

Experiences with early G-BA advice and involvement of BfArM/PEI

*Dr. Anja Langeneckert, Head Drug Regulatory Affairs,
Roche Pharma AG, Grenzach*



Set the scene...

- ▶ Support for HTA (G-BA) activities is a relatively new activity at a German affiliate level
- ▶ While Regulatory decisions are mostly done at a European level, HTA/Market access remains a “local” activity
- ▶ There is a strong connection between Regulatory and Market access activities as the Regulatory dossier and the outcome of the approval process form the basis of the value dossier
- ▶ Scientific Advice discussions with BfArM/PEI is a typical Regulatory activity
- ▶ G-BA advice discussions are lead by Market Access with input from DRA



Some similarities, some discrepancies between the two advice processes...

Note : Early G-BA advice may be an at-risk activity

Agenda

G-BA advice

- ❖ **Why? Legal basis**
- ❖ **How does it work in practice?**
- ❖ **How can DRA contribute?**
- ❖ **Involvement of BfArM/PEI**
- ❖ **Experiences at Roche Germany**
- ❖ **Outlook/Discussion**



Different legal basis for G-BA additional benefit assessment and Regulatory risk-benefit assessment (simplified...)

▶ PEI/BfArM:

AMG (Drug law)

- Quality
- Safety
- Efficacy



▶ G-BA:

SGB V (Social code book)

- Additional benefit over existing therapies

Legal basis G-BA advice („Request for consultation“)

SGB V §35a (7)

„Eine Beratung vor Beginn von Zulassungsstudien der Phase drei oder zur Planung klinischer Prüfungen soll unter Beteiligung des Bundesinstituts für Arzneimittel und Medizinprodukte oder des Paul-Ehrlich-Instituts stattfinden.“

G-BA homepage:

Eine solche Beratung kann bereits vor Beginn von Zulassungsstudien der Phase drei und unter Beteiligung des Bundesinstituts für Arzneimittel und Medizinprodukte oder des Paul-Ehrlich-Instituts stattfinden.

This consultation can take place before the start of phase 3 authorization studies and can involve the Federal Institute for Drugs and Medical Devices or the Paul Ehrlich Institute.”

How does it work in practice?

▶ **G-BA meeting:**

- F2F G-BA meeting will be scheduled approx 2 months upon receipt of request
- Meeting duration 20min to 2h
- Outcome of G-BA discussion will be presented to you
 - Provision of responses on slides (mostly)
 - BfArM/PEI position handed over in writing
 - Possibility to ask clarifying questions

▶ **Preparation phase:**

- Request template provided on G-BA homepage
 - *Don't forget to tick the box for involvement of BfArM/PEI*

▶ **Post-meeting:**

- Receipt of protocol (written by G-BA) ca. 1 month later
- 1 week time for comments



How can DRA contribute?

▶ G-BA meeting:

- Provide Regulatory viewpoint at G-BA meeting
- Interpretation of indication wording, approval status

▶ Preparation phase:

- Provide/explain Regulatory context:
 - Global development timelines (incl. scenario planning)
 - Regulatory pathway
 - Help decide on best timing of G-BA advice
 - Provision/Interpretation of Scientific Advice from EU and FDA
 - And/or Regulatory guidelines
- Input/review into G-BA „advice package“
 - Special emphasis on indication wording

▶ Post-meeting:

- Discussion with BfArM/PEI



Involvement of BfArM/PEI

Paul-Ehrlich-Institut 

The logo for the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut (PEI), featuring a stylized red and blue emblem.

 BfArM

The logo for the Bundesinstitut für Arzneimittel und Medizinprodukte (BfArM), featuring a blue circular emblem with a white caduceus symbol.

Before G-BA advice

- ▶ Discussion of study design
- ▶ Understanding of comparator therapy from Regulatory standpoint
- ▶ Indication wording

After G-BA advice

- ▶ Interpretation of indication wording
 - (mostly of comparator therapy but also on „own“ indications)
- ▶ „Formal“ Scientific Advice re G-BA proposed study design/comparator
- ▶ Discussion/Feasibility of G-BA commitments

Experiences at Roche Germany

≈ Fifteen (15) G-BA advices

- Few true „**early**“ advices
 - i.e. prior to start/protocol lock of phase III/registration study
- Mostly „**mid-stage**“ advices
 - „heritage“ prior AMNOG
- Some „**dossier**“ advices
 - i.e. structure of value dossier
 - Usually close to final regulatory approval
 - „stable“ indication

.....3 development programs stopped

Typical questions for G-BA advice...

- ▶ ZVT – comparator therapy
- ▶ Endpoints qualifying for G-BAs additional benefit assessment domains
 - Mortality
 - Morbidity
 - QoL
 - Safety
- ▶ Study design
- ▶ Homogeneity of population as per indication
- ▶ SOC



Discussion Points at G-BA meetings



- ▶ ZVT (comparator therapy):
 - ZVT needs to be approved in Germany
 - But „actual“ evidence base of approval status often not considered...
 - When does a new therapy becomes SOC and therefore ZVT?

- ▶ Endpoints (i.e. PFS in oncology...)

- ▶ Validity of PRO tools

- ▶ Problems that arise through global nature of drug development i.e.
 - concomittant therapies allowed in study protocol are not approved (or „differently“ approved) in Germany/EU

Outlook - Procedural questions

- ▶ When is a new G-BA advice needed?
 - When is the evidence for the G-BA advice “outdated”?
 - Will G-BA monitor this as well?

- ▶ “True” parallel/joint SA of G-BA and BfArM/PEI i.e.:
 - BfArM and/or PEI take part in the G-BA discussion
 - G-BA/IQWiG join national scientific advice at BfArM/PEI
 - Start with Observer status?



True Joint Advice ...can we get there?

What is possible on an EU-level, should be possible on a national level?

Can we try a pilot?



THANK YOU