The Role and Duties of the EU Qualified Person (QP)

Here from NSF-DBA Today

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NSF-DBA

Who are NSF-DBA?

- 25 year old company, originating in UK
  - Resources now in UK, USA, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Asia
- 8 partners, 50+ consultants, strong administrative staff
  - All our partners and consultants are highly experienced, offer pragmatic solutions and remain current in subject matter
- Very strong reputation
- Strongly growing US business and reputation
  - Boston office opened in late 2008
  - Client base and reputation growing
- Now part of the NSF Health Science Division of NSF International, a US non-profit life-sciences company
  - Includes Becker and Associates Pharma and Devices

NSF Health Sciences Division

NSF Reference Standards

NSF DBA

NSF Pharmalytica

NSF-DBA

NSF-DBA Focus?

- Pharmaceutical Quality and Technical education/training – we conduct both in-house and at external venues on topics related to Quality Management, Technical topics and GMP compliance in pharmaceutical manufacturing, control and supply.
  - We are the pre-eminent trainers of QPs in the UK. This has been a core part of our business since the company was established in 1986.

NSF-DBA

- **NSF-DBA Focus?**
- Consultancy – on a broad range of Pharmaceutical and Biotech regulatory and technical matters – including pre-approval inspection readiness, quality system assessment, advice on facility design and validation – all to meet global standards.
- Auditing – we undertake a range of types of audits from broad-based Quality System assessments and company due diligence audits to focused supplier/vendor audits.

Legal Duties of the QP

- Defined in EU Directives:
- Directive 2001/82/EC
  - For marketed veterinary medicinal products
- Directive 2001/83/EC
  - For marketed human medicinal products
- Directive 2001/20/EC
  - For investigational medicinal products

Legal Duties – Directive 2001/82 & 83 (Marketed Product)

Ensure that:

- Each batch of product has been manufactured in compliance with:
  - National laws
  - Requirements of Marketing Authorisation
- Each batch imported from outside the community has undergone in the EU:
  - Full qualitative analysis
  - Quantitative analysis of at least all the active constituents (note: exemptions where MRA exists)
  - All other tests to show compliance with the Marketing Authorisation

Legal Duties – Directive 2001/82 & 83 (Marketed Product)

- Where the product is released for sale, QP must certify in a register or equivalent that above requirements have been satisfied
  - **Note:** Certification must precede physical release to market
- **All these requirements essentially similar for IMP's**

Areas for Differing Interpretation in EU Member States

- QP Education
  - Article 49 of EU Directive 2001/83/EC as amended specifies QP education requirements
  - How EU Member States have incorporated these requirements has varied between Member States
- Way of Incorporation of QP Role in National Law
  - The way of naming the QP and delegation of the activities also varies between Member States

United Kingdom

- Education
  - QP has to be a member of a professional body (Chemistry, Pharmacy or Biology)
  - List of persons eligible to act as QP maintained by professional bodies
- Naming of QP
  - All QPs have to be named on the site manufacturing authorisation (and therefore approved by Authorities)
- Code of Practice and Study Guide adopted
  - Not in use in other countries

France

- Education
  - QP has to be a member of the French Pharmacist professional body
  - List of persons eligible to act as QP maintained by this professional body
- Naming of QP
  - Each legal entity must have a “Pharmacien Responsible”
  - This role is normally at a high level in the Company
  - Working QPs at site are appointed by a system of delegation (but not named on site authorisation)

Named Roles 'Similar' to EU QP

- Japan
  - Marketing Compliance Officer
- Brazil
  - Farmaceutico Responsauel
  - Responsible Technician
- Turkey
  - Responsible Person
- China
  - 'QP' type role in pilot

The Pharmaceutical Business

Legal

Ethical

Professional

QP

Code of Practice

QP Acting Within the Code

- The ***POWER*** to say ***YES***
- The ***DUTY*** to sometimes say ***NO***
- Act ethically to make the ***RIGHT*** decisions
- Protect the Patient
- Manage Business Pressures
- Inform the Regulators of serious issues
- A Very Personal Responsibility

Legal Duties of the QP

- Certification
  - Must be performed by QP
  - Must precede batch release
- Release
  - Need not be by a QP

Challenges – Increased Scope of Role (now)

- GMP certification of active substance suppliers
  - Coming from requirements of Article 46(f) of EU Directive 2001/83/EC
  - Being requested at time of Marketing Authorisation (MA) submission or renewals
  - Starting to be challenged in inspections also
- MA renewals
  - QP required to sign “state of the art” declaration

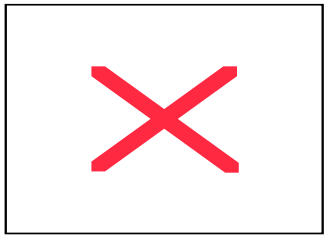
Challenges – Increased Scope of Role (coming)

- GMP for certain excipients?
  - Scope still being discussed
  - EU Commission reviewing (again…)
  - Joint industry group have been involved in discussions with EU Commission
  - Once finalized it is possible again to fall to the QP to certify GMP compliance…

Challenges – The QP in a Large Organisation

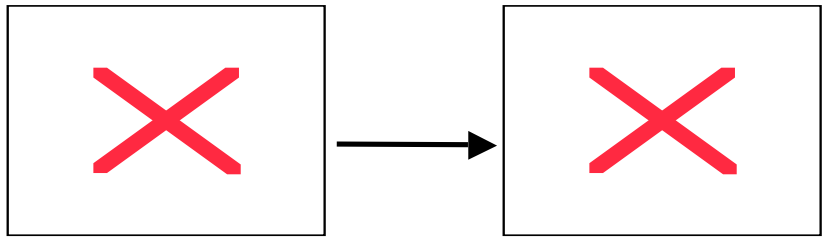
- Industry, especially large Pharma, have moved to globalised supply chains
- More movement of product in intermediate stages between sites
- Large organisations have many legal entities

Types of Production and Certification



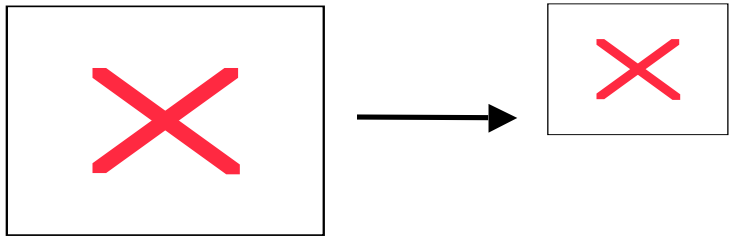
(5.1) 1 site

= 1 QP responsible, but can delegate



(5.2) 2 sites = QP for each stage Need TA

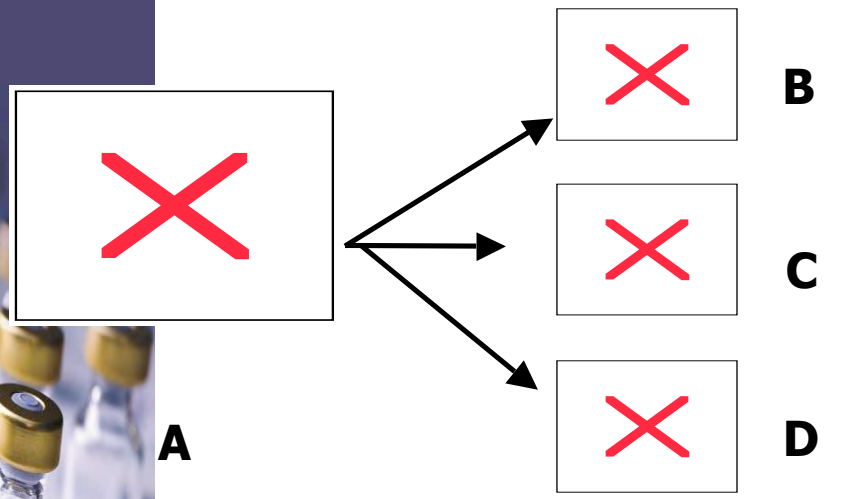
Certify by 1 using others work



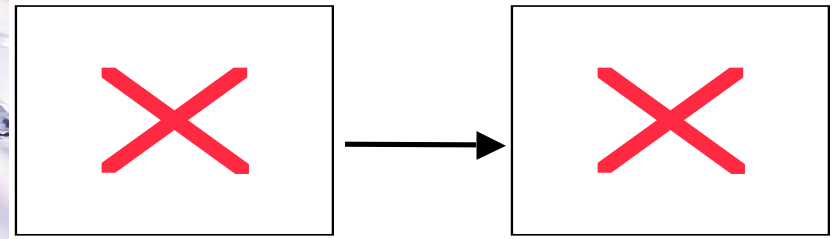
(5.3) Contracting - Need TA

1 QP of MA holder; overall responsibility
1 QP contractor may confirm

Types of Production and Certification



One site makes and several package (5.5)
Different MAs e.g. generic purchases
Certifying QP at B, C, D releases using data from A
QP at A must have information from B, C, D
MUST have a TA



FP purchased and released under own MA (5.6)
QP of PURCHASER must certify + TA

EU GMP Guide Annex 16

KEY PRINCIPLE:

- Responsibility for the correct manufacture of a batch should be overall concern of the QP who certifies product for release

HOWEVER:

- Acknowledges potentially complex arrangements for manufacture
- QP may not be involved in every aspect
- QP may need to rely on others

BUT

- Must establish reliance is well founded

Annex 16 – General

HOW to establish reliance is well founded?

- Personal knowledge
- Expertise of people involved
- Confidence in the Quality System

OR?

- Certification by a QP of satisfactory intermediate manufacture within a Quality System approved by the QP who certifies the finished product batch

International Multi-site Supply Chain

- A typical supply chain

Annex 16 – General

- Importance of ***WRITTEN AGREEMENT*** or ***FORMAL CONTRACT*** to define and control arrangements:
  - Different sites of same company
  - Different organisations
- Agreements in line with Chapter 7
- Agreement to cover any matter that releasing QP might need to know

Products Imported From a Third Country

- Requires testing on importation
  - A trade barrier?
  - Must be at a lab in the EU
- Then certification by a QP
  - QP of importer to certify/release
  - May take account of certification by QP of another manufacturing/importation authorisation holder
  - Written agreement to be in place

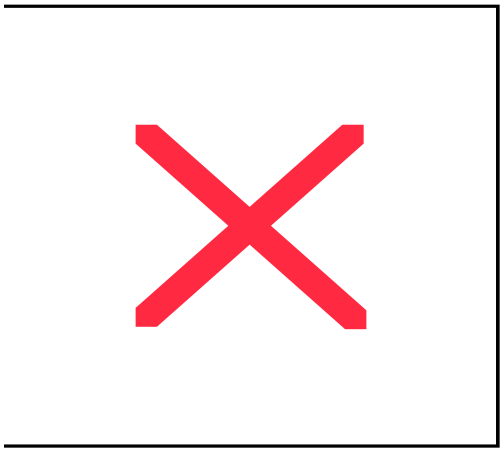
Products Imported from a Third Country Having MRA with EU

- Third Country with MRA with EU
  - Unless otherwise specified, MRA does not remove requirement for QP release

BUT

  - Reduced testing on import may be possible
  - QP must ensure imported material complies with national legislation (e.g. labelling)
  - QP must be confident in conditions of storage and transportation

t Is The Role Of QP Certifying Batch Final Release?



- Review all non-
- Review and appr
- Re
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- Ta
- Certify supplier of API?
- Qualify suppliers of excipients?

MP at manufacturing

eviations and investigations in supply chain?

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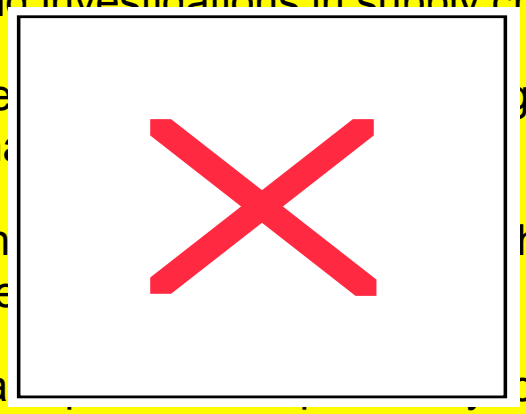
or all manufacturing stages?

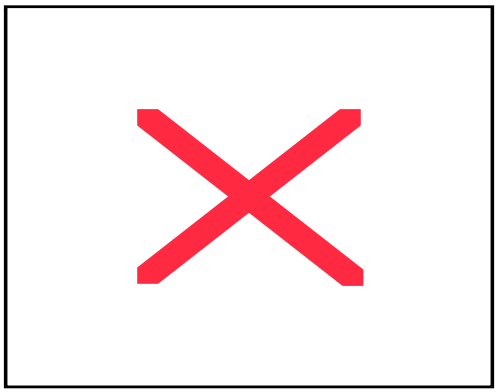


To:

- **Ensure there is a system to evaluate and approve the quality systems used by all suppliers in the supply chain which:**
  - **Ensures GMP at manufacturing sites**
  - **Reviews and investigates deviations correctly**
  - **Reviews and approves changes correctly**
  - **Certifies suppliers of APIs**
  - **Qualifies suppliers of excipients**
- **Rely on confirmation of another QP in supply chain**

Outline

hat is the role of QP?



ease for sale or for export that:

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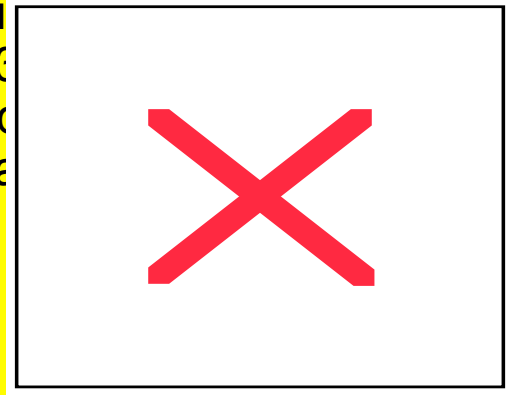


2.1 and 2.2

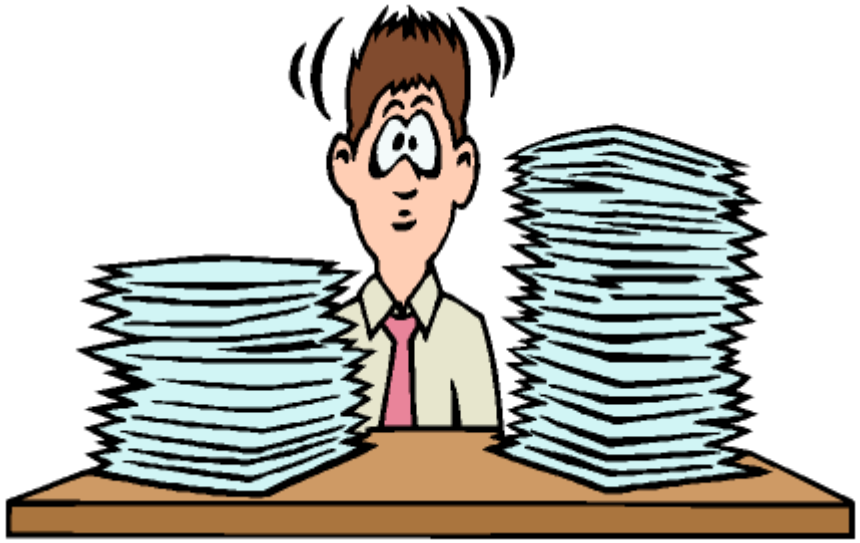
To ensure there is a quality system in place which

- **monitors global marketing authorisation applications, approvals and changes**
- **monitors local GMP and legal requirements**
- **and which ensures that a batch is manufactured in accordance with its marketing authorisation and local legal requirements**

What is the role of QP?

- To certify batches

The QP role should *not* be an administrative one focused on batch release paperwork



Routine Duties of the QP

- QP should ***ENSURE***:
  - Compliance with the MAA
  - Compliance with GMP
  - Manufacturing and testing processes validated
  - Deviations and changes approved and additional samples tested (if necessary)
  - Checks and tests performed
  - Documents completed and endorsed
  - Audits carried out
  - ***ALL*** relevant factors considered
- Easy isn't it……??

Routine Duties of the QP

- Applies equally to Intermediate ***AND*** to the final QP (unless otherwise agreed in technical contract)
- The QP is required to maintain knowledge and experience... scientific progress ***AND*** Quality Management (CPD!)
- If the QP is not familiar with processing/ products... must first ensure that he/she has first gained the relevant knowledge

Summary – Role of the QP

- QP's have to act ethically and balance the needs of their stakeholders when making decisions:
  - Personal
  - Company they work for
  - Regulatory Agencies
  - THE PATIENT
- There are many legal requirements and regulatory expectations to be satisfied by the QP
  - They have to rely on confidence in Systems and Individuals
  - They have to have sufficient experience and seniority to make decisions without undue pressure

THANK YOU

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