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# EMA experience with paediatric PBPK

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The opinions expressed during this presentation are those of the speaker, and not necessarily those of the Norwegian Medicines Agency, the EMA or one of its committees or working parties.



The paediatric regulation was introduced in Europe in 2007 in order to:

## Improve the health of children

- Increase high quality, ethical research into medicines for children
- Increase availability of authorised medicines for children
- Increase information on medicines

## Achieve the above

- Without unnecessary studies in children
- Without delaying authorisation for adults



Intended to support a potential indication (“paediatric use”) in all subsets of the paediatric population

Data on efficacy, safety and age-appropriate formulation

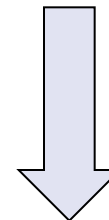
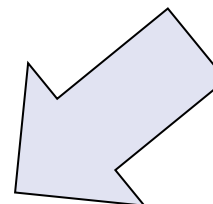
Timelines for start and completion of trials

**Binding** EMA decision on the development plan

**Waivers** possible if

- Potentially harmful or ineffective
- No significant therapeutic benefit expected in children
- Disease to be treated does not occur in children

The inference from the investigated population to the broader population or to subpopulations





## Sources of prior data

- Adult data
- Paediatric data in other indications
- Adult and/or paediatric data for similar substances
- Animal data
- In vitro data
- ...

## Strategies for analysis

- Pop-PK/PKPD
- Bayesian analysis
- Frequentist multivariate regression
- Allometric scaling (<?y)
- PBPK
- Combination of methods
- ...

## Optimizing study design

- CTS
- Optimal sampling
- ...
- What criteria to set for determining PK(/PD) endpoints?
- How to proceed if PK(/PD) is not as expected?

Expanding use the last decades

- from use in environmental tox to
- scaling from animals to humans and now
- extensive use in pharmaceutical drug development
  - drug formulation development
  - DDIs
  - subpopulations such as paediatrics

The advantage being the mechanistic basis which, when scientifically well founded, allows greater confidence in extrapolation outside the studied population.





The use of extrapolation, when **adequately justified** and **adequately reported** is encouraged by the EMA.

Several means taken to encourage the use and increase the quality of extrapolation

- European Medicines Agency workshop on modelling in paediatric medicines (2008)  
[http://www.ema.europa.eu/ema/index.jsp?curl=pages/news\\_and\\_events/events/2009/11/event\\_detail\\_00029.jsp&mid=WC0b01ac058004d5c3](http://www.ema.europa.eu/ema/index.jsp?curl=pages/news_and_events/events/2009/11/event_detail_00029.jsp&mid=WC0b01ac058004d5c3)
- European Medicines Agency-European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations modelling and simulation workshop (2011)  
[http://www.ema.europa.eu/ema/index.jsp?curl=pages/news\\_and\\_events/events/2011/07/event\\_detail\\_00440.jsp&mid=WC0b01ac058004d5c3](http://www.ema.europa.eu/ema/index.jsp?curl=pages/news_and_events/events/2011/07/event_detail_00440.jsp&mid=WC0b01ac058004d5c3)
- Specific tables within the Summary Report and opinion to be completed when PBPK are suggested or requested by the PDCO.





Lessons learned:

The need for a conceptual framework for all aspects of extrapolation



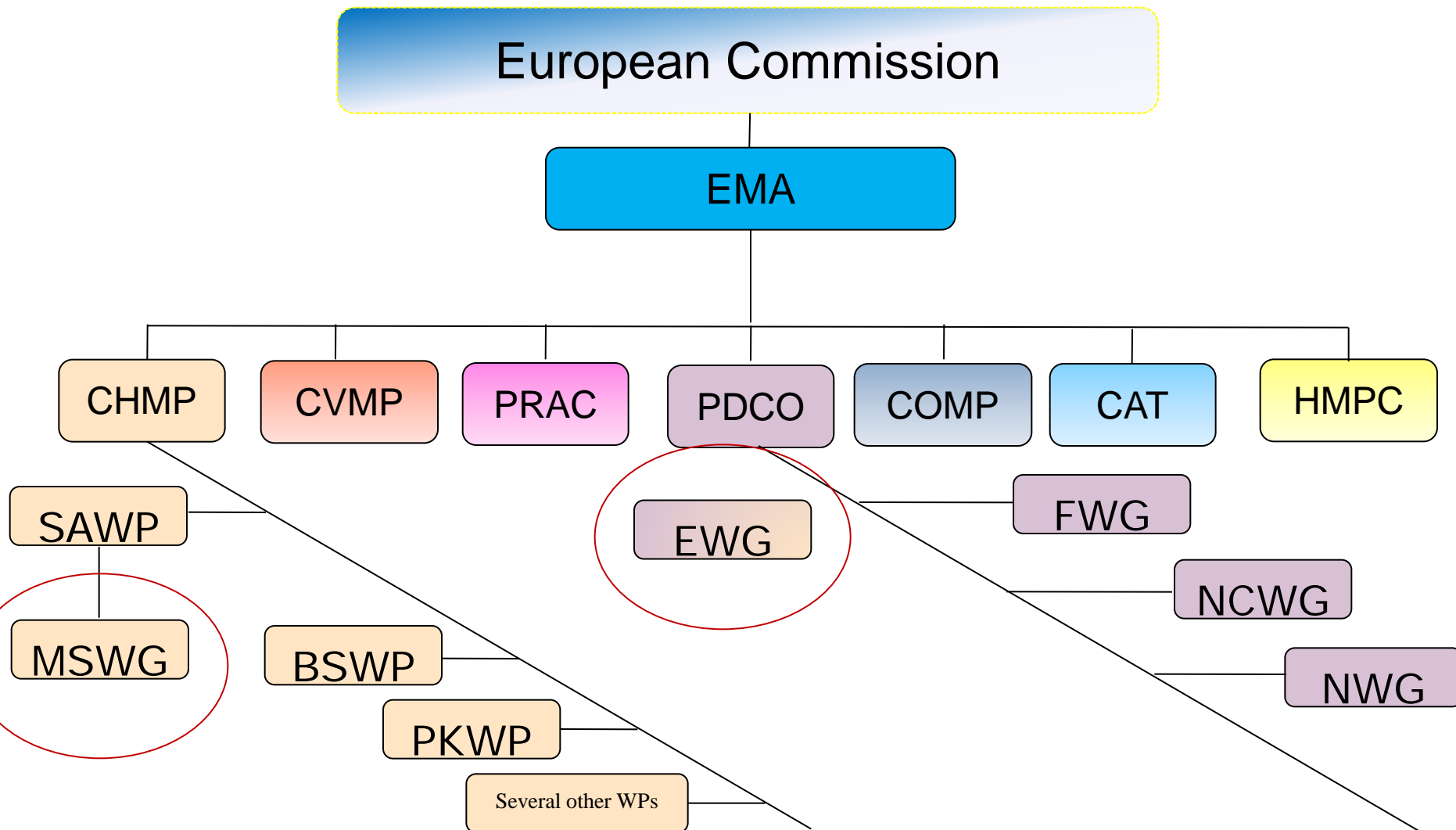
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22 June 2012  
EMA/129698/2012  
Human Medicines Development and Evaluation

Concept paper on extrapolation of efficacy and safety in  
medicine development

Draft

The **objective** of this concept paper is to develop a framework for an explicit and systematic approach which sets out i) when, ii) to what extent, and iii) how extrapolation can be applied



Impact of the M&S exercise on benefit-risk decision and level of regulatory scrutiny?

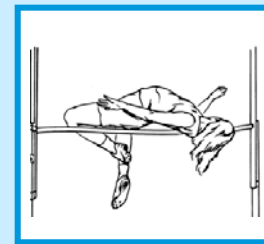
## High impact

Scientific Advice, Supporting Documentation, } + + +  
Regulatory Scrutiny }



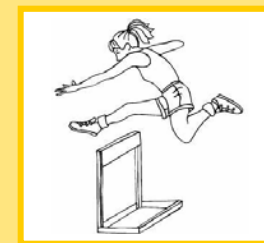
## Medium impact

Scientific Advice, Supporting Documentation, } + +  
Regulatory Scrutiny }



## Low impact

Scientific Advice, Supporting Documentation, } +  
Regulatory Scrutiny }



Impact on regulatory decision



**High**

To support waiver of an in vivo study for substrate of CYP enzymes.

**High**

To support waiver of an in vivo study for inhibitor of CYP enzymes

**Medium to high**

To predict optimal doses in different age and weight categories of children.

**High**

To support SmPC statements regarding the need to adjust dosage for drug combinations not tested

**Low**

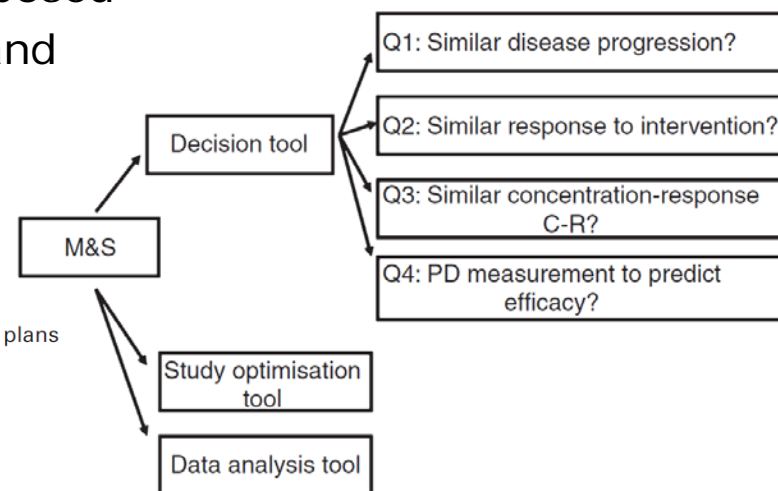
To provide quantitative evidence of the plausibility of mechanisms important for the disposition of the drug

**Key points:**

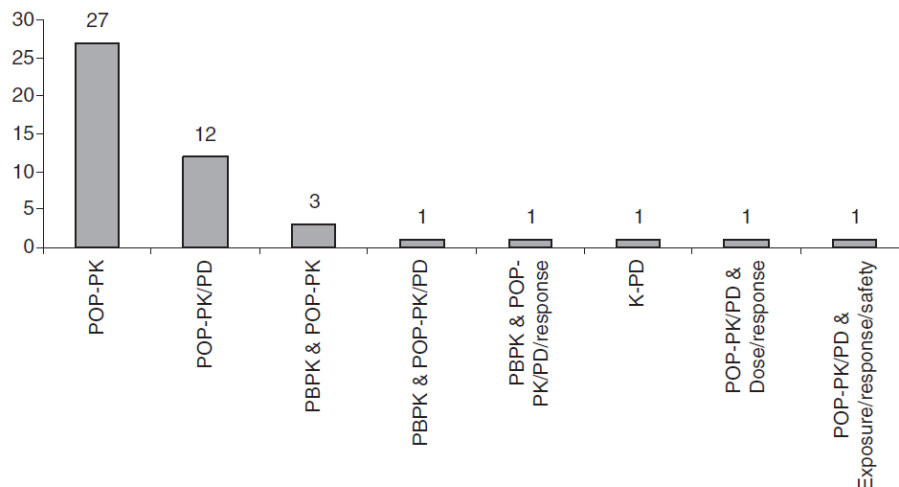
Impact  $\neq$  Value

Certainty  $\neq$  Value

Based on the published research:  
M&S abundant in PIP submissions, proposed  
for dose finding, study optimisation and  
analysis, not as a tool to  
navigate in the decision tree



Modeling and simulation in pediatric investigation plans



**Figure 3** M&S in positive PIP opinions (as of Jan 2010). Model types and the number of opinions with reference to the specific model types.

Paediatr Anaesth. 2011 Mar; 21(3): 214-21. doi: 10.1111/j.1460-9592.2011.03523.x. Epub 2011 Jan 18.

**Role of modeling and simulation in pediatric investigation plans.**

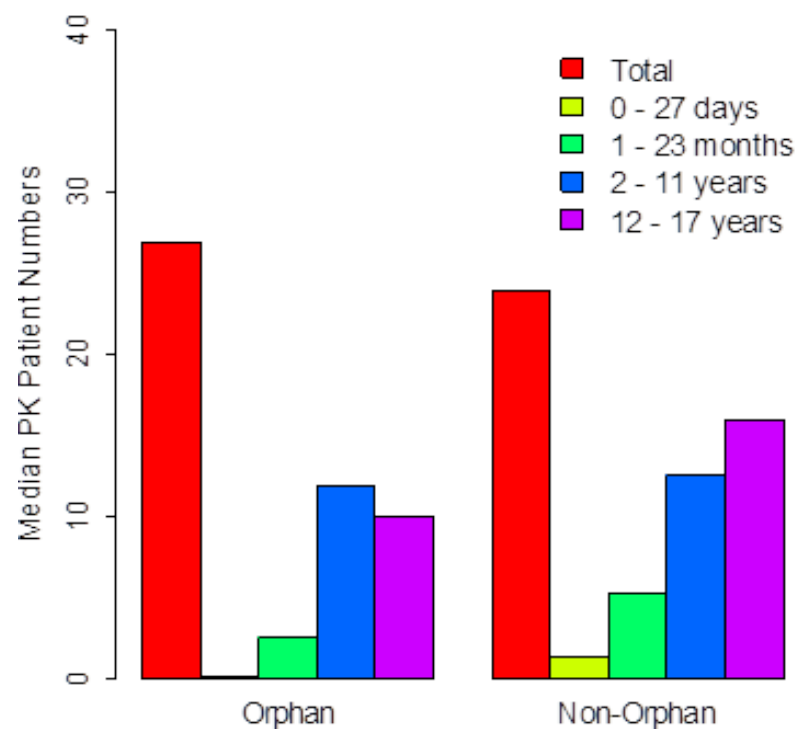
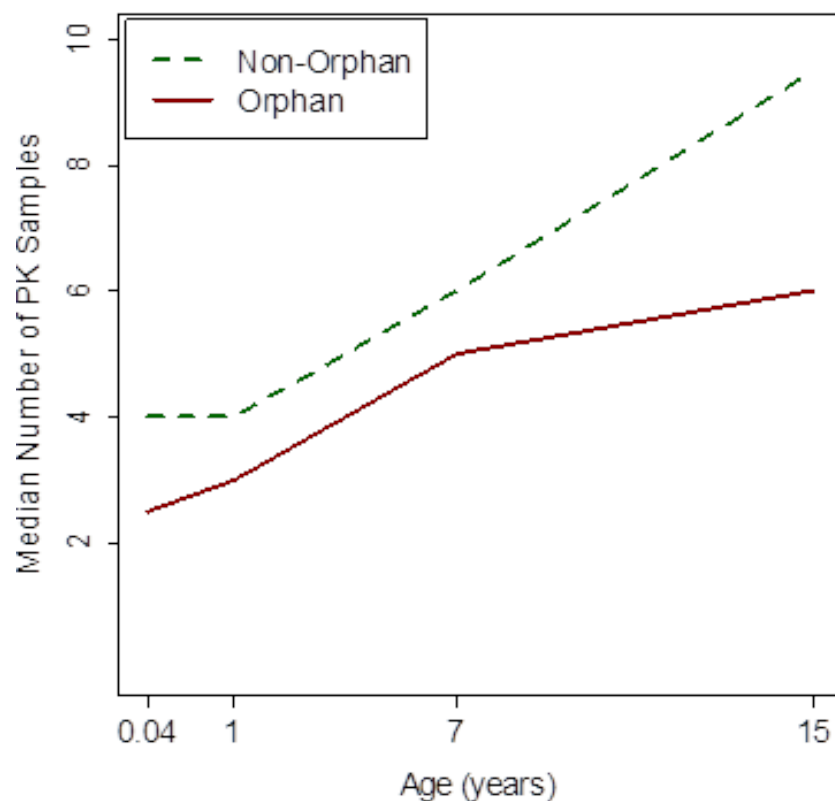
[Manolis E](#), [Osman TE](#), [Herold R](#), [Koenig F](#), [Tomasi P](#), [Vamvakas S](#), [Saint Raymond A](#).



Analysis technique	
<b>Descriptive analyses</b> summary statistics including confidence intervals; graphics; summaries of PK or PD parameters	73 (90.1%)
<b>PK modelling</b> fixed effect or population PK models	41 (50.6%)
<b>PK-PD modelling</b> including exposure-response, PK-response models	17 (21.0%)
<b>Dose-response modelling</b> including dose-PD (eg, ANCOVA model), dose-toxicity, dose-PK-PD models	10 (12.3%)
<b>Physiologically-based PK modelling</b>	3 (3.7%)
<b>Dose-exposure modelling</b>	3 (3.7%)
<b>Other</b> Formal hypothesis testing on efficacy or PD endpoints; non-parametric time-to-event analyses; other types of models not captured above	22 (27.2%)

Br J Clin Pharmacol. 2014 Apr 10. doi: 10.1111/bcp.12402. [Epub ahead of print]  
Bridging the gap: A review of dose-investigations in paediatric investigation plans.

Hampson LV, Herold R, Posch M, Saperia J, Whitehead A.



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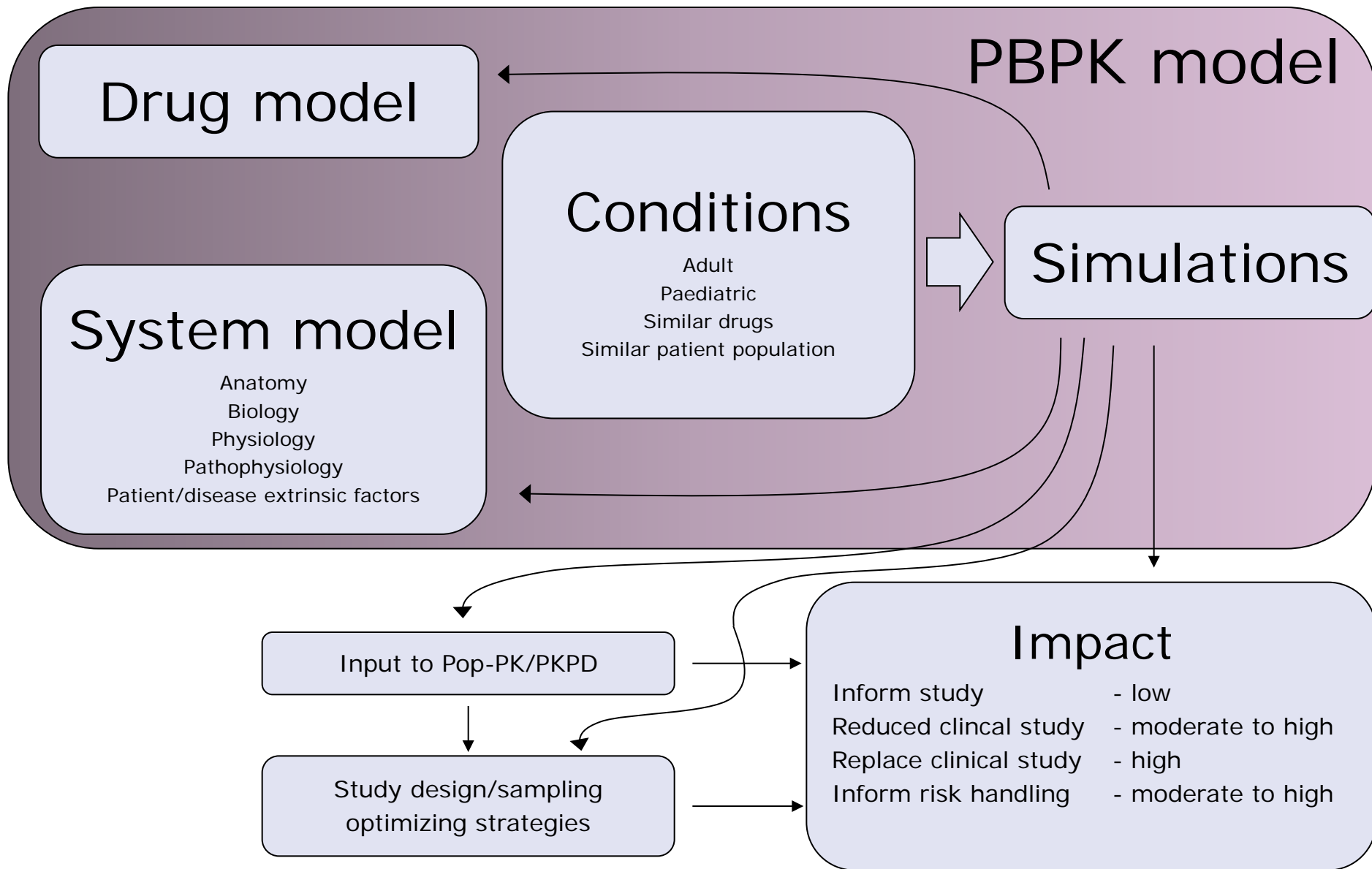
# Submissions – PBPK examples

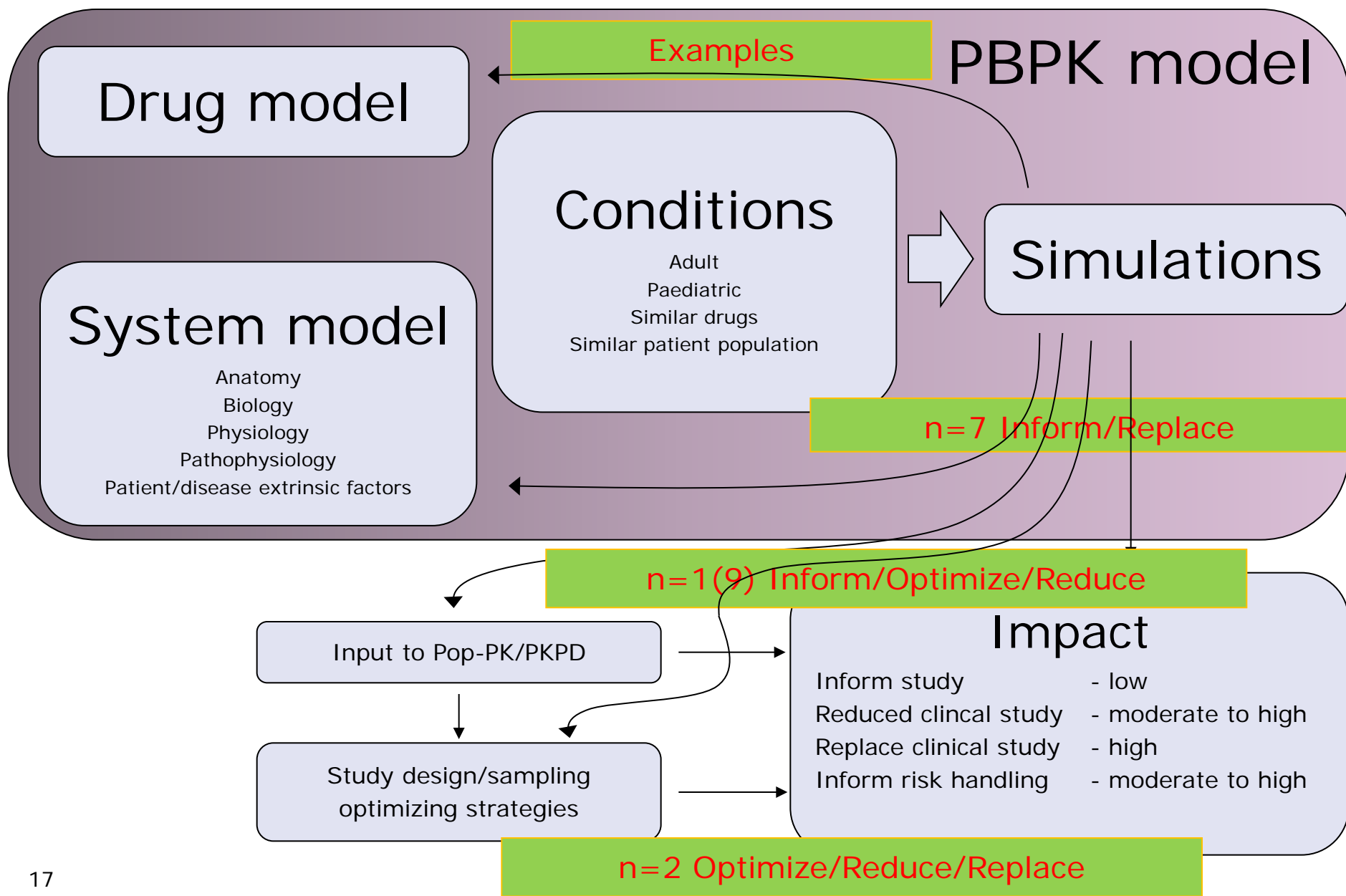


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Procedure (Committee/WP) Aim	n	Age groups	Status at assessment	Regulatory impact	Decision
<b><u>SA (SAWP/MSWG)</u></b>	4				
Dose selection. Replace PK study	(1)	0-18y	Planned	High to moderate	PK requested
Dose selection. Reduce PK study	(3)	5-11y/ 12-18y/ 12-18y	Planned/ Preliminary results/ Performed	High to moderate/ Moderate/ Moderate	PK requested/ Endorsed/ Endorsed
<b><u>PIPs (PDCO/MSWG)</u></b>	12				
Dose selection. Replace PK study	(1)	0-18y	Planned	High	Described in the PIP
Dose selection. Reduce PK study	(1)	0-18y	Planned	High	Key binding in the Opinion
Dose selection.	(10)	0-18y	Range of Suggested - Considered – Planned - Performed	Range of Low - Moderate to low - Moderate to high	Described in the PIP or key binding in the Opinion
<b><u>MAA/indication (CHMP)</u></b>	2				
Support the dose, inform co-variables	(1)	0-18y, in particular 1-2y	Performed	Low	Variation accepted
Support the dose	(1)	0-18y	Performed	High	Active procedure









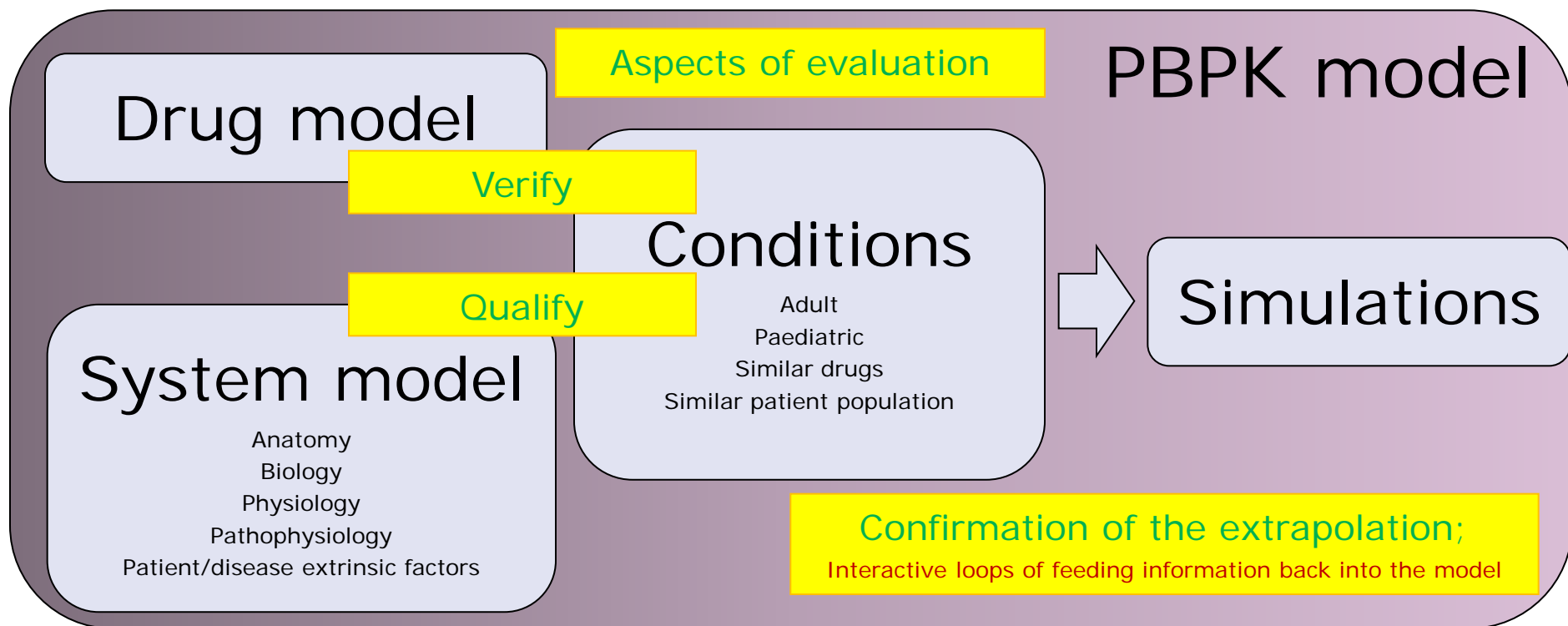
## Purpose and impact of extrapolation in drug development and regulatory review

	Domain				
	Pharmacokinetics	Pharmacodynamics	Disease (progression)	Patient population	Statistical and design aspects
Assumption *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exposure scalable by allometry</li> <li>Common metabolic pathways</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Similar mechanism of action</li> <li>Clinical response correlated to biomarker effects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Similar etiology across different conditions</li> <li>Comparable rate of progression</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comparable baseline characteristics</li> <li>No differences standard of care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nature of parameter distribution</li> <li>Variability and priors from another population</li> </ul>
Probability to violate (uncertainty in assumption)	Definitely / Likely / Unlikely / Improbable				
Clinical consequence(s) if assumptions are violated	Minor / Major / Unknown				
“Skepticism scale”	Weight given to the assumptions underpinning the extrapolation or inferences				
Implications for evidence synthesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No additional evidence required</li> <li>More evidence required from small subset (bridging study)</li> <li>More evidence required from a large trial</li> <li>Agree on risk mitigation for acceptable risks, if further evidence gathering is unfeasible</li> <li>Restrict label, if risk is unacceptable</li> </ul>				
Impact of Modeling and simulation on the development programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce trial burden (e.g., sparse sampling)</li> <li>Assessment of metabolic maturation in children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of biomarkers as predictors of response</li> <li>Characterization of phenotypical differences due to ontogeny and maturation processes.</li> <li>Better dose rationale</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stratification by severity</li> <li>Different dosing recommendation</li> <li>Identification of prognostic markers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Estimation of covariate effects</li> <li>Define relevant inclusion criteria</li> <li>Identification of groups at risk (e.g., polymorphisms)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced sample size</li> <li>Eliminate the need for additional study</li> </ul>

[CPT Pharmacometrics Syst Pharmacol.](#) 2013 Feb 27;2:e28. doi: 10.1038/psp.2013.6.

Modeling and simulation as a tool to bridge efficacy and safety data in special populations.

[Harnisch L](#), [Shepard T](#), [Pons G](#), [Della Pasqua O](#).



Biological plausability

Assumptions – justify and validate

System/drug variability – define and quantify

Uncertainty and risk – sensitivity analysis and worst case scenario assessments

### Impact

Inform study	- low
Reduced clinical study	- moderate to high
Replace clinical study	- high
Inform risk handling	- moderate to high



In summary, requirements for paediatric PBPK would include

- the PBPK model developed and qualified/verified/refined in adults
- further qualification with model drugs needed if new data (enzymes/transporters etc) are included in the model
- systematically list and justify assumptions
- evaluate the impact of the major assumptions (sensitivity analysis, worst/best case scenarios)

Address impact of the M&S

- How are the data planned to be used?
  - Replace/reduce/optimize/inform
- If confirmation of the extrapolation needed
  - Study design/optimal sampling scheme/sample size
  - How to proceed if the observed data do not confirm the M&S?



## Guidelines

### Reporting of PBPK

Draft Concept paper on Qualification and Reporting of PBPK modelling and analyses

### Extrapolation

Concept paper on extrapolation of efficacy and safety in medicine development

### Interactions

Guideline on the Investigation of Drug Interactions

### Renal impairment

Guideline on the evaluation of the pharmacokinetics of medicinal products in patients with decreased renal

## Further advice

- Central scientific advice/protocol assistance or qualification advice/opinion by SAWP (involvement of PDCO and MSWG)
- Presubmission meeting with the Paediatric sector
- During the PIP review procedure



## What is needed to increase confidence?

- Update/publish models/results

- what works?
- what are the shortcomings?
  - differences in the metabolic pattern in small children versus adult?
  - differences in co-variate correlations between adults and paediatric patients?
  - differences in/between paediatric age groups?

Confirmation that the paediatric PBPK models do predict paediatric PK data

- System and drug data

- Biology
  - Ontogeny (metabolizing enzymes phase I+II, transporters (liver, GI, tissues))
  - Pathophysiology of the various paediatric populations
  - Patient intrinsic/extrinsic factors
- Methodological work



EMA Paediatric Committee

EMA Modelling and Simulation Working Group

Particularly thanks to

Ralf Herold

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Siri Wang