



# **Introduction to the Rheumatoid Arthritis Working Group**

**April Naegeli, DrPH, MPH  
Co-Chair RA Working Group  
Research Scientist  
Eli Lilly and Company**

# RA Working Group



Company/Organization	Name
Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc	Mallik Angalakuditi
Eli Lilly & Company	<b>April Naegeli</b> (Co-Chair), Carol Lynn Gaich
GlaxoSmithKline	Boyka Stoykova, Maggie Tabberer
Horizon Pharma	Marsha Stanton, Jeff Kent, Jeff Sherman, Amy Grahn
Johnson & Johnson	Fang Chiou, Chenglong Han
Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp.	Douglas Watson, Dena Ramey
Novo Nordisk	Irene Schubert
Roche	Azra Hassanali, Swati Tole, Alison Greene, Sarah Trease
UCB Pharma	<b>Enkeleida Nikai</b> (Co-Chair)
Affiliation	Name
OMERACT	Vibeke Strand, Lee Simon

# RA Working Group Objective



- To obtain FDA qualification of PRO instruments that fill unmet measurement needs in clinical trials for patients with RA.
- Once qualified the instruments will be used to support claims of treatment benefit.

## Genesis: 2009



- FDA list of targeted therapeutic areas with unmet needs for adequate measures to document treatment benefit includes “RA symptoms and signs”
- Review of published evidence
- Discussions with clinical experts
- Review of drug pipeline

- **Feasibility document** was submitted by an individual member firm for the creation of an RA WG targeting development of new measures for the **assessment of physical function and proximal symptoms such as RA pain and tiredness**

## Genesis: 2010 (Cont'd)



⇒ “FDA concurs that the development of an adequate measure of symptoms and physical function could be useful in the support of efficacy claims.”

⇒ FDA suggests considering a broader assessment of stiffness (not limited to "morning stiffness"),

⇒ Rheumatoid arthritis-related fatigue is important to patients with rheumatoid arthritis, and thus, the Agency would consider a "fatigue" claim in the clinical studies section of labeling, provided that "fatigue" is clearly defined and well-measured”.

- The RA WG was formed
- Expert outreach
  - Meeting with representatives from EULAR, ACR, OMERACT
  - Inform clinical experts and patients of the goals of the RA WG
- Scoping document sent to FDA

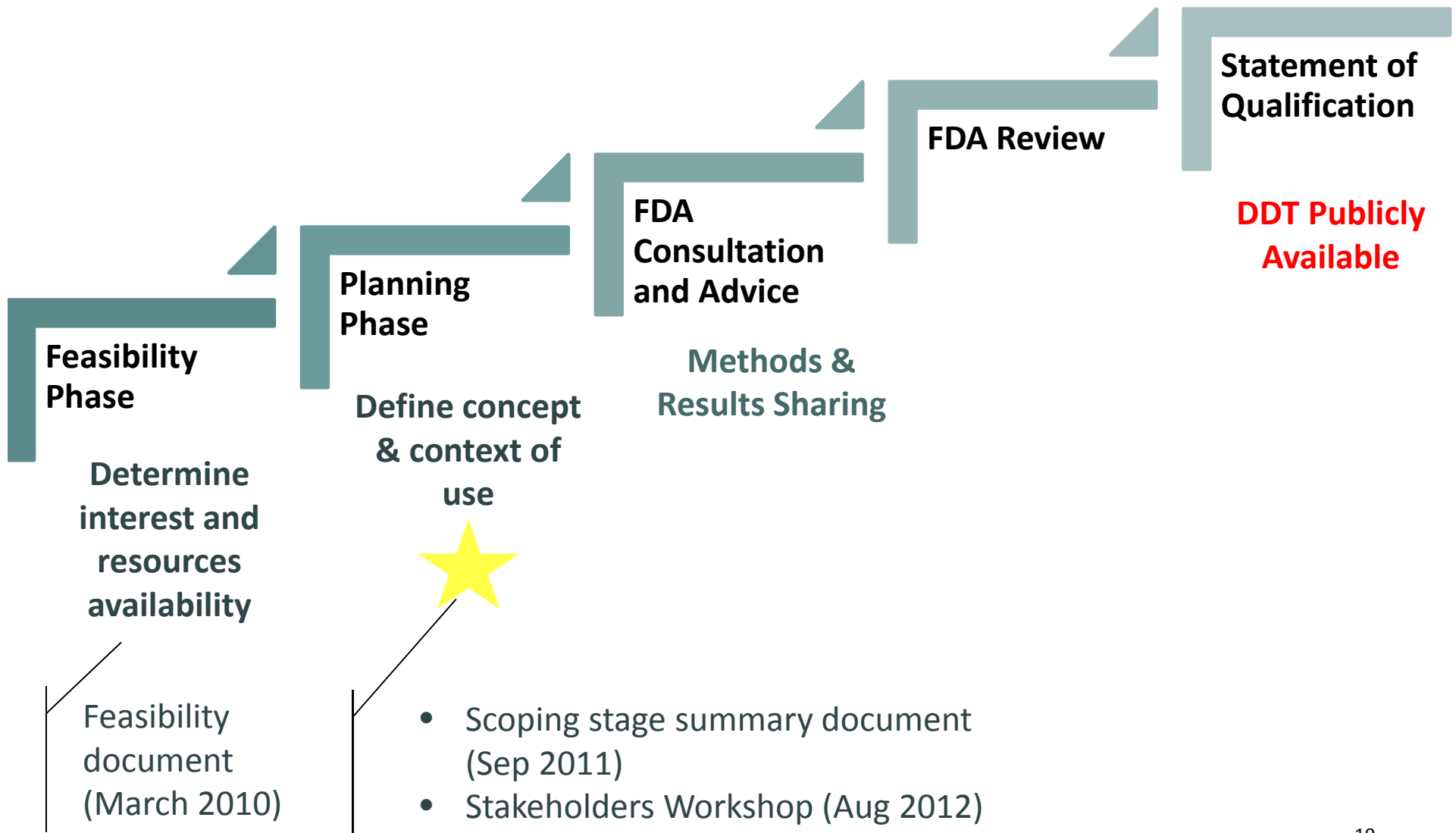
The RA WG suggest the qualification of PRO instruments to document **RA-related symptoms and RA-defining decrements in physical function.**

- Scoping document sent to FDA
  - ⇒ “FDA acknowledges that the PRO measures currently used in RA patients could be improved to meet current standards for measurement.”
  - “We agree to participate in the qualification process of [PRO instruments assessing RA-related symptoms and RA-defining decrements in physical function] provided that instrument development includes involvement of representatives from the rheumatology academic community including OMERACT and ACR.”



- OMERACT representation within the RA WG :  
Dr. V. Strand and Dr. L. Simon
- Need for stakeholders discussion to finalize concept(s) of measurement and gain direction to define the context of use for PRO qualification (April 2012)
- Stakeholders workshop (Today)

# RA Working Group within the Qualification Process



# Workshop Overview

**April Naegeli, DrPH, MPH**  
**Co-Chair RA Working Group**  
**Research Scientist**  
**Eli Lilly and Company**

# Objectives of the Workshop



- To convene stakeholders including patients, regulators and experts who could contribute experience, clinical evidence, or expertise in the measurement of treatment benefit in RA clinical trials, particularly in the field of patient-reported outcome assessment.

# Objectives of the Workshop (Cont'd)



- To describe currently accepted RA clinical trial endpoints and clearly articulate what additional endpoints would be appropriate in order to better document treatment benefit.
- To identify the suitability and role of patient-reported RA-related symptoms and RA-defining decrements in physical functioning as endpoint measures within the context of specific disease subsets (e.g., mild versus severe disease).

# Agenda Overview



8:50- 9:10 am	PRO instrument qualification, overview and need for patient- focused drug development qualification
9:10-10:00 am	Documentation of treatment benefit in RA <i>General discussion</i>
10:00-10:10 am	Break
10:10-10:30 am	RA patient perspective
10:30-11:00 am	General concepts of measurements in RA <i>General discussion</i>
11:00-11:30 am	Context of Use: Identification of relevant patient subgroups <i>General discussion</i>
11:30 am-12:30 pm	Lunch

# Agenda Overview



12:30- 1:30 pm	Concept of measurement: RA-Related Symptoms <i>General discussion</i>
1:30- 2:30 pm	Concept of measurement: RA-defining decrements in physical functioning <i>General discussion</i>
2:30- 2:45 pm	Break
2:45-3:45 pm	Discussion of the measurement gaps and the path forward
3:45-4:00 pm	Wrap up

# Workshop Desired Outcome



- Selection of the PRO concepts of measurement
- Definition of the context of use
- The formulation of a research agenda for the RA Working Group towards PRO qualification