

Ensuring patients have access to safe medicines

A European Medicines Verification System

Fighting counterfeit medicines to ensure patient safety in Europe

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Grant Courtney

- Part of EFPIA team working on the ESM
- Member of the GS1 Healthcare Leadership Team
- 18 years in product security for GlaxoSmithKline





efpia

European Federation of
Pharmaceutical Industries and
Associations

represents the **research-based**
pharmaceutical industry
operating in Europe

brings together 31 national
pharmaceutical associations
and 38 leading companies

ESM Stakeholders



- EFPIA is one of the 4 stakeholders developing the ESM solution



- The ESM solution is being developed by the stakeholders who will use it day-to-day



- Talks ongoing with AESGP, EAHP, EGA and HOPE



- AESGP Association of the European Self-Medication Industry
- EAHP European Association of Hospital Pharmacists
- EGA European Generic Medicines Association
- GIRP European Association of Pharmaceutical Full-line Wholesalers
- HOPE European Hospital and Healthcare Federation
- PGEU European Association Representing Community Pharmacists

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Introduction

Context & Background



- ❑ The **threat of falsified medicines** penetrating the European supply chain **is substantial and growing**
- ❑ The **EU Falsified Medicines Directive (FMD)** is an important step in protecting patients from counterfeit medicines, **adoption on July 1, 2011**
- ❑ **ESM** are developing a system that will meet the requirements of the FMD





- ❑ A **cost-effective** solution for medicines verification
 - Run on a non-profit basis

- ❑ A **pan-European** system called the **EMVS** (European Medicines Verification System) enabling medicines to be **verified at point of dispensing**
 - Developed by the stakeholders who will use it on a day-to-day

- ❑ Immediate **verification of the pack**
 - Ensures safe access to medicines
 - Is interoperable solution

What is the ESM?

ESM
A medicines
verification model
for Europe



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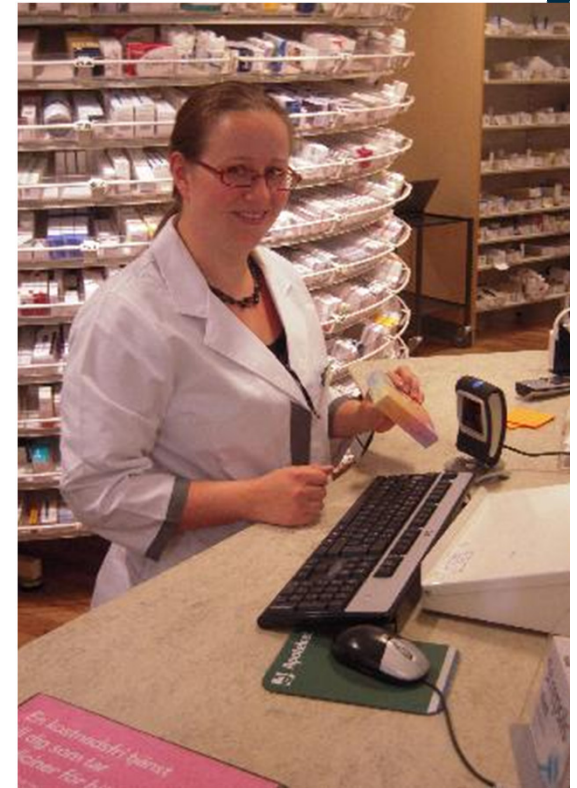
Proving the concept

Testing and evolution



- ❑ Swedish pilot project (Sep 09 - Feb 10)
- ❑ 25 pharmacies in greater Stockholm. 180 dispensing points
 - 25 products. 110,000 packs. 14 manufacturers
- ❑ Key findings
 - Allows pharmacists to **work at normal pace**
 - Is customised to **existing workflows**
 - Is **integrated** into existing pharmacy software
 - Pharmacists and wholesalers are keen to get expiry date and batch number in machine-readable form

**Sweden exceeded expectations
and proved the concept in practice**



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Building the shared vision

ESM view on implementation of the FMD

Safety Features

- Combine tamper-evident packaging and a unique randomised serial number
- Verify product authenticity by checking each pack against a central database at the point of dispensing

System Design

- Harmonised standard coding system across the EU that allows national codes to be incorporated as necessary
- **Sufficient flexibility to implement national or multi-country solutions within an overall EU technical framework**

Data

- Manufacturers do not seek, and will not have access to, individual patient / prescribing profile information
- **Transactional data belongs to stakeholder that created it e.g. pharmacists for dispensing data**

Governance

- Systems should be established and managed by the stakeholders that will use them day-to-day
- **Systems governed by independent non-profit organisations jointly managed by relevant stakeholders**

2D barcodes



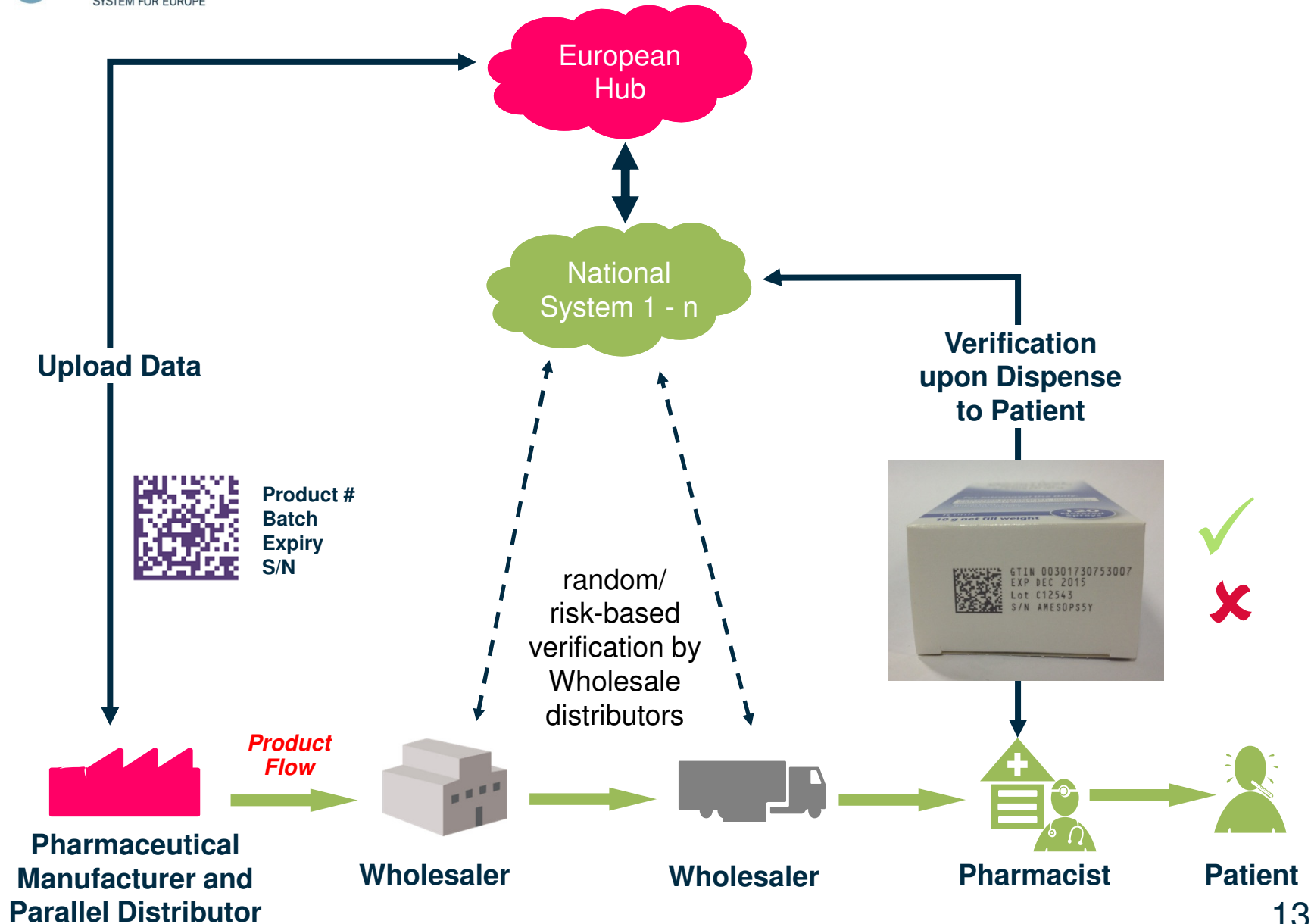
- ❑ The ESM uses a 2D barcode, developed to internationally recognised standards

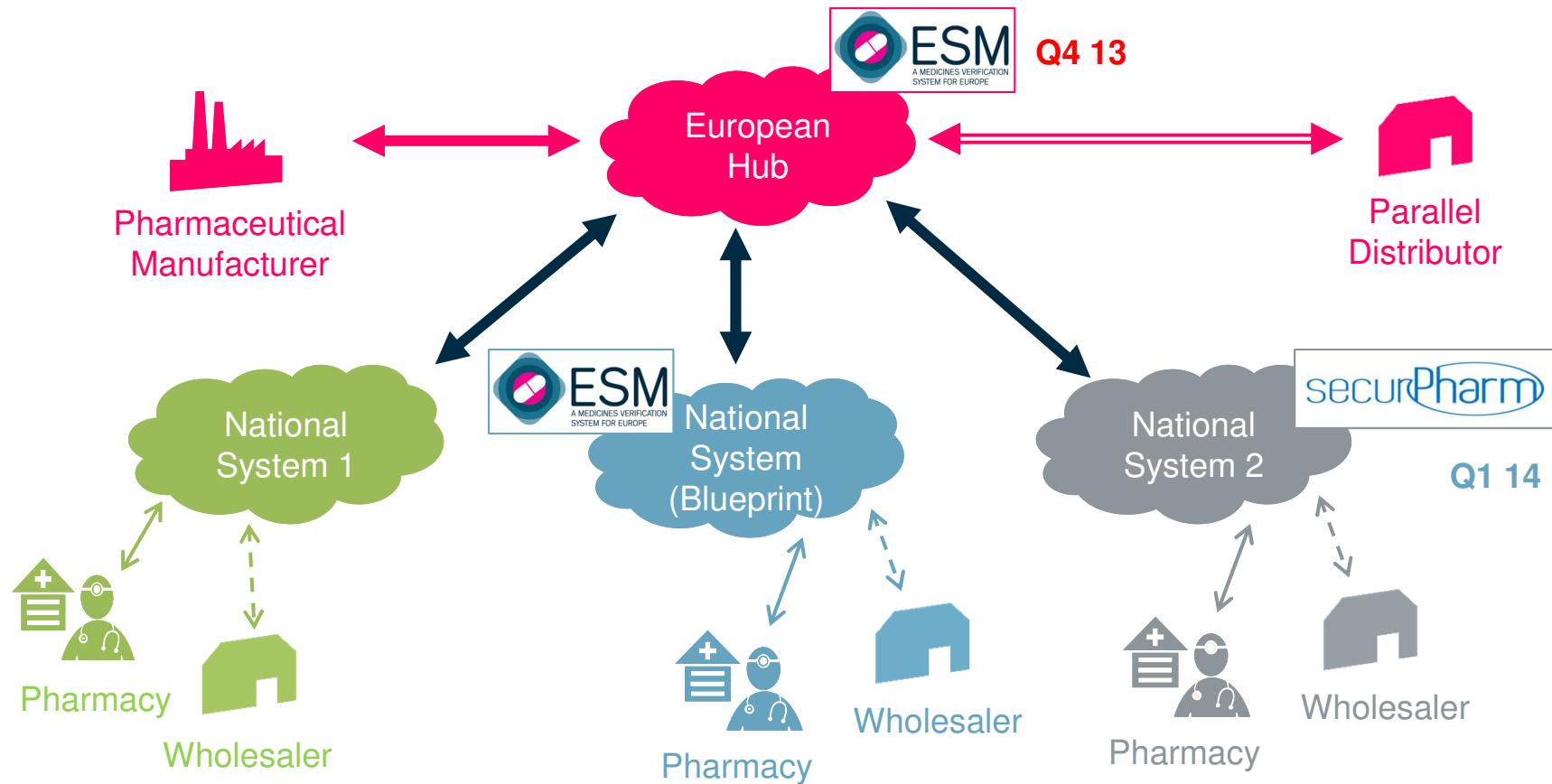
- ❑ Four key data elements:
 - 14 digit Manufacturer Product Code
 - Randomised Unique Serial Number
 - Expiry Date
 - Batch Number (up to 20 alphanumeric characters)

- ❑ Example:

Product #: (01)09876543210982
Batch: (10)A1C2E3G4I5
Expiry: (17)140531
S/N: (21)12345AZRQF1234567890







- Parallel Distributor: mandatory verification + data upload
- Manufacturer: data upload + voluntary verification
- Periodic cross-region update
- Pharmacy: mandatory verification
- Wholesaler: voluntary verification

System design for interoperability and efficiency

Operation and governance

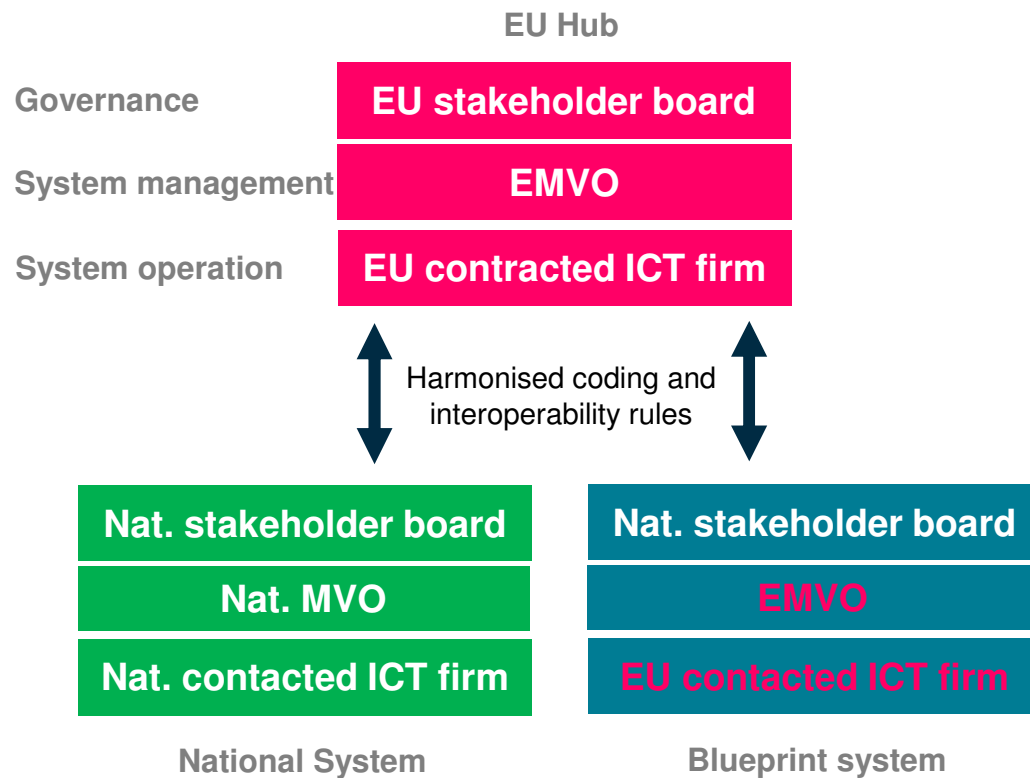


- ❑ The ESM will be operated by a **not-for-profit** independent organisation called the European Medicines Verification Organisation (**EMVO**)

- ❑ Governance of the EMVO will include representatives from the stakeholder organisations in an EU Stakeholder Board

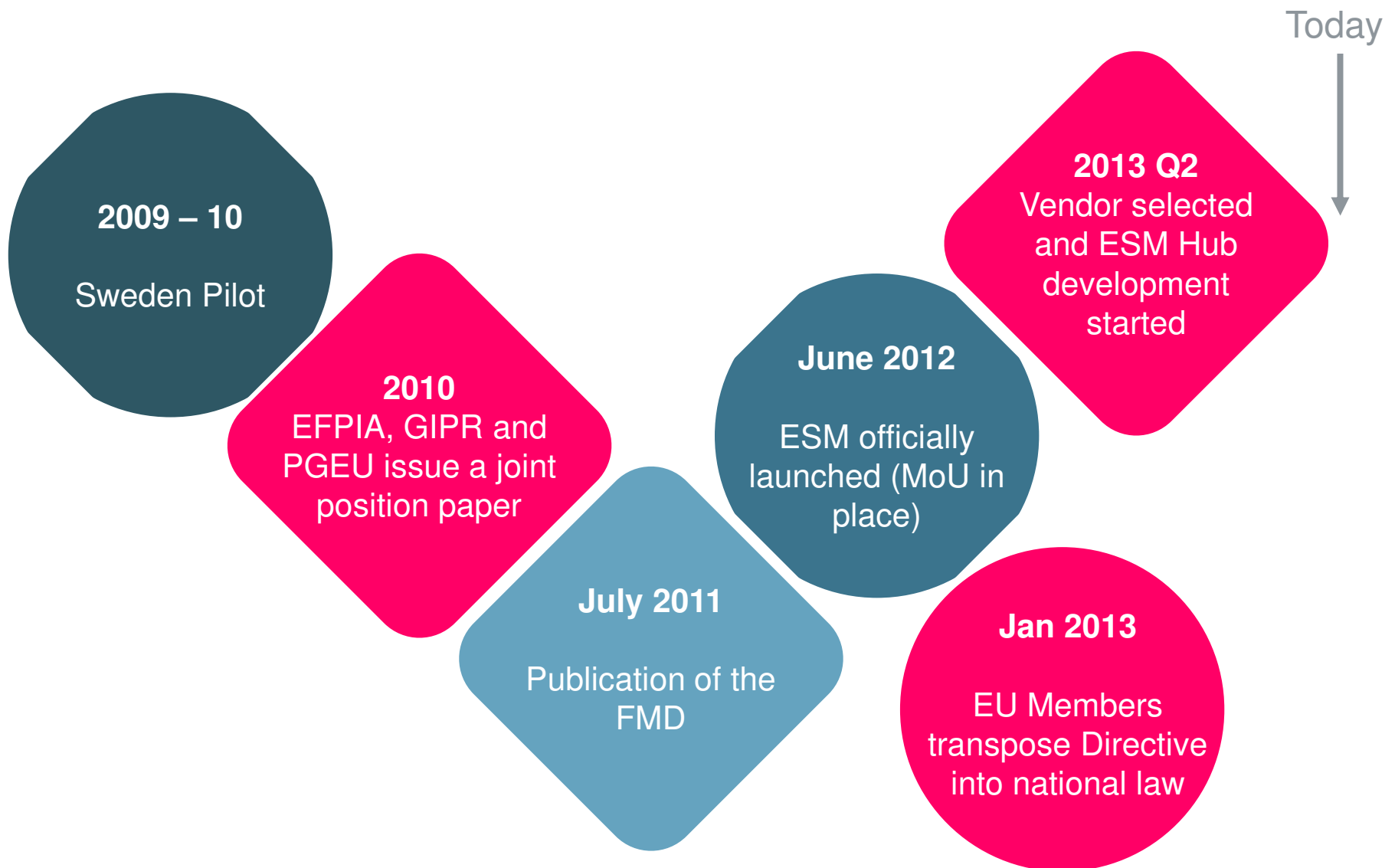
- ❑ EMVO will
 - Develop and control EMVS policies and processes
 - Communicate with authorities and the broader public
 - Establish relationships (and contracts) with national stakeholder organisations (NMVO)
 - Oversee development of European Hub and Blueprint Template
 - Provide reports to stakeholders
 - Manages the operation of the Hub and national Blueprint System(s)

EMVO – stakeholder-led governance structure



- ❑ EMVO will govern EU hub, set standards for the system, and conclude legally binding agreements with national system governance bodies
- ❑ National systems will have to create their own stakeholder-based, legal entities (Medicines Verification Organisations, MVO) that would contract with the EMVO
- ❑ Blueprint system to be governed nationally, but managed and operated on EU level

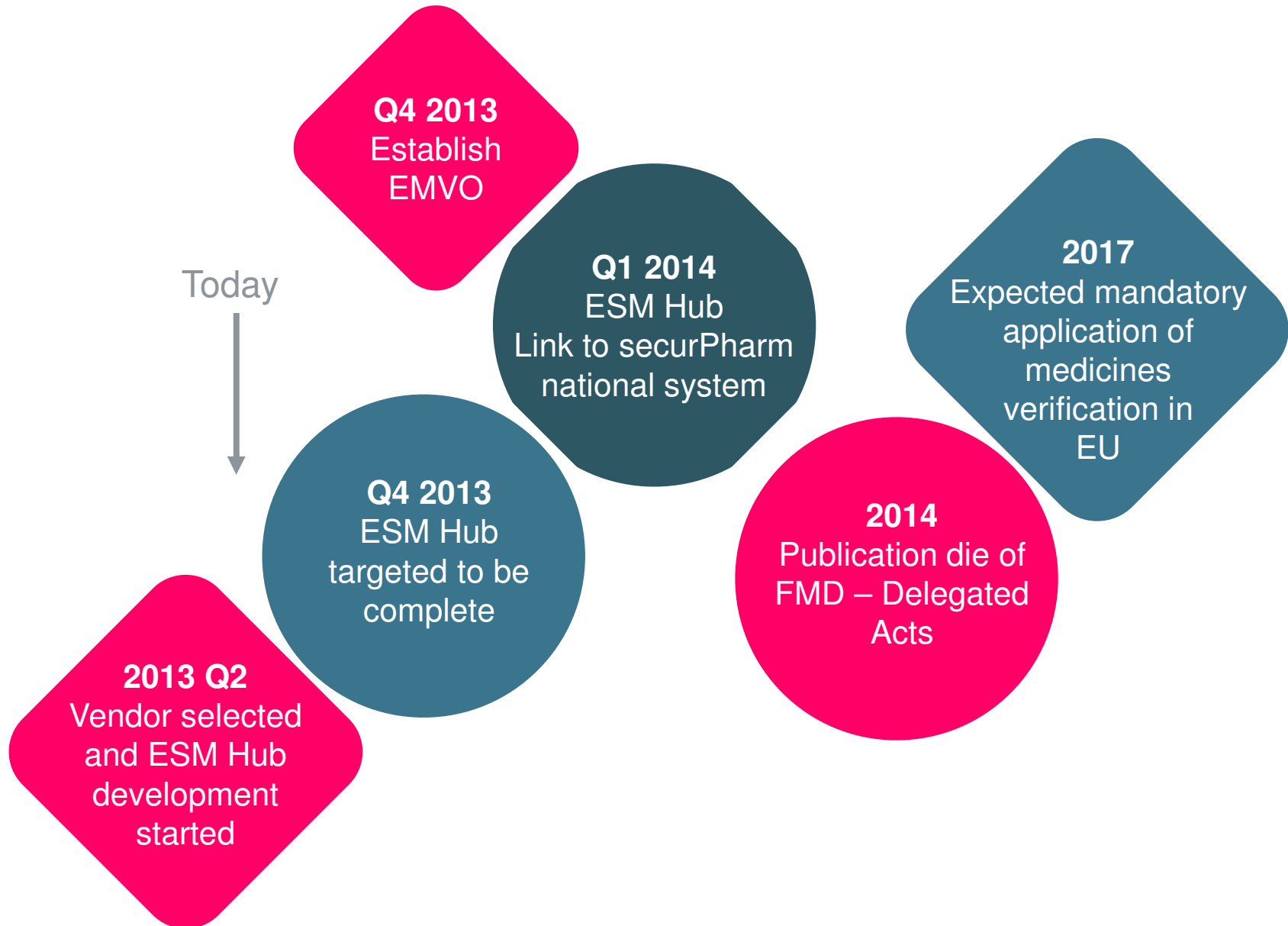
Key milestone to date



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Next steps

Next major milestones



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Thank you

**[http://www.esm-
system.eu/home.html](http://www.esm-system.eu/home.html)**

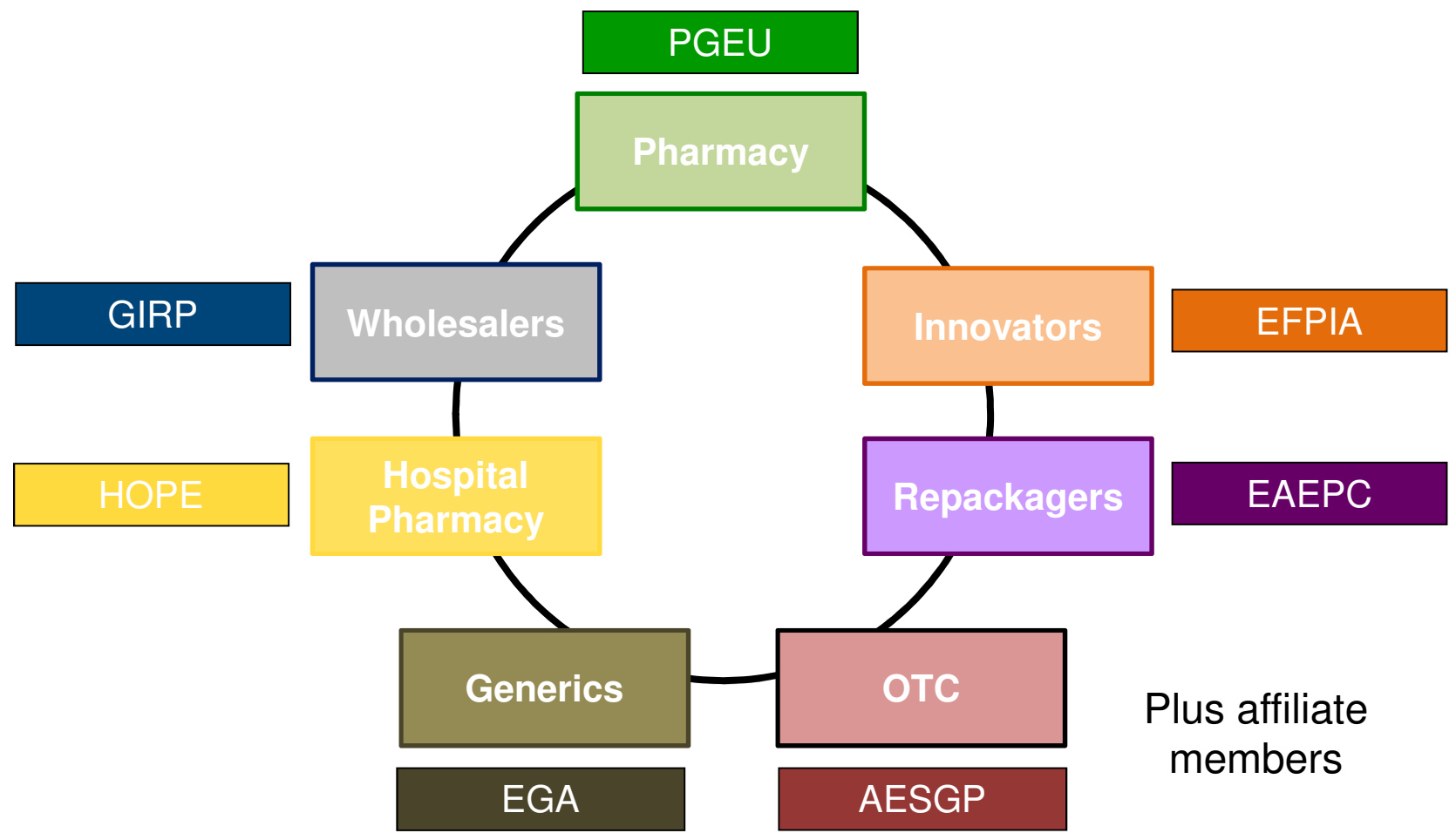


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Back up slides

Will not be presented but may be distributed

Members Are Allocated to a Constituency





Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) provides the foundation

European level:

- Negotiated between EAEPC, EFPIA, GIRP and PGEU
 - Have elaborated and formally endorsed a MoU providing the foundation for the pan-European system
 - Talk ongoing with other constituents

□ Contents

- General goals and expectations
- The 10 Core Principles
- System Architecture
- Entry & Exit Points
- Data Access
- Governance
- Technical Annexes



Principles of sharing the cost of the verification system



Overall policy framework

- ESM is not-for-profit
- Costs to be shared in a fair and equitable manner

Scope

- Repositories system only

Cost allocation

- To be based on value and volume components
- Value based on total sales in specific market

Consistency

- Clear rules to avoid excessive variations

European Hub cost

- To be shared between connected national systems on the basis of the pack data transferred

Invoicing

- Market by market
- Include share of European Hub