

The new GDPR. Implications in the pharmaceutical industry

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New regime. Key topics

Personal data:

- Singling-out information/ pseudonymisation/ anonymization
 Definition of sensitive data and reference to genetic data
 Minimization principle
- Implications in e-health and processing on the basis of big data storage

Legitimacy for processing sensitive data

- Consent (possible domestic restrictions)
- Legal basis.
 - Particularly compatible purposes and use of data for scientific research purposes

Information and data subject rights

Increasing data subjects control

New compliance model based on the accountability principle



From the check list approach to the accountability approach

The risk based approach as the basis of the system

- Processing of health data as a high risk processing
- Large scale monitoring of individuals as high risk
- Profiling as part of an appropriate treatment



The adoption of proactive measures as a result of the evaluation

- Utmost importance of the DPIA
 - Consultation to the main stakeholders (specially patient associations)
 - Map of risks and countervailing safeguards
 - Participation in self regulation schemes at national or supranational level
 - Collaboration with and, where appropriate, consultation and authorization of the DPA
- Data protection by design and by default
 - Delimitation of a minimum set of data necessary for the purpose
 - Adoption of anonymization or pseudonymisation techniques



Relevant technical and organisational measures

- Establishment of clear and transparent procedures for collecting the data subject explicit consent
 - Complete information. ¿layered or standard format?
 - Clear consent clauses connected to those required by other legal provisions
 - Reasonable interpretation of the legal basis for processing when admitted (article 9.1 i) and j))



Relevant technical and organisational measures

- Establishment of joint controllership systems
 - Clear determination of each stakeholder's role
 - Delimitation of each stakeholder's duties regarding compliance with the GDPR
- Establishment of clear pseudonymisation procedures when anonymization is not possible due to the nature of the processing
 - Access restrictions to non pseudonymised data



Relevant technical and organisational measures

- Establishment of secure environments for data processing
 - Access control and limitation related to the position of each stakeholder or system user
 - Pseudonymisation or anonymization whenever as possible
 - Information encryption
 - Strict rules regarding the use and dissemination of media

Privacy-Oriented Organization

- Essential role of the DPO for assuring compliance
- DPO's Constant advise
- Internal compliance and security audit
- Constant dialogue with DPAs



The role of self regulation schemes

Delimitation of clear and up-to-date standards in order to facilitate:

- Continuous assessment of the processing activities
- The adaptation of the technical processing techniques to the standards

Useful tool in order to:

- Clarify the limits of processing operations according to the different purposes
- Set homogeneous security standards
- Establish common standards in order to guarantee the principles and fulfil the obligations provided by the GDPR
- Specify the role of the different stakeholders
- Provide an adequate legal basis for international data flows



The role of self regulation schemes

Implementation of out-of-court dispute resolution mechanisms

- Safeguarding a quick and easy protection of the fundamental right
- Facilitating near-real-time compliance and resolution of gaps
- Providing a friendly and non sanctioning solution



Some experiences: the "Standard code on personal data protection in clinical research and pharmacovigilance"

Clear data protection rules in the framework of medical trials Specifies the roles of the different participants

- The sponsor and the medical institution as joint controllers
- The investigator as (commonly) user
- The monitor and the auditor as sponsor's processors

Provides a protocol governing the relationship between the sponsor and the medical institution

- Establishing different obligations in case of pseudonymisation
- Limiting the sponsor's legal obligations providing specific safeguards are adopted to avoid re-identification
- Fulfilment is basically in charge of the centre and the investigator
 - Proving information to the patient and collecting his or her consent
 - Attending the data protection rights
 - Fulfilling data retention rules linked to medical records retention
- Adoption of technical and organisational undertakings in order to avoid access to non pseudonymised data



Thanks for your attention!

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