FDA Sentinel Initiative

Karen C. Lee, M.D. M.P.H.
Office of Critical Path Programs
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
October 28, 2008

Summary

- FDA Sentinel Initiative
 - Background
 - Vision
 - Current status
- Potential impact on corporate compliance departments

Sentinel Initiative: HHS Secretary Request to FDA (2005)

- Expand current system for monitoring medical product performance
- Explore possibility of working in collaboration with multiple healthcare data systems
- Augment capability of identifying and evaluating product safety information beyond existing voluntary reporting systems
- Strengthen ability to monitor product throughout entire life cycle

Sentinel Initiative: HHS Secretary Request to FDA (2005)

- Create public-private partnership
- Use increasingly available large, electronic healthcare databases
- Use emerging technologies and build on existing systems, rather than create new systems
- Also requested by IOM report "The Future of Drug Safety – Promoting and Protecting the Health of the Public" (2006)

FDA Amendments Act (FDAAA) of 2007

Reagan-Udall Foundation

Expansion of the existing ClinicalTrials.gov registry

New FDA postmarket safety authorities

FDAAA Section 905

- Develop methods to obtain access to disparate sources of data
- Develop validated methods to link and analyze safety data from multiple sources
 - ≥ 25 million pts by July 1, 2010
 - ≥ 100 million pts by July 1, 2012
- Collaborate with public, academic, and private entities

FDA Sentinel Initiative: Vision

- FDA Sentinel Initiative report (May 2008)
- FDA's current vision of nationwide electronic safety monitoring system
 - Data remain with original owners behind existing firewalls
 - Owners run FDA-requested queries (or could opt out) and convey the results of their queries to the FDA for analysis (under strict privacy and security safeguards)
 - FDA may able to partner with existing data owners (e.g., Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, VA, DoD, insurance companies with large claims databases, owners of electronic health records)
- Reagan-Udall Foundation to be ultimate host
- Long-term project to be implemented in stages

FDA Sentinel Initiative: Current Status

- Earliest stages will necessarily evolve
- Create broad public forum to discuss issues related to developing and implementing the system
 - FDA-initiated meetings
 - Federal partners
 - Data holders
 - Academics and experts
 - Patient representatives
 - Consumers
 - Industry
 - Vendors
 - Brookings Institution

FDA Sentinel Initiative: Current Status

- Eight contracts recently awarded
 - Governance
 - Access, controls, business models, secondary uses, etc
 - Epidemiologic (6)
 - Data sources (3) general, orthopedic device registries, blood and tissues
 - Signal detection
 - Medical product uptake
 - Database models
 - Engaging stakeholders

FDA Sentinel Initiative: Current Status

- Epidemiologic pilots
 - Test and validate methods to study known drug-adverse event associations to avoid regulatory actions based on invalid results
 - CMS
 - Observational Medical Outcomes Partnership
 - electronic Health Initiative

FDA Sentinel Initiative: Potential Implications for Compliance

- National resource that will serve as another tool for drug safety evaluation/surveillance
- Will not replace current adverse event reporting systems
- May help companies comply with current reporting requirements
 - 21 CFR § 314.80, 21 CFR § 314.81, 21 CFR § 803
 - Post-marketing commitments
 - Drug safety monitoring as requested by FDA and/or initiated by MFRs, other potential users