

Existing WHO work on Medicines Safety & Safe Use

Department of Essential Medicines and Health
Products

World Health Organization

WHO Pharmacovigilance & Medicines Safety Programme

How it started



- Thalidomide 1961



- WHO Prgm. for Int. Drug Monitoring 1968

- ✚ World Health Assembly Resolution 16.36
- ✚ INVITES Member States to arrange for a systematic collection of information on serious adverse drug reactions observed during the development of a drug and, in particular, after its release for general use.

WHO definition of pharmacovigilance

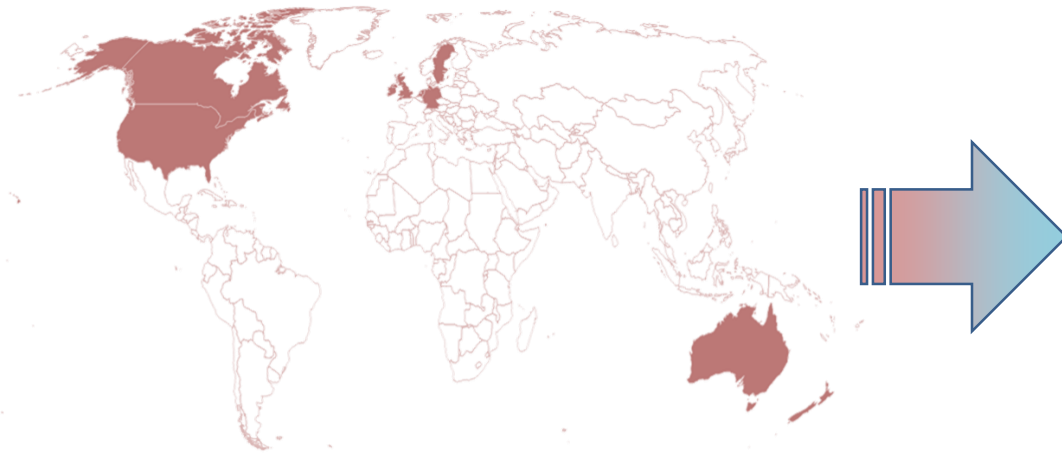
Type A, Type B ADRs

Pharmacovigilance (PV)

is defined as the science and activities relating to the detection, assessment, understanding and prevention of **adverse effects** or **any other drug-related problem**.

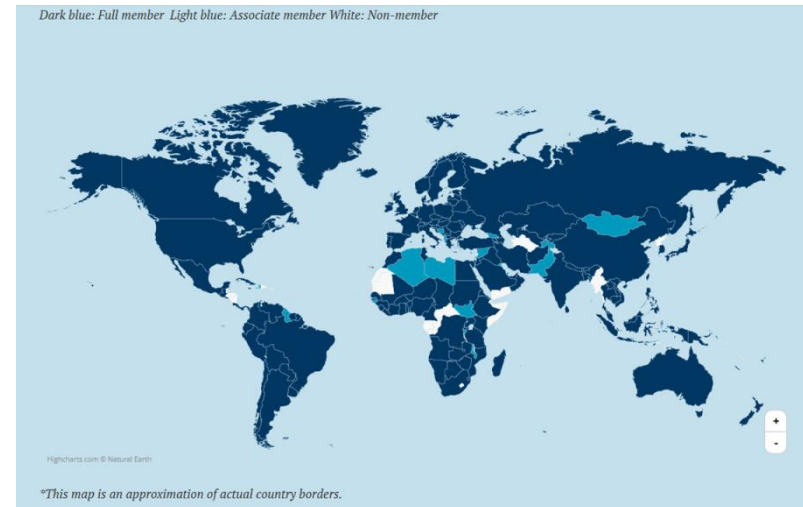
Lack of effect, Medication errors, quality problems

WHO Programme for International Drug Monitoring (PIDM)



Founding members in 1968

10 Countries



June 2018

131 Full Members

29 Associate Members

VigiBase

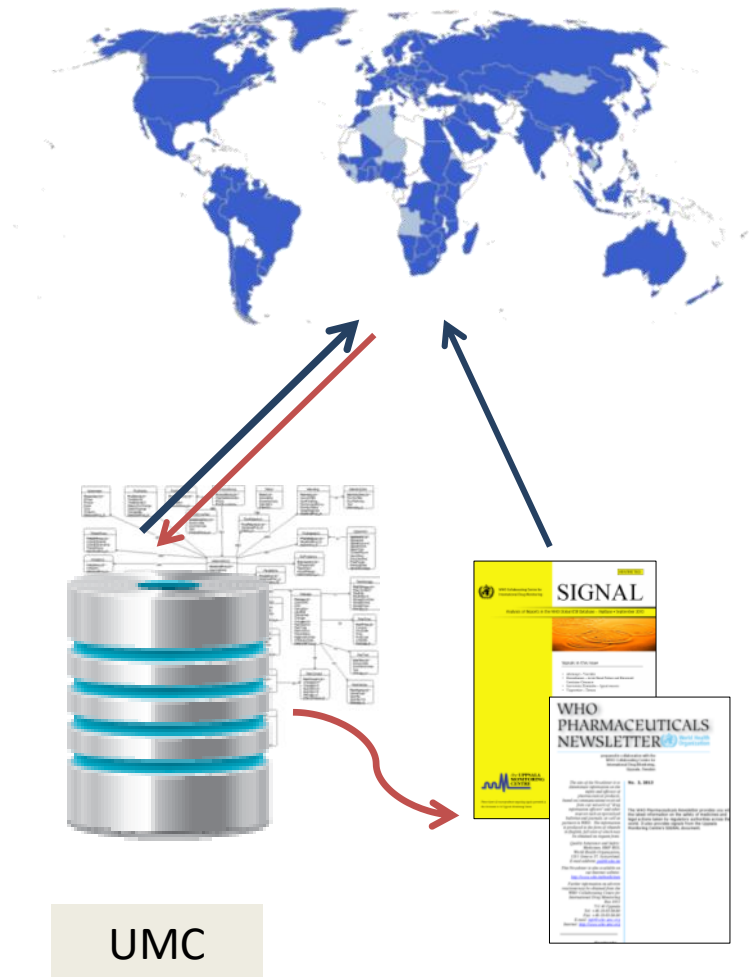
the WHO global individual case safety reports (ICSR) database
managed and maintained by the WHO Collaborating Centre in
Uppsala

The oldest and largest ICSR
database

Freely accessible to National
Centres

Aggregated data also
accessible to the public

Global signal detection



Who is contributing to the ICSR/pharmacovigilance database (via national databases, to the WHO global database, Vigibase)?

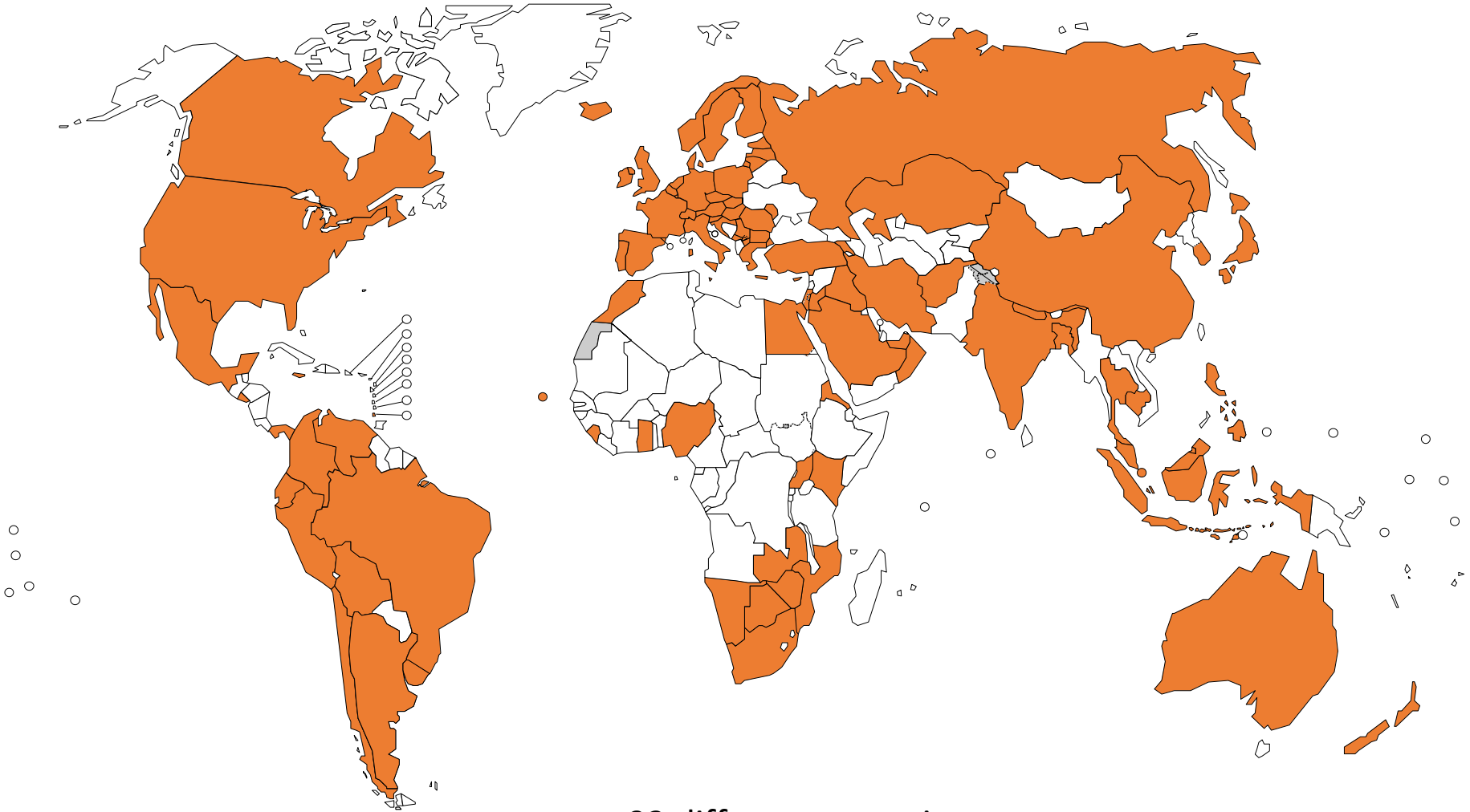
- Healthcare professionals
- Industry
- General public (Patients & care-providers)
- Public health programmes and community care-providers

Medication errors reported in the WHO Global database of Individual Case Safety Reports (Vigibase)

- Medication Error is reportable to PV database
- All MEs can be reported, whether or not they lead to patient harm
- Standardised MedDRA Query (SMQ)
 - Medication errors broad SMQ
- Over 17 million safety reports and growing
 - 934 888 reports of Medication Error (June 2018)
 - ~ 5% of all ICSRs in database

ME Reporting countries

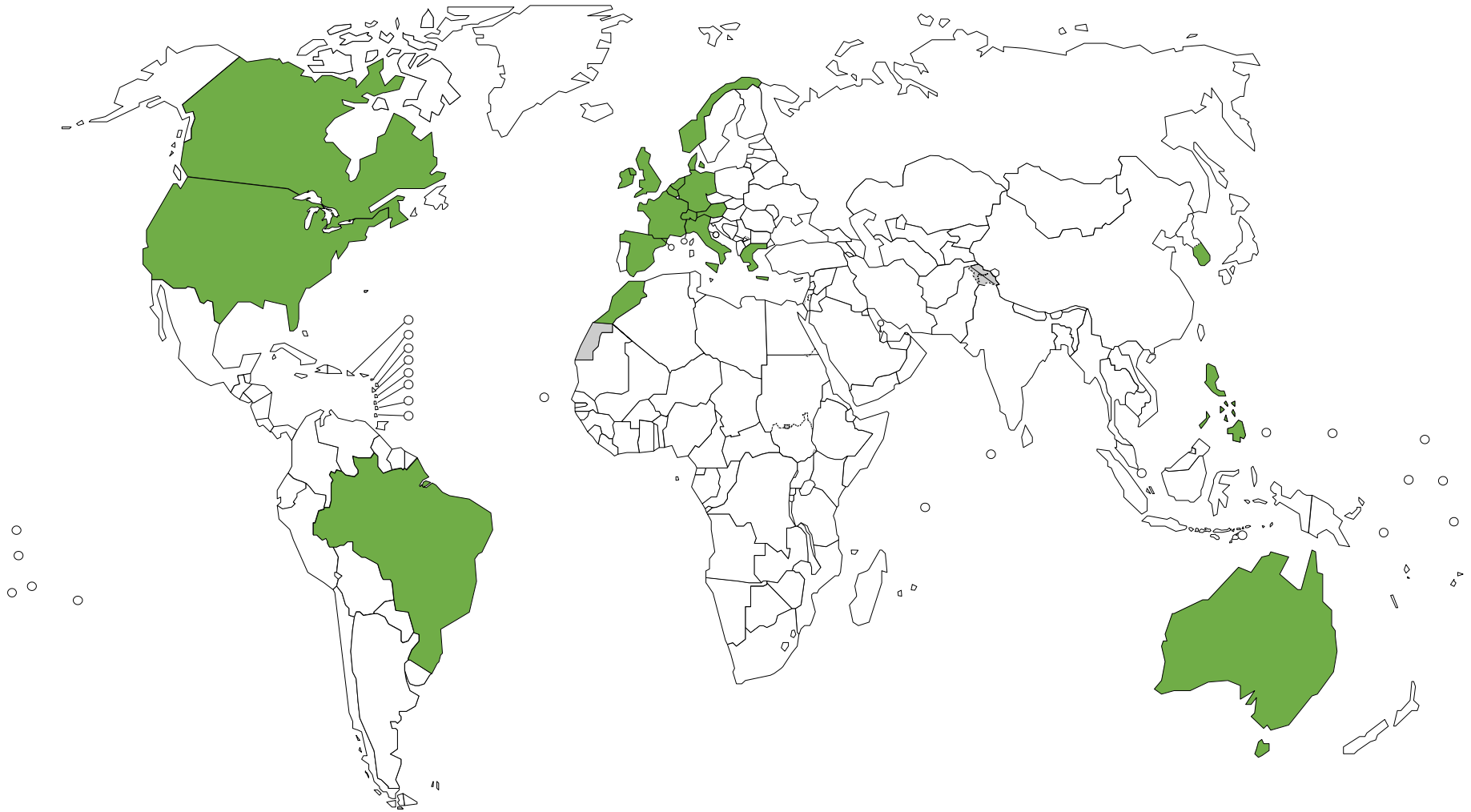
June 2018



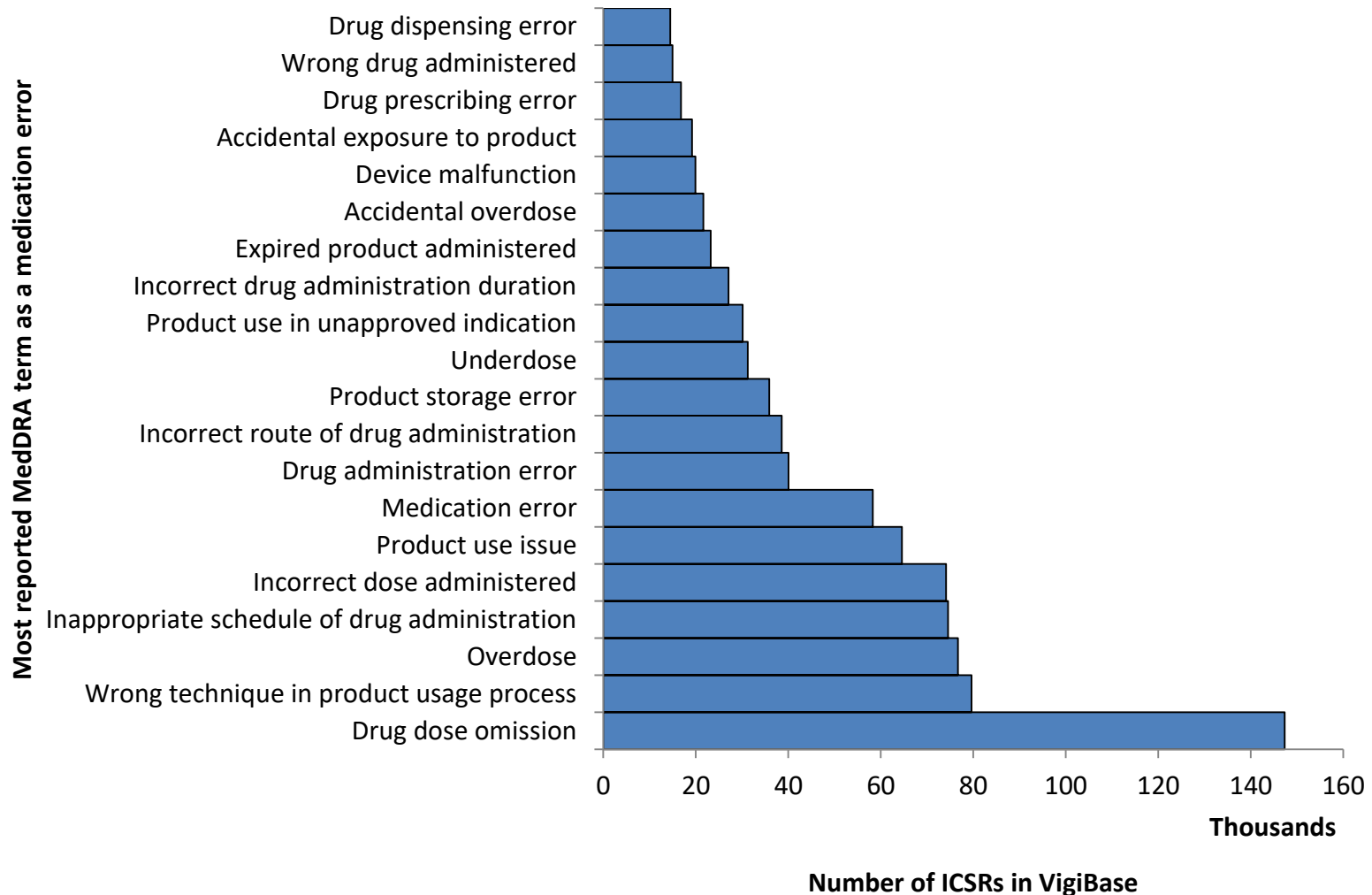
93 different countries

Top 20 ME reporting countries

June 2018



Top reported MedDRA terms related to medication errors (1968-June 2018)



Top reported MedDRA term for medication errors in each region

Region	Top three reported medication error
Americas	Drug omission Wrong technique in product process Incorrect dose administered
Europe	Overdose Medication error Product in unapproved indication
Eastern Mediterranean	Medication error Incorrect dose administered Inappropriate schedule of drug administration
Western Pacific	Inappropriate schedule of drug administration Medication error Overdose
South-East Asia	Inappropriate schedule of drug administration Medication error overdose
Africa	Overdose Drug administration error Medication error

Reporters

Region	Top three reported medication error
Western Pacific Last 1000 ICSRs (June 2018)	Other Health Professional (79%) Consumer/non health professional (43%) Physician (23%) Pharmacist (14%) Lawyer (1%) Other reporters are not clearly specified
Europe Last 1000 ICSRs (June 2018)	Consumer/non health professional (41%) Physician (21%) Pharmacist (15%) Other Health Professional (14%) Other reporters are not clearly specified
Americas Last 1000 ICSRs (June 2018)	Consumer/non health professional (64%) Physician (13%) Other Health Professional (11%) Pharmacist (10%) Lawyer (<1%) Other reporters are not clearly specified

Please note that many ICSRs do not clearly specify reporters, thus compromising the accuracy of these estimates

Reporters

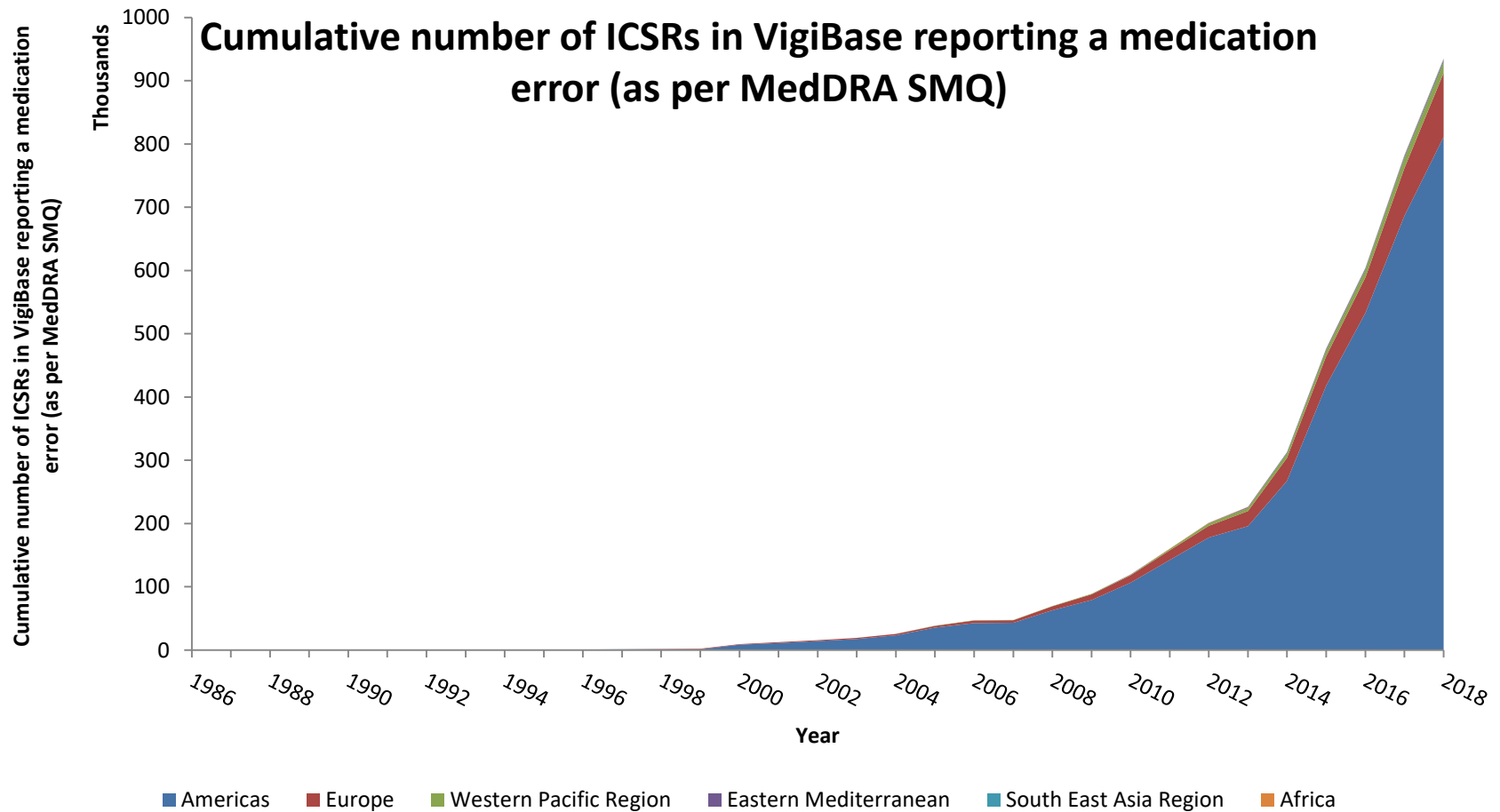
Region	Top three reported medication error
Eastern Mediterranean Year 2017	Physician (34%) Consumer/non health professional (22%) Pharmacist (19%) Other Health professional (19%) Other reporters are not clearly specified
South-East Asia Year 2017	Consumer/Non Health Professional (45%) Physician (15%) Other Health Professional (9%) Other reporters are not clearly specified
Africa Year 2017	Consumer/non health professional (39%) Other Health professional (23%) Physician (22%) Pharmacist (12%)

Please note that many ICSRs do not clearly specify reporters, thus compromising the accuracy of these estimates

Example of signals published for medication errors

- Agomelatine: inappropriate schedule of drug administration (April 2018)
- Brivudine and 5-fluorouracil: persistence of a fatal drug-drug interaction (April 2018)
- Edoxaban: Incorrect dose administered (April 2018)
- Metamizole: Documented hypersensitivity to administered product (April 2018)
- Methotrexate: incorrect drug administration rate (April 2018)
- Phenprocoumon: Accidental overdose (April 2018)
- Olanzapine and accidental drug intake by children (April 2015)

Reports for medication errors per Region



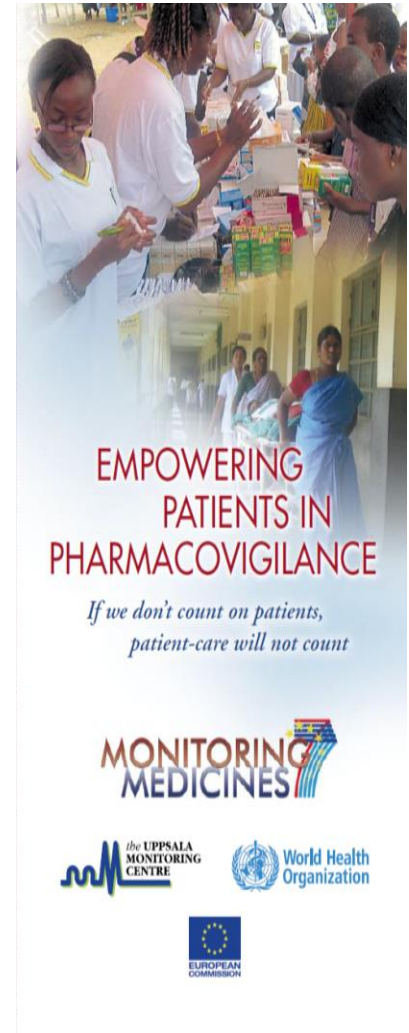
MEs through patient reporting: Empowering patients in pharmacovigilance



Seminar at World Health Assembly 2012



**SAFETY
MONITORING**
of **MEDICINAL PRODUCTS**
Reporting system for the general public



WHO CC for PV in Education and Patient Reporting



Conference on Patient
Reporting
Leiden, Netherlands, April 2015

WHO Global Patient Safety Challenge

Medication Without Harm

Global Launch, 29 March 2017



Goal of the Challenge

Reduce the level of **severe, avoidable harm**
related to medications by 50% over 5
years, globally

Early Priority Action



World Health
Organization

Medication Safety in Transitions of Care



**MEDICATION
WITHOUT HARM**
Global Patient Safety Challenge

Technical Report



World Health
Organization

Medication Safety in High-risk situations



**MEDICATION
WITHOUT HARM**
Global Patient Safety Challenge

Technical Report



World Health
Organization

Medication Safety in Polypharmacy



**MEDICATION
WITHOUT HARM**
Global Patient Safety Challenge

Technical Report

Can we identify Medication Errors by analysing preventable adverse drug events

OPEN ACCESS Freely available online

2012

 PLOS one

Percentage of Patients with Preventable Adverse Drug Reactions and Preventability of Adverse Drug Reactions – A Meta-Analysis

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¹ Nordic School of Public Health (NHV), Gothenburg, Sweden, ² Laboratoire d'Enseignement et de Recherche sur le Traitement de l'Information Médicale, Université de la Méditerranée, Marseille, France, ³ Centre for Applied Biostatistics, University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden, ⁴ Department of Drug Research/Clinical Pharmacology, Linköping University, Linköping, Sweden

- 2% of **outpatients** had preventable ADRs
- 52% of ADRs were preventable
- 1.6% of **inpatients** had preventable ADRs
- 45% of ADRs were preventable

WHO Collaborating Centre for Strengthening Pharmacovigilance Systems & Practices, Rabat, Morocco

Covert ways of detecting MEs?

REPORTING AND LEARNING SYSTEMS FOR MEDICATION ERRORS: THE ROLE OF PHARMACOVIGILANCE CENTRES



World Health
Organization

Benkirane R, Soulaymani-Bencheikh R et al.

Assessment of a New Instrument for Detecting Preventable Adverse Drug Reactions. Drug Saf. 2015 Apr;38(4):383-93.

Other developments

- The Identification of Medicinal Products (IDMP)
 - Suite of ISO standards
 - Unique alpha-numeric codes
 - Assigned to medicinal products
 - Application in the PV domain
- WHO considering the maintenance of PhPID within IDMP: pharmaceutical product identifiers
 - Global source of validated, unique PhPIDs
 - Validation and maintenance service would serve to also reduce MEs
 - Example, LASA products

Thank you

Acknowledgement

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Ms Malin Jacobsson, WHO

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www.who.int/medicines/en

www.who.int/patientsafety