

# Lean Life Science Services

With challenges in pharmacovigilance, manufacturing and portfolio management, WCI Consulting Ltd bring their superior programme management skills into play

Working throughout Europe and the US, WCI is a management consultancy specialising in life science solutions. WCI delivers lean compliance, simplifying processes to assure compliance and boost performance in pharmacovigilance, manufacturing, portfolio management, clinical supplies and risk management.

At WCI we use our expertise and apply cross industry best practice to add value and deliver service, cost and stock improvements, balanced with compliance to pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device organisations. Our clients in the sector include AstraZeneca, Bayer, Centocor, Eurosilicone, GSK and Syngenta. Our broader client list includes leading organisations such as Microsoft, the NHS and Rolls-Royce.

## PHARMACOVIGILANCE

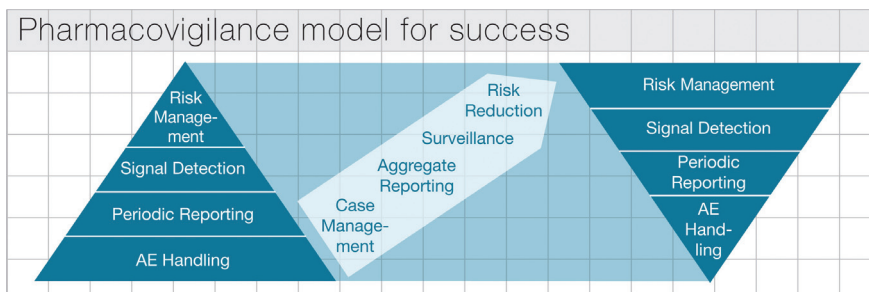
Pharmacovigilance is becoming increasingly business-critical. Ensuring the safest possible use of drugs is a responsibility required by regulators and markets alike. Recent product withdrawals, litigations and increasing public and regulatory pressures have added further visibility to pharmacovigilance departments, reconfirming the significance of product safety to the value of the pharmaceutical business. Life science companies have much to gain from reviewing their drug safety processes and adopting a far more proactive approach. The price paid for non-compliance is high – warning letters that risk the global reputation of the drug safety teams and product withdrawal which can cost an organisation millions and put jobs at risk. Drug safety processes must be 100 per cent reliable and cost efficient.

The WCI model for success has been developed based on our experiences working with life science organisations, and represents the movement from a reactive and reporting stance to a proactive and risk-based approach to pharmacovigilance. What is clear is that there is a need for organisations to refocus – to invert the triangle and both anticipate and mitigate risk.

Our success in this area has led to the launching of pvnet and pvconnect; neutral drug safety forums designed for large and mid-sized life science companies respectively.

## MANUFACTURING

Lean principles have transformed operational and compliance performance wherever they have been fully applied, although the life sciences sector has been notoriously slow in adopting them. WCI's approach is to improve technical operations by analysing the supply chain and implementing a rigorous



process for ensuring that stocks are at the most appropriate levels to meet customer demand cost effectively. Day to day scheduling is closely tied and integrated to the overall business planning. Analysis of manufacturing processes using lean techniques identifies improvements to drive service, yield and capacity without compromising quality or compliance. A robust change control process supports timely delivery of identified opportunities. Continuous performance improvement is driven by implementing relevant and visible management measures.

## PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

In spite of the huge sums invested in R&D, the processes used to deliver new products to market often do not reflect the excellence of the engineering and scientific research involved. Poor collaboration and knowledge sharing, lack of transparency and slow decision-making drive long lead times, low productivity and late attrition. Commonplace in many R&D departments are lead times over 10 years and success rates as low as one in 15.

WCI has successfully re-engineered R&D processes using best practice lean principles to create outstanding portfolio management capabilities. We work with our clients to pre-define the detailed go/no-go criteria for decision gates, and support this process with an online project knowledge tool, performance incentives, clear organisation roles and responsibilities, and a strategic planning methodology. ♦

For more information, please contact:

WCI Consulting Ltd  
Parklands Business Park,  
Forest Road, Denmead,  
Hampshire, PO7 6XP  
Tel: +44 (0) 2392 268133  
Fax: +44 (0) 2392 268160  
Email: [info@wcigroup.com](mailto:info@wcigroup.com)  
Web: [www.wcigroup.com](http://www.wcigroup.com)



Simplify what you do  
to assure compliance and boost  
performance