulatory Systems

Institutional development plan

*priority setting *clear goals based on gap analysis and context

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Evaluation

Technical support

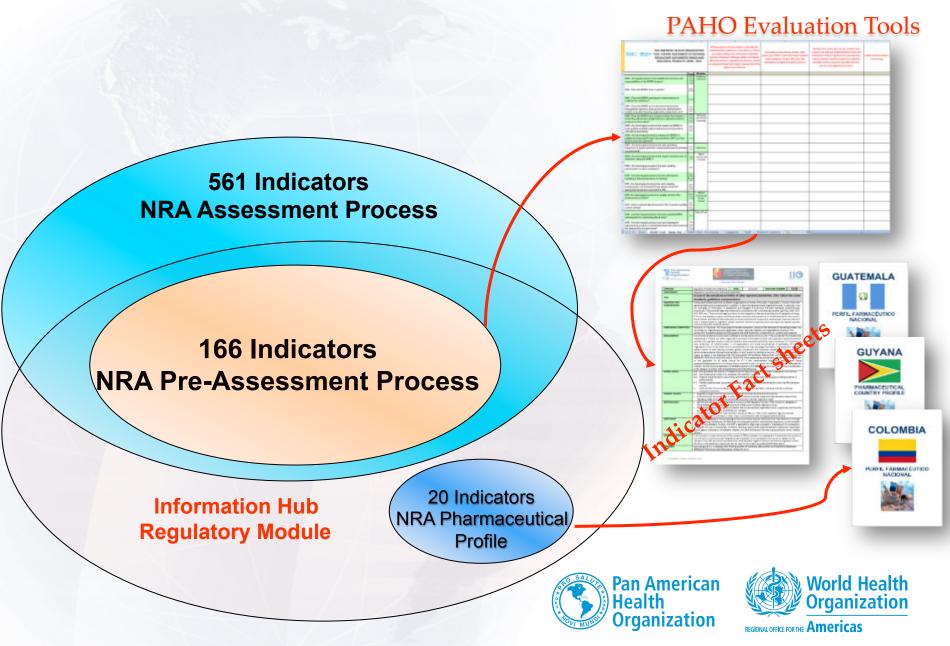
*bilateral/multilateral *NRAr *networks

*direct technical cooperation





Standardized tools and data sources



Participation implies that the Member State:

- Adopts an IDP based on the assessments
- Allows that the results can be shared (except of protected and confidential information) with participating NRAs
- Allows for the publishing of aggregated regional/sub-regional data









REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE Americas









Regional Regulatory Profile

68.8% Basic regulatory capacities [March 2014]

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61% **Regulatory System** [April 2015]

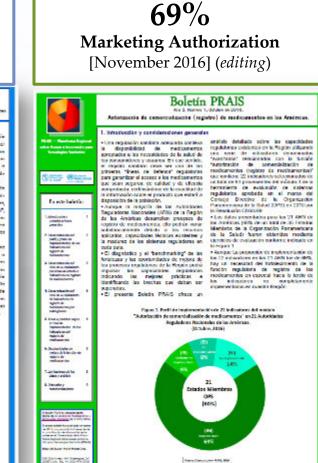
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Functional Level of the National Regulatory Authority

- Level IV: defined as a competent and efficient national regulatory authority that performs the health regulatory functions recommended by PAHO/WHO for guaranteeing the quality, safety, and efficacy of medicines and biologicals. Regulatory authority of regional reference.
- Level III: defined as a national regulatory authority that needs to improve its performance of certain health regulatory functions recommended by PAHO/WHO for guaranteeing the quality, safety, and efficacy of medicines and biologicals.
- Level II: defined as structures or organizations with a national regulatory authority mandate that perform certain health regulatory functions recommended by PAHO/WHO for guaranteeing the quality, safety, and efficacy of medicines and biologicals.
- Level I: defined as divisions of health institutions that perform certain health regulatory functions for medicines and biologicals.





Strengthening Regulatory Authorities in Medicines and Biologics (CD50.R9), 2010





The regulatory authorities of regional reference will:

a) Participate in processes for guaranteeing the quality, safety, and efficacy of products procured by the Pan American Health Organization on behalf of the countries.

b) Collaborate as reference centers in implementing and monitoring the recommendations of PANDRH.

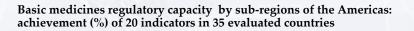
c) Collaborate with the Pan American Health Organization in activities to strengthen other national regulatory authorities in the Region so they can be designated as regulatory authorities of regional reference.

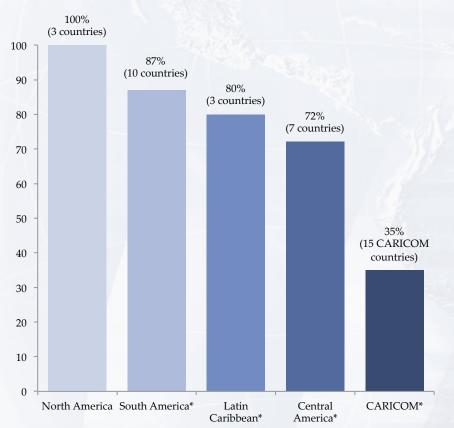
d) Share public information online within the framework of current national legislation on the products approved by the regulatory authorities of regional reference. This will give authorities with less capacity tools for making decisions about their own products, as the products registered and marketed in countries with regulatory authorities for regional reference will meet WHO's recommended quality standards.





Achievements and impact of an initiative in which all countries of the Region, regardless of their level of development participate and benefit





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What are the implications?

- 1. Adoption of IDP,
- 2. Regulatory profiles are made public,
- 3. Identification of strengths and weaknesses, prioritization, identification and establishment of partnerships/joint work plans supported by NRAr
- 4. Prioritization of harmonization and regulatory convergence activities.

Why does it work?

- 1. Member State driven, formal mandate, coordinated response.
- 2. Promotes transparency and limits bias,
- 3. Engaging countries in regional technical cooperation practices (paradigm shift).





Regulatory Exchange Platform secure (REPs):Background

- PAHO's PRAIS platform required a secure environment to share inspection reports (PRAISEC).
- Member states who participate in the Medical Device Single Audit Program (MDSAP) asked PAHO to leverage and converge the efforts of PRAISEC, MDSAP and potentially other global initiatives.
- TGA, ANVISA, Health Canada, Japan (MHLW/ PMDA) and FDA provided initial funding and technical support for the project.





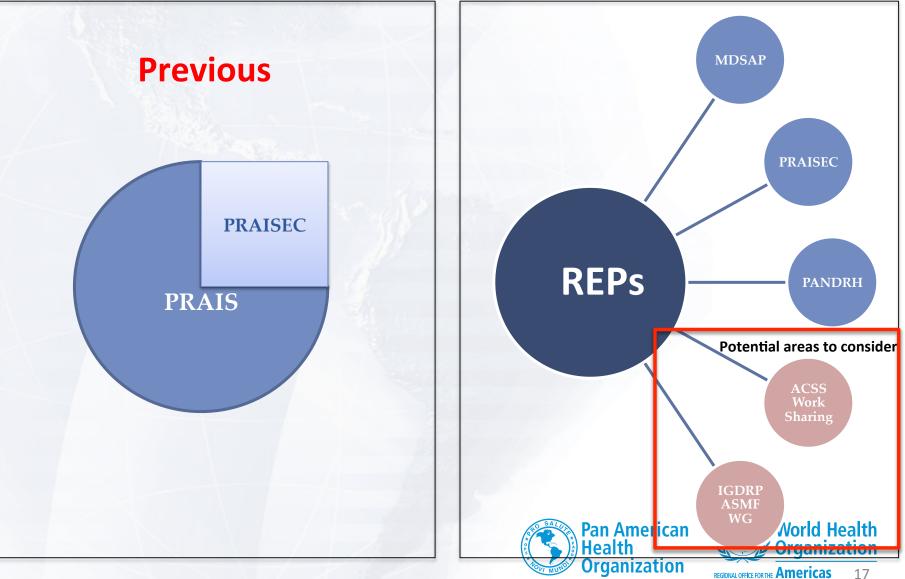
What's REPs?

- Regulatory Exchange Platform secure (REPs) is an IT solution to support the secure exchange of regulatory non-public information (NPI) to inform and support regulatory decision making among National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs).
- REPs is designed as a modular platform to support the secure information exchange of current and future initiatives.



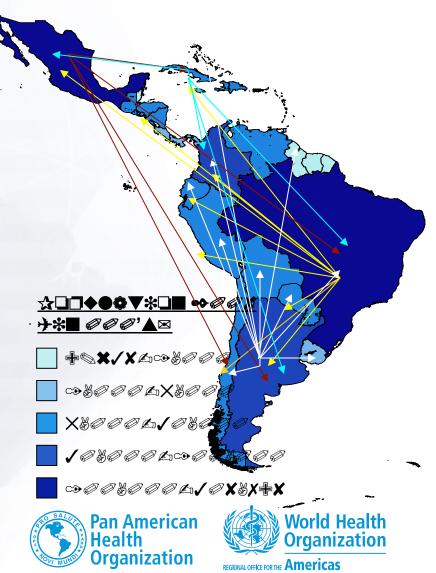


What's REPs?



A new trend towards convergence in the development of the regulatory systems in the Americas

- In the Americas there is increasing international cooperation to strengthen the regional regulatory capacity
- Cooperation is mainly based on the sharing of information, convergence and reliance of regulatory processes, not in the absolute harmonization of norms and standards
- A national regulatory system perspective and capacity building is central to the region's convergence efforts



Thank you!



