



# Overview of Consultation System in Japan

Hana Sugai  
Office of New Drug I  
Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Agency  
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- Clinical trial consultation system

## ***New Challenges***

- Priority Assessment Consultation (July 2011~)
- Consultation on eligibility for priority review products (Oct 2011~)
- Pharmaceutical Affairs Consultation on R & D strategy (July 2011~)

# ***Clinical trial consultation system***

# Background

October, 1994

Increase in the number of innovative drugs.

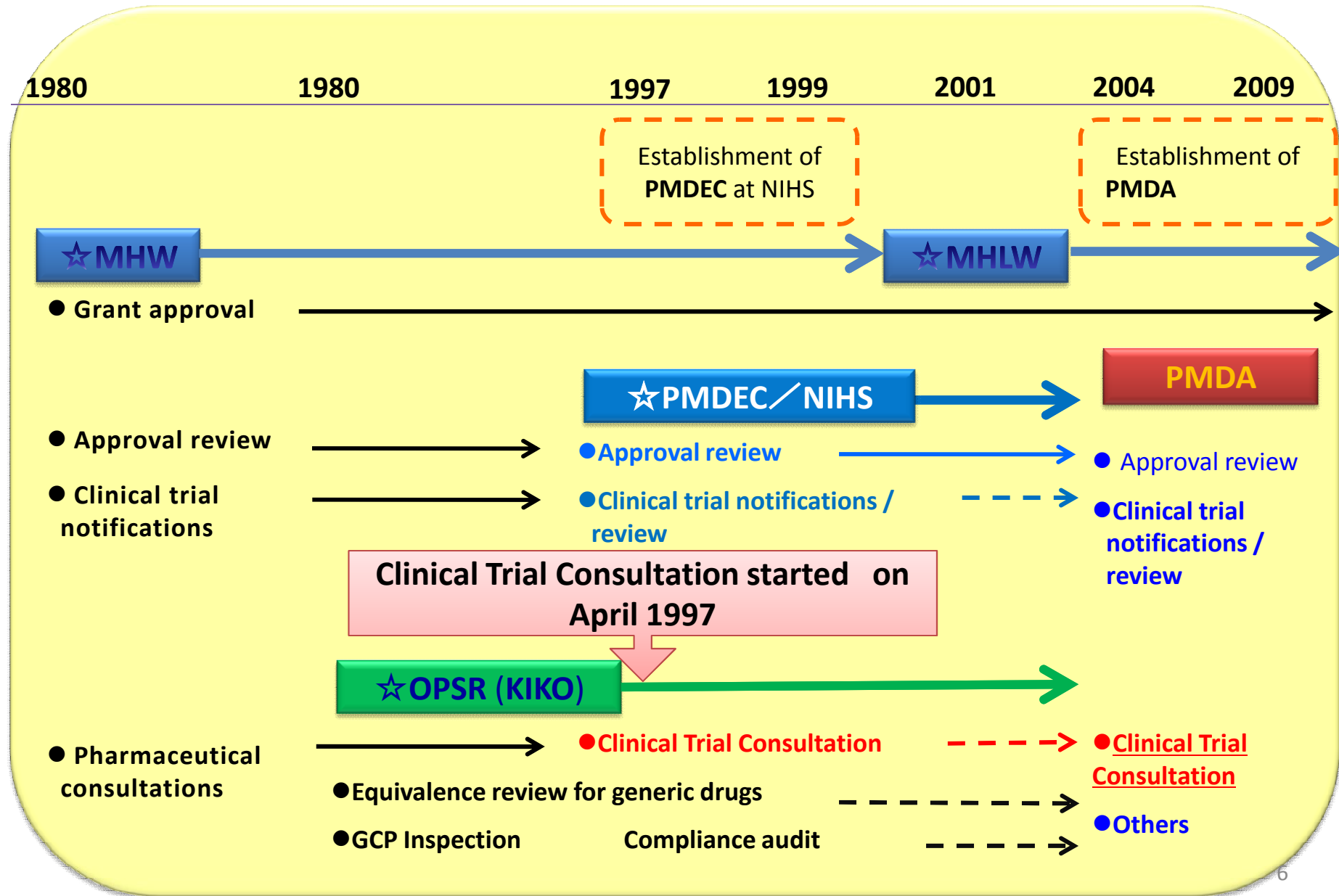
→ Needs for improvement of drug safety

- **Strengthening the responsibility of pharmaceutical companies**
- **Taking comprehensive measure for pharmaceuticals**

June, 1996 Publication of the revised Pharmaceutical Affairs Act  
April, 1997 Enforcement of the revised Pharmaceutical Affairs Act

- 1. Reinforcement of consultation/guidance on clinical trials**
2. Reinforcement of approval review
3. Strengthening of post-marketing measures
4. Others

# History of JP clinical trial consultation system



# Purpose of clinical trial consultations

## Purpose

By implementation of consultation in development stage

- Secure the ethical and scientific appropriateness of clinical trials
- Share common views of the issues in clinical development between applicants and regulatory agency
  - Reduce application preparation time and cost
  - Avoid critical problems found during NDA review

# Consultations tailored for a range of needs

1997  
OPSR/Kiko

- ① Consultation before IND
- ② Consultation after completion of phase II study for drug
- ③ Pre-application consultations
- ④ Individual consultation

2012  
PMDA

Charged !

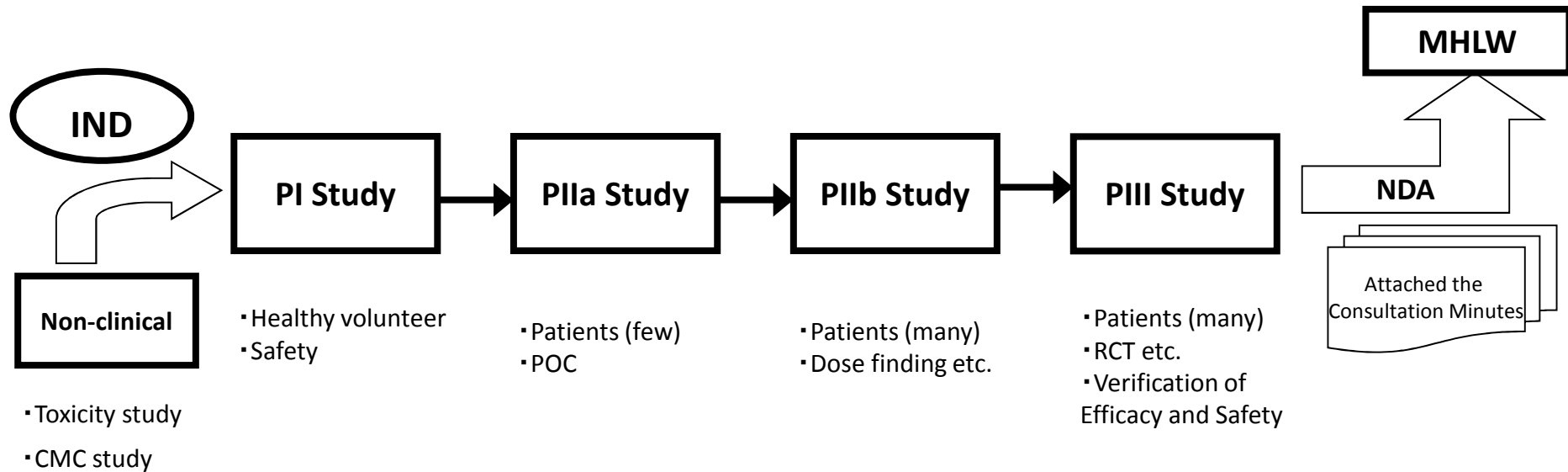
- ① Consultation Pre-phase I study for drugs
- ② Consultation Pre-phase IIa study for drugs
- ③ Consultation Pre-phase IIb study for drugs
- ④ Consultation after End of phase II study for drugs
- ⑤ pre-application consultation
- ⑥ Additional consultation
- ⑦ Consultation on the protocols of clinical trials for reevaluation and re-examination of drugs
- ⑧ Consultation at completion of clinical trials for reevaluation and re-examination of drugs

Expansion of the  
consultation  
category

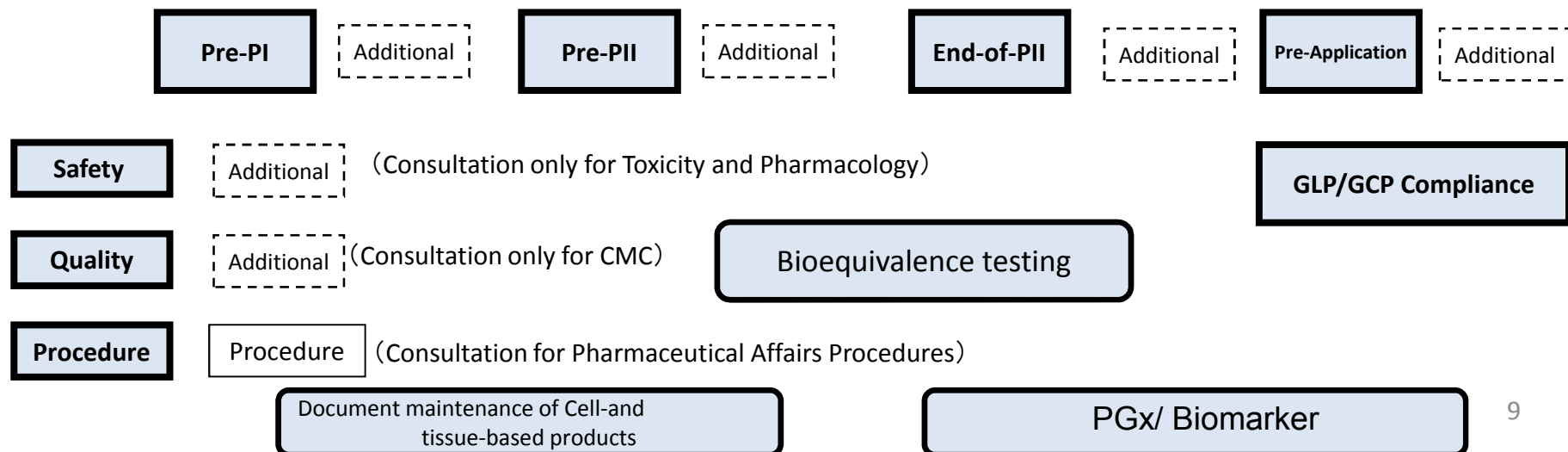
- ① Application procedure consultation
- ② Quality consultation
- ③ Safety consultation
- ④ Consultation on bioequivalence testing, etc. for drugs
- ⑤ GLP/GCP compliance (for priority review)
- ⑥ Consultation on document maintenance of Cell- and-tissue-based products
- ⑦ Pharmacogenomics (PGs)/Biomarker consultation<sup>8</sup>



# Clinical trial consultation System at PMDA



## [Clinical trial consultation System at PMDA]



# Implementation status of each consultation

Total number of each IND scientific consultation about the new medical products

(case)

|  | FY2005 | FY2006 | FY2007 | FY2008 | FY2009 | FY2010 | FY2011<br>(~Oct) |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------------|
| Total (Storing number) *   | 215    | 327    | 303    | 337    | 332    | 355    | 253              |
| Consultation <b>Pre-phase I study</b> for drugs  | 42     | 73     | 65     | 48     | 47     | 64     | 44               |
| Consultation <b>Pre-phase IIa study</b> for drugs  | 2      | 5      | 13     | 12     | 14     | 13     | 6                |
| Consultation <b>Pre-phase IIb study</b> for drugs  | 47     | 67     | 67     | 62     | 40     | 44     | 29               |
| Consultation <b>End of phase II study</b> for drugs  | 33     | 67     | 63     | 110    | 109    | 96     | 88               |
| <b>Pre-application</b> consultations   | 41     | 42     | 24     | 38     | 34     | 27     | 30               |
| <b>Additional</b> consultation   | 31     | 35     | 20     | 28     | 45     | 42     | 31               |
| Consultation on <b>the protocols of clinical trials for reevaluation and re-examination</b> of drugs | 2      | 3      | 2      | 2      | 2      | 2      | 2                |
| Consultation at <b>completion of clinical trials for reevaluation and re-examination</b> of drugs    | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0      | 1      | 0                |
| Application <b>procedure</b> consultation  | 2      | 17     | 16     | 7      | 7      | 22     | 4                |
| <b>Quality</b> consultation  | 5      | 8      | 23     | 8      | 14     | 24     | 10               |
| <b>Safety</b> consultation   | 5      | 6      | 5      | 7      | 13     | 12     | 6                |
| Consultation on <b>bioequivalence testing</b> , etc. for drugs                                       | 3      | 4      | 5      | 10     | 6      | 8      | 2                |
| Consultation on <b>GLP/GCP compliance</b> (for priority reviews)                                     | 2      | 0      | 0      | 1      | 1      | 0      | 0                |
| Consultation on document maintenance of Cell-and-tissue-based products                               |        |        | 0      | 4      | 0      | 0      | 0                |
| <b>Pharmacogenomics (PGx)/ Biomarker</b> consultation  |        |        |        |        | 1      | 1      | 1                |

\* : including a withdrawal

# Consultation Pre-phase I study for drugs

Based on available data of non-clinical tests, approvals and experiences in other countries, information of similar drugs...

- The validity of applying the drug to a person for the first time
- Clinical study design of Phase I *etc.*

## ***For example...***

Q: Are non-clinical tests data sufficient at the beginning of a phase I trial ?

Q: Are the initial safe dose and subsequent dose escalation schemes acceptable in a phase I trial?

Q: Are the safety parameters for clinical monitoring acceptable ?

# Consultation Pre-phase IIb study for drugs

Based on results from phase I trials, approvals and experiences in other countries, information of similar drugs...

➤ Clinical study design of phase II etc.

***For example...***

Q: Are the selection of doses in dose-finding study rationale ?

Q: Are the selection of endpoints in dose-finding study acceptable ?

# Consultation End of phase II study for drugs

Based on available data of clinical trials...

➤ Clinical study design of phase III etc.

## ***For example...***

Q: Are dose-response assessment and recommended dose appropriate ?

Q: Are the selection of control products and endpoints in the confirmatory clinical trials acceptable ?

Q: Are the data analysis such as the method of sample size calculation suitable ?

Q: Dose the design of long-duration trials meet the related GL ?

Q: Can foreign clinical data be extrapolated ?

Q: Is Japanese population in multi regional trials sufficient ?

# Pre-application consultation

Based on available data of clinical trials...

- The way for compiling the application document
- Sufficiency of the application document

## ***For example...***

Q: Are the non-clinical and clinical data sufficient for the application ?

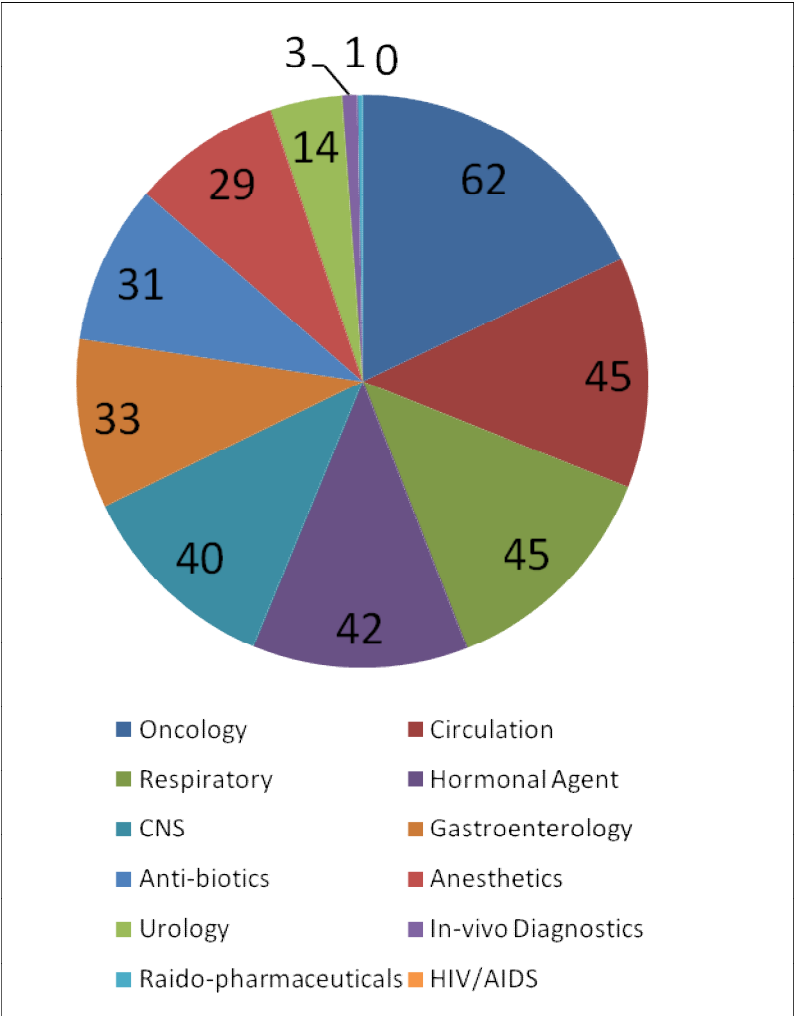
Q: Are Dosage & Administration, and Indication appropriate ?

Q: Is it acceptable that the results of clinical studies in non-Japanese are treated as the evaluation data ?

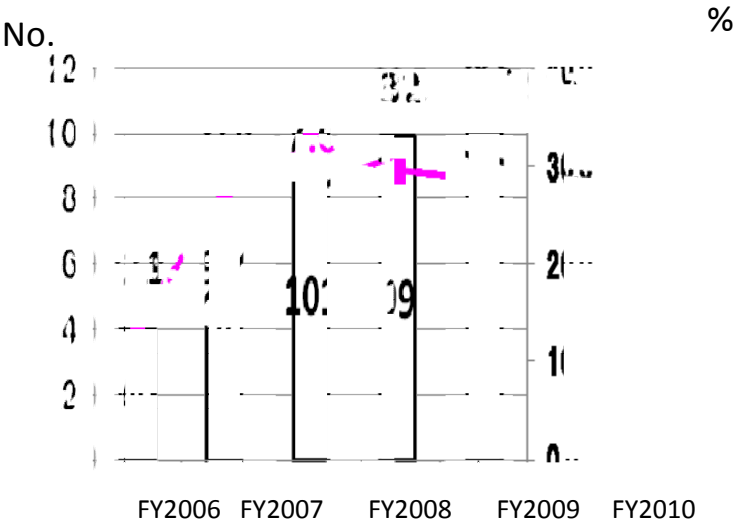
Q: Is the data package including foreign clinical data acceptable ?

# Trend of Clinical trial Consultation (FY2010)

Diseases



Global clinical trial consultations



- No. of Global Clinical Trial Consultations
- % of Global Clinical Trial Consultations

# Consultation for Global Clinical trials

## *For example...*

Based on “Basic principles on Global Clinical Trials”,

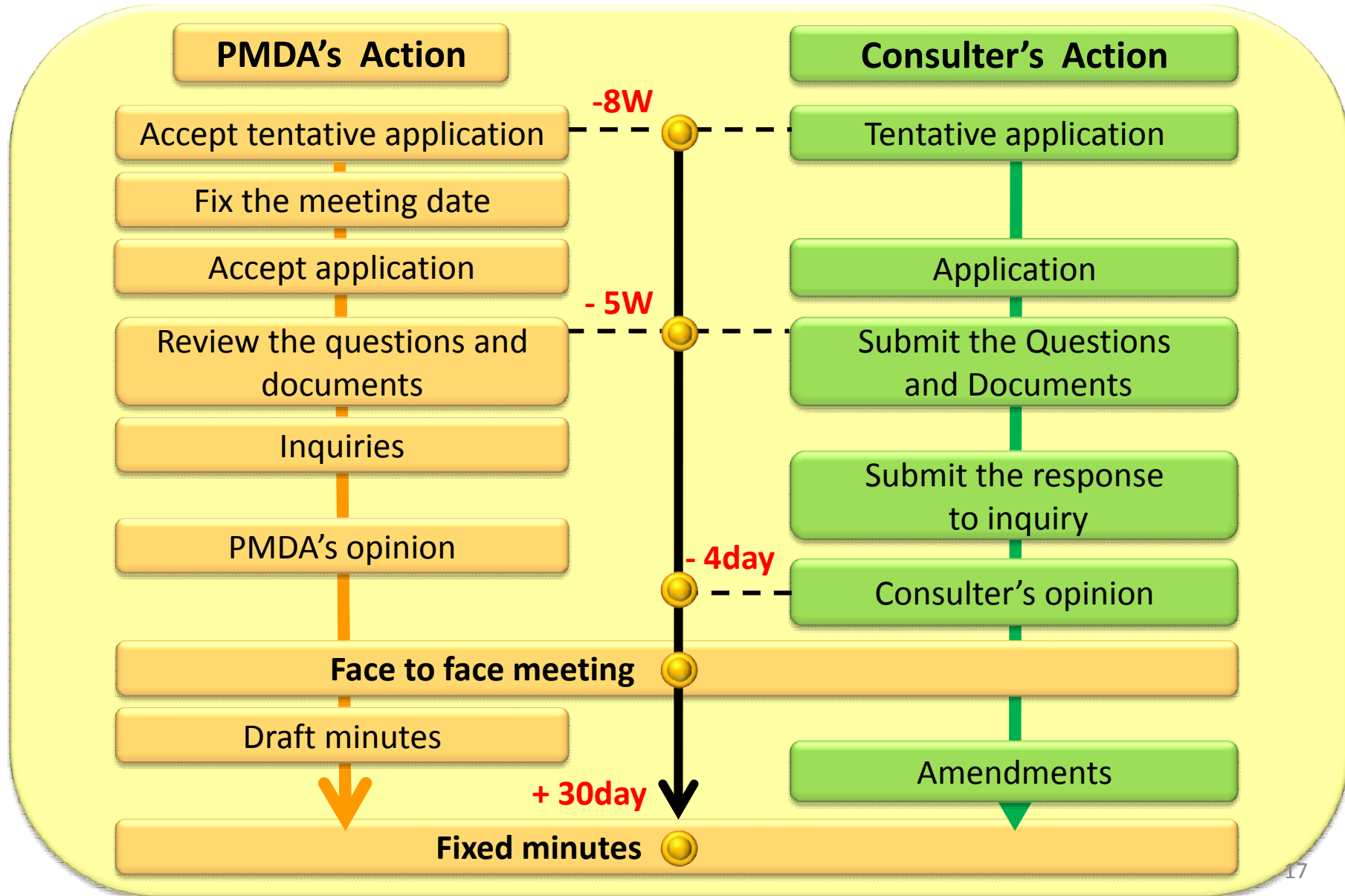
Q: Is it appropriate to participate in the global trial based on intrinsic and extrinsic ethnic factors ?

Q: Is a development program acceptable in which Japanese subjects are included only from a phase III trial without conducting any dose-finding study in Japan?

Q: How to determine a sample size and a proportion of Japanese subjects in global clinical trial ?



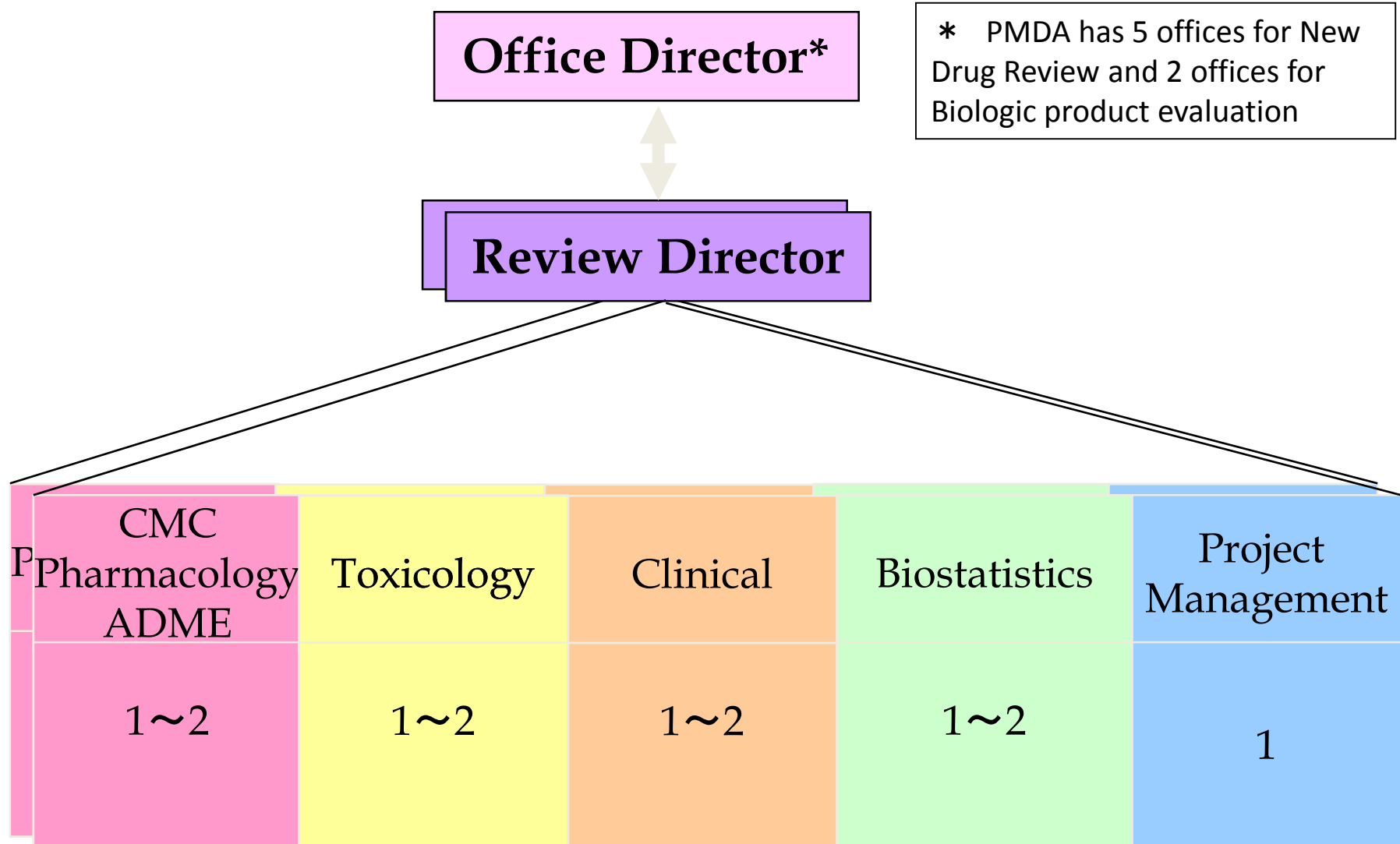
# Flow of clinical trial consultation



# Documents required for clinical trial consultation

- ① Background and concept of the IND development
  - Existing treatment for the disease
  - Problems of the existing treatments and expected benefits of the IND
- ② Draft of protocols
- ③ The latest Investigator's Brochure
  - List of clinical trials
  - List of toxicity studies
- ④ Development status in other countries
- ⑤ References
- ⑥ Past consultation's minutes *etc.*

# Composition of Consultation Team



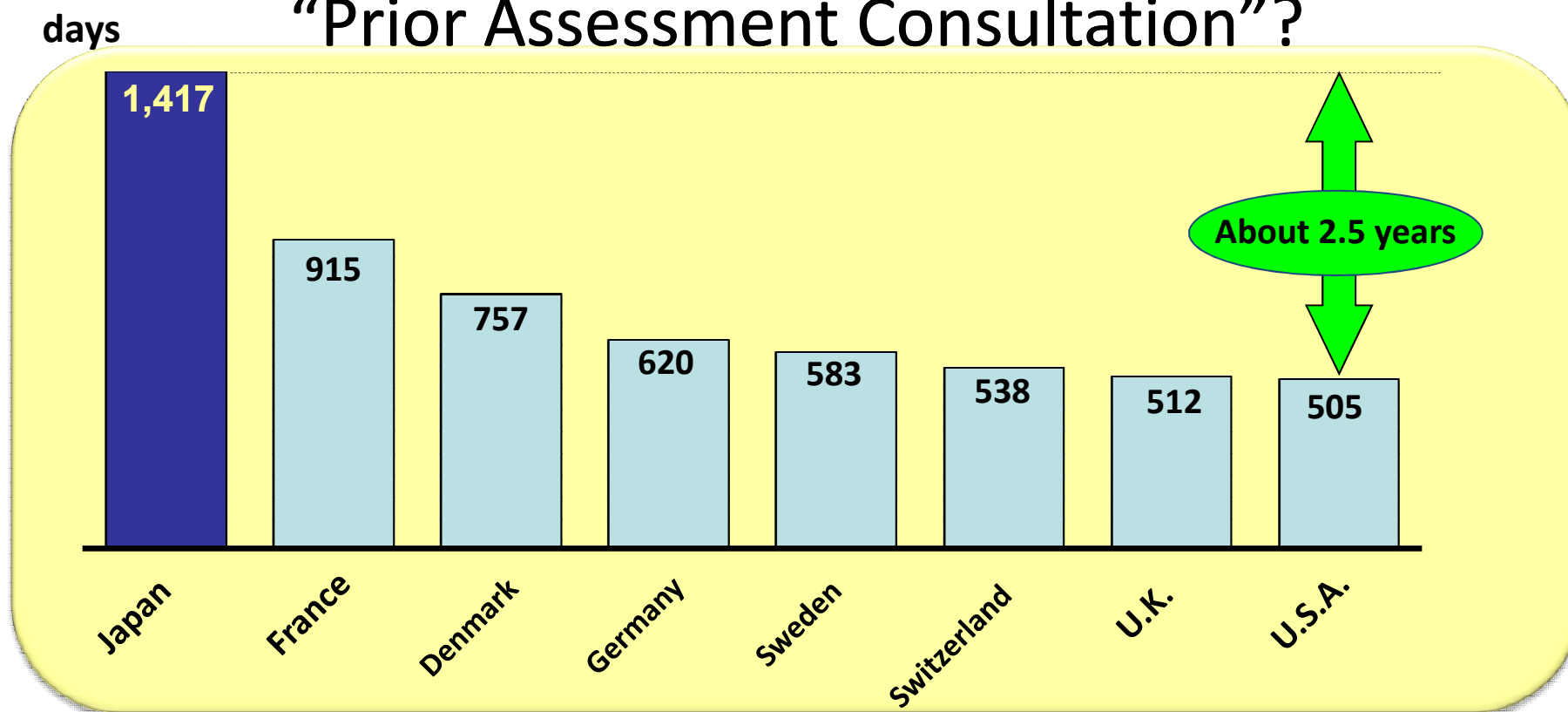
# Scene of Face-to-face Meeting



# ***Prior Assessment Consultation***



# Why did we introduce “Prior Assessment Consultation”?



***“How to eliminate drug lag ? ”***

## **Targets :To reduce the “drug lag” by a total of 2.5 years**

Development time

Approval review time

Measures

### ***Expansion of the Consulting Service***

- **Increase the number of staff** about 236 approximately in 3 years
- Give adequate training

### ***Improve the quality and quantity of consultations***

- Advise on overall development strategy to improve development time
- Reduce the application preparation time through stepping up the pre-application consultations

### ***Clarify the review criteria***

- Further promote Global Clinical Trials
- Draft a guideline on cutting-edge technologies

### ***Expansion of the Review System***

- Increase the number of staff
- Give adequate training

### ***Enhancement and improvement of the Review System***

- **Introduce a prior assessment**, and reduce applicant workload.
- Improve productivity of reviews through measures such as the standardization and Streamlining of the review process

### ***Liaise more closely with the FDA and other overseas regulatory authorities***

Targets  
(by 2011)

**1.5 year reduction of development time**

**1.0 year reduction of approval review time**

# Target review time (New Drugs)

(Months)

|  | FY                       | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|--|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>Standard review Products (Median)</b> | <b>Total review time</b> | 21   | 20   | 19   | 16   | 12   |
|  | Regulatory review time   | 13   | 13   | 12   | 11   | 9    |
|  | Applicant's time         | 8    | 8    | 7    | 5    | 3    |
| <b>Priority review Products (Median)</b> | <b>Total review time</b> | 12   | 11   | 11   | 10   | 9    |
|  | Regulatory review time   | 6    | 6    | 6    | 6    | 6    |
|  | Applicant's time         | 6    | 5    | 5    | 4    | 3    |

*Regulatory and Applicant's work in collaboration to tackle a goal !*



# Purpose of prior assessment consultation

## Purpose

By implementation of consultation before formal NDA

### O Shorten NDA review time

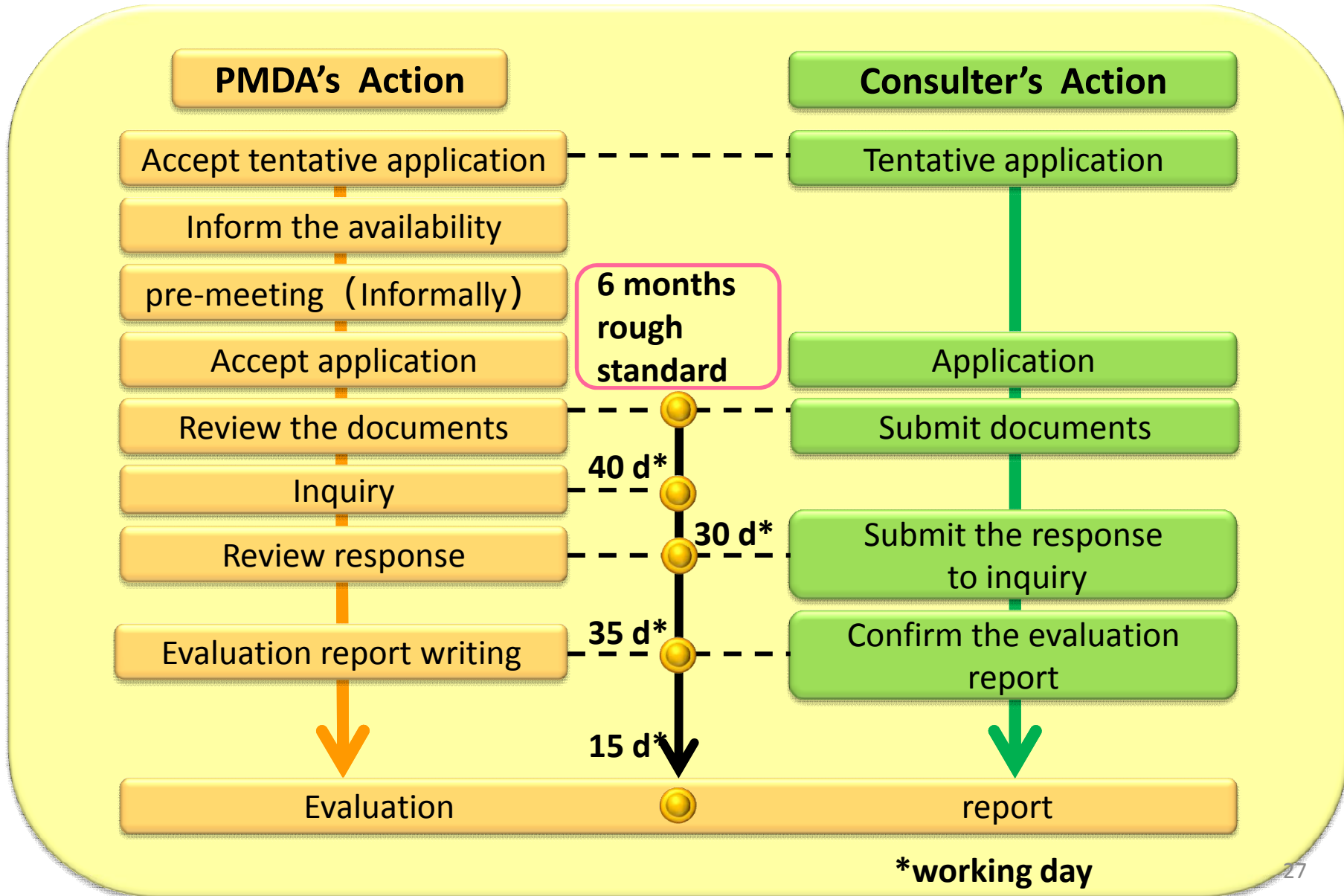
- Identify major discussion points and tasks for NDA submission
- Help applicants to prepare a good CTD with the inclusion of PMDA's view points

# Contents of prior assessment consultation

## Consultation contents

- Quality
- Toxicity (non-clinical)、 Pharmacology(non-clinical)、 Pharmacokinetics(non-clinical)
- Phase I study、 Phase II study、 Phase II/III study
  - Data evaluation before a formal NDA submission
  - PMDA provides a prior-assessment report for the submitted data/study

# Prior assessment consultation Flow



# Implementation status of prior- assessment consultation

| (FY) |                | Status of acceptance       |                            | Status of consultation<br>(Numbers of category) |          |            | Status of review<br>(Number of the<br>ingredient) |
|------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|----------|------------|---|
|      |                | Total of the<br>ingredient | Total of the<br>acceptance | Before<br>consultation                          | on going | completion | Approval  |
| 2009 |                | 7                          | 33                         | 0   | 0        | 33         | 6   |
| 2010 |                | 9                          | 30                         | 0   | 0        | 30         | 1   |
| 2011 | First<br>half  | 3                          | 9                          | 0   | 9        | 0          | 0   |
|      | Second<br>half | 7                          | 24                         | 8   | 16       | 0          | 0   |

※Data: the end of January 2012

# Consultation User Survey Summary - I

**Q: Consultation Items were resolved or cleared ?**

|                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| <b>Resolved or Cleared</b>  | <b>7</b> |
| <b>Relatively cleared</b>   | <b>7</b> |
| Neither                     | 2        |
| Relatively Not cleared      | 0        |
| Not resolved or Not cleared | 0        |

**Generally cleared**

**Q: How can you conclude a value of the consultations ?**

|                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| <b>Very useful</b> | <b>5</b> |
| <b>Useful</b>      | <b>9</b> |
| Neither            | 2        |
| Not useful         | 0        |

**Generally found the value**

**Q: Unexpected problems are found for application?**

|              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| <b>Found</b> | <b>10</b> |
| Not found    | 6         |

**Thought of as advantages**

# Consultation User Survey Summary – II

**Q: Number of inquiries after the application will be decreased ?**

|                          |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Clearly decreased</b> | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>Perhaps decreased</b> | <b>12</b> |
| No change                | 0         |
| Perhaps increased        | 0         |
| Clearly increased        | 0         |

**Expect the decrease of inquiries**

**Q: Become helpful in submission data?**

|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| <b>Very helpful</b> | <b>5</b> |
| <b>Helpful</b>      | <b>9</b> |
| Neither             | 1        |
| Not very helpful    | 0        |
| Not helpful         | 1        |

**Generally helpful**

# Consultation User Survey Summary – III

**Q: Review become more efficient ?**

|                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| <b>Very efficient</b> | <b>2</b> |
| <b>efficient</b>      | <b>4</b> |
| Neither               | 0        |
| inefficient           | 0        |
| Very inefficient      | 0        |

**Q: As at the application, remaining tasks resolved ?**

|                        |          |
|------------------------|----------|
| <b>Resolved</b>        | <b>3</b> |
| <b>Nearly resolved</b> | <b>2</b> |
| Neither                | 1        |
| Nearly unsolved        | 0        |
| Unsolved               | 0        |

**Q: Shortened the review time ?**

|                               |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Considerably shortened</b> | <b>2</b> |
| <b>Shortened</b>              | <b>3</b> |
| Neither                       | 1        |
| Extended                      | 0        |
| Considerably extended         | 0        |

**Q: Did you spend more time for a weighty discussion (dosage and administration, effect-efficacy etc.) ?**

|                                       |          |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Very fulfilling discussions</b>    | <b>1</b> |
| <b>Spend more time for discussion</b> | <b>2</b> |
| Neither                               | 1        |
| Conventional                          | 2        |
| Rather, non-fulfilled                 | 0        |

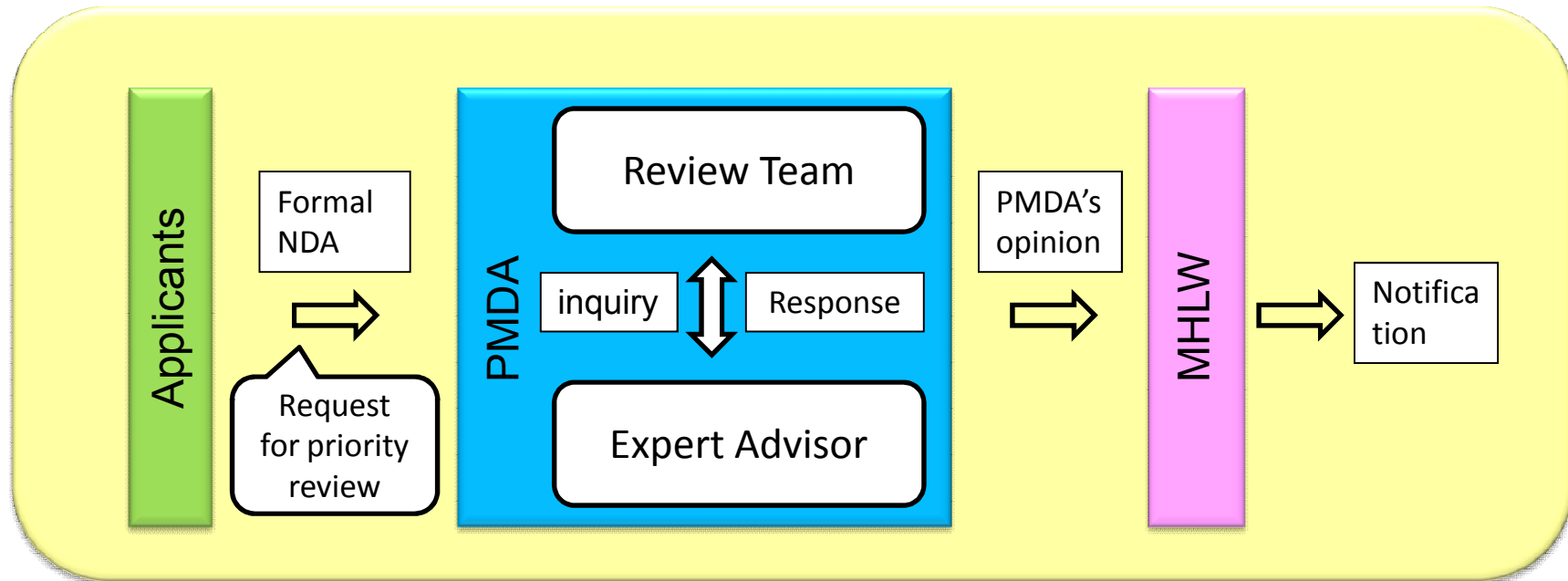
***Consultation on eligibility for priority  
review products***



# Priority review

Reviews of approval applications for **orphan drugs** and **other drugs that are regarded as having particularly high medical need** ※ were conducted on a priority basis as priority review products.

※ i.e., drugs for serious diseases with distinctly superior efficacy or safety to existing drugs or therapies



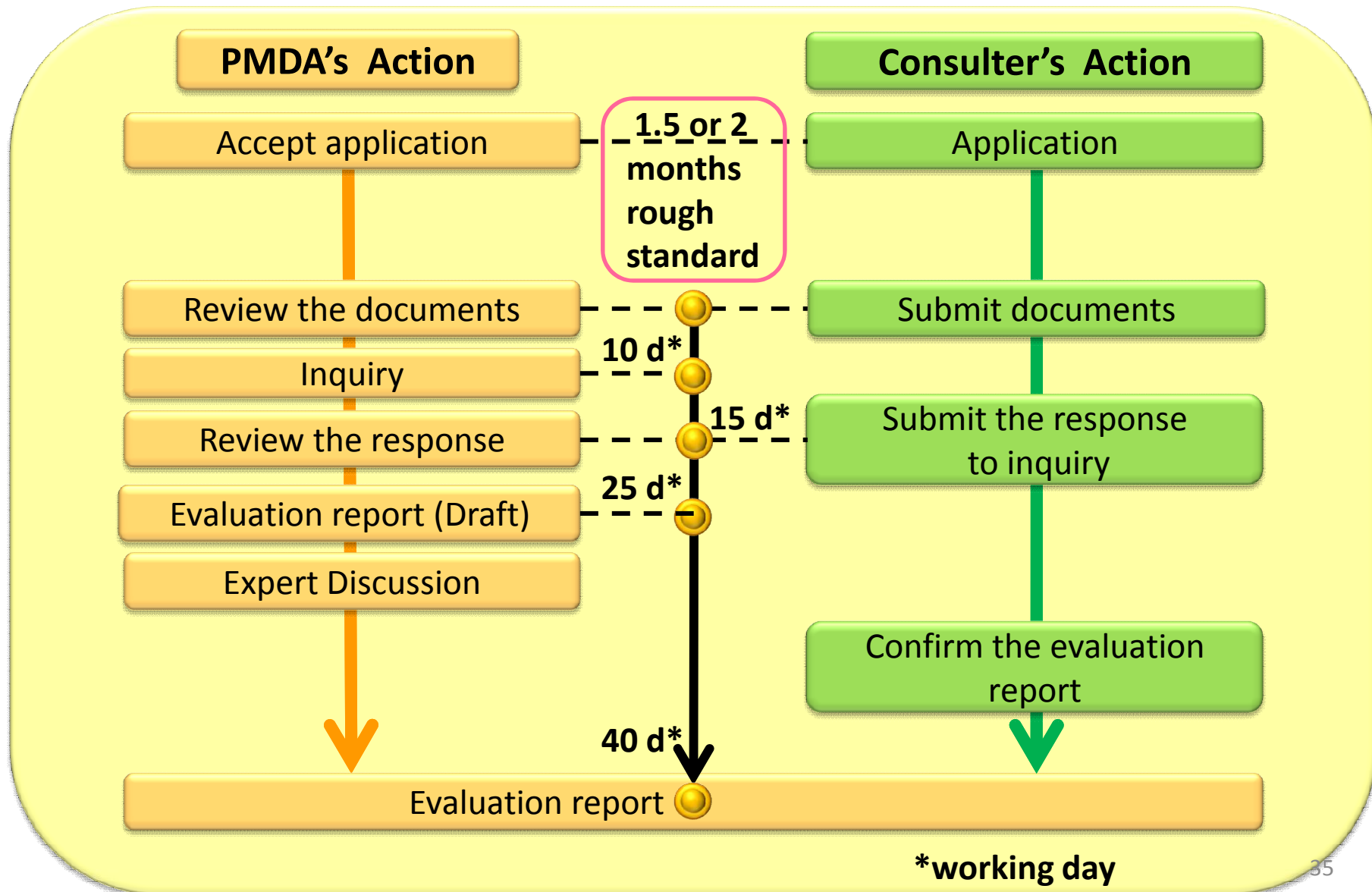
# Purpose of consultation on eligibility for priority review products

## Purpose

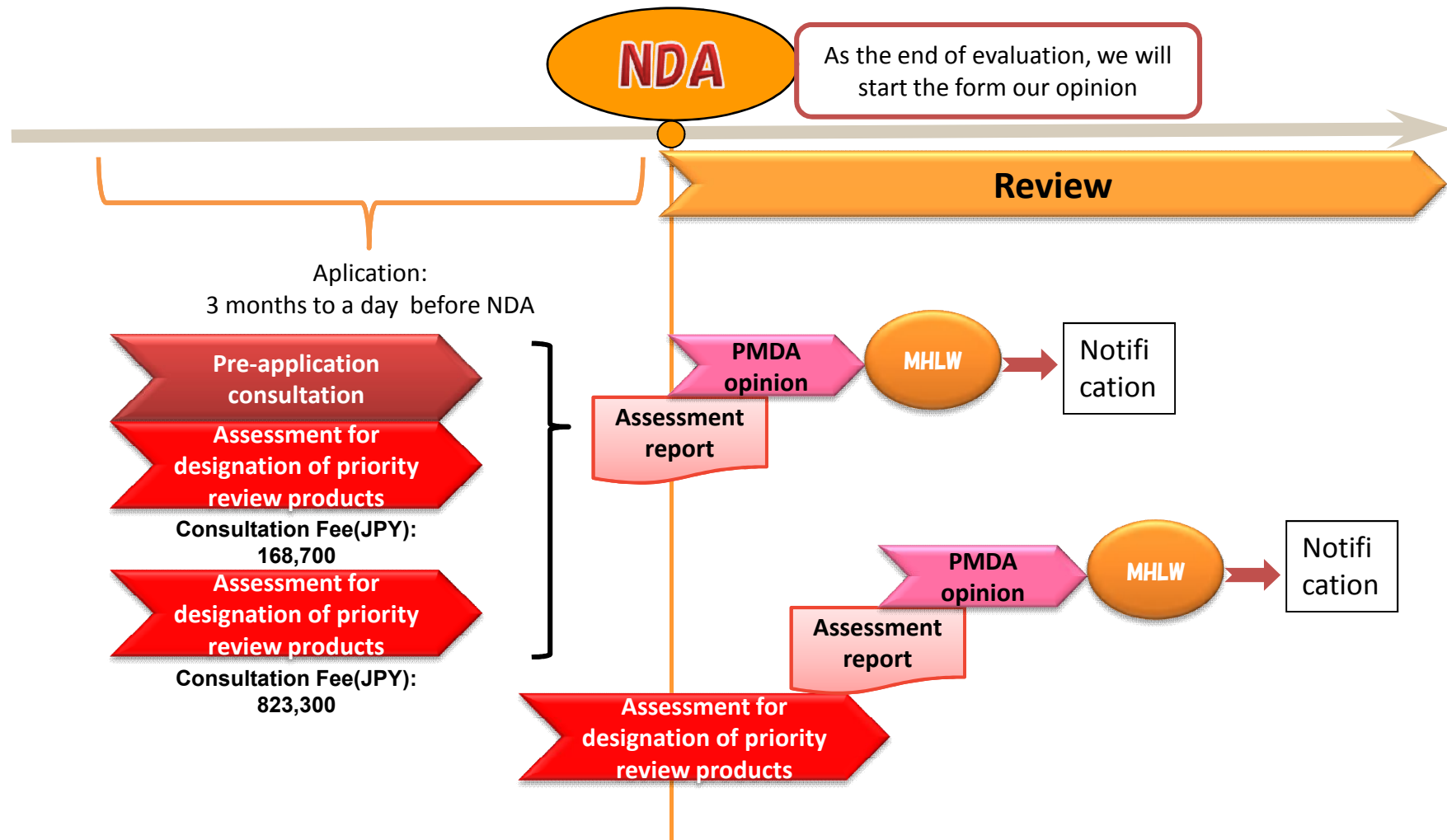
By evaluating the eligibility for priority review products before formal NDA

- Expect to shorten the priority review time
  - Form a PMDA 's opinion immediately after formal NDA
  - Spend more time for NDA review
- For applicants, it is beneficial to be clear the product may be eligible for priority review products or not before formal NDA

# Flow of consultation on eligibility for priority review products



# Consultation on eligibility for priority review products



***Pharmaceutical Affairs Consultation  
on R & D strategy***

# Policies

- New Growth Strategy (Cabinet decision in June 2010)

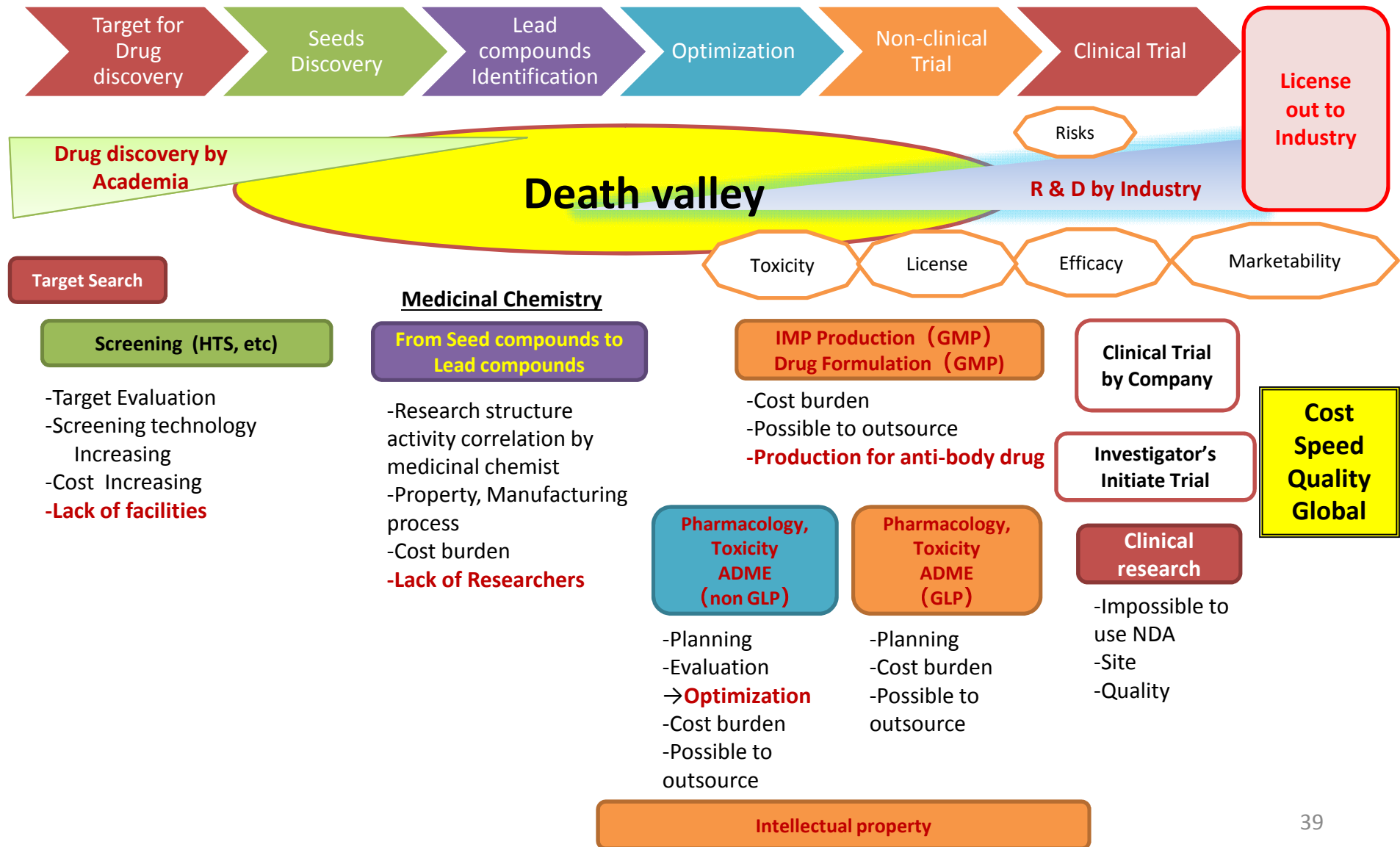
- (2) Health power strategy through “Life Innovation”

*Promoting research and development of innovative pharmaceuticals and medical and nursing care technologies from Japan*

We will **promote research and development of highly safe, superior, and innovative pharmaceuticals and medical and nursing care technologies from Japan**. We will promote unified approaches among industry, government, and academia, **foster drug development ventures, and promote research, development, and application in a number of fields**. These include new drugs, regenerative medicine and other state-of-the-art medical technologies, remote medical treatment systems making full use of information and communications technologies, use of manufacturing technologies to improve personal mobility for the elderly, and medical and nursing care robots. To this end, we will work to resolve the urgent drug and device lag issue, improve the clinical testing environment, and **expedite drug approval decisions**.

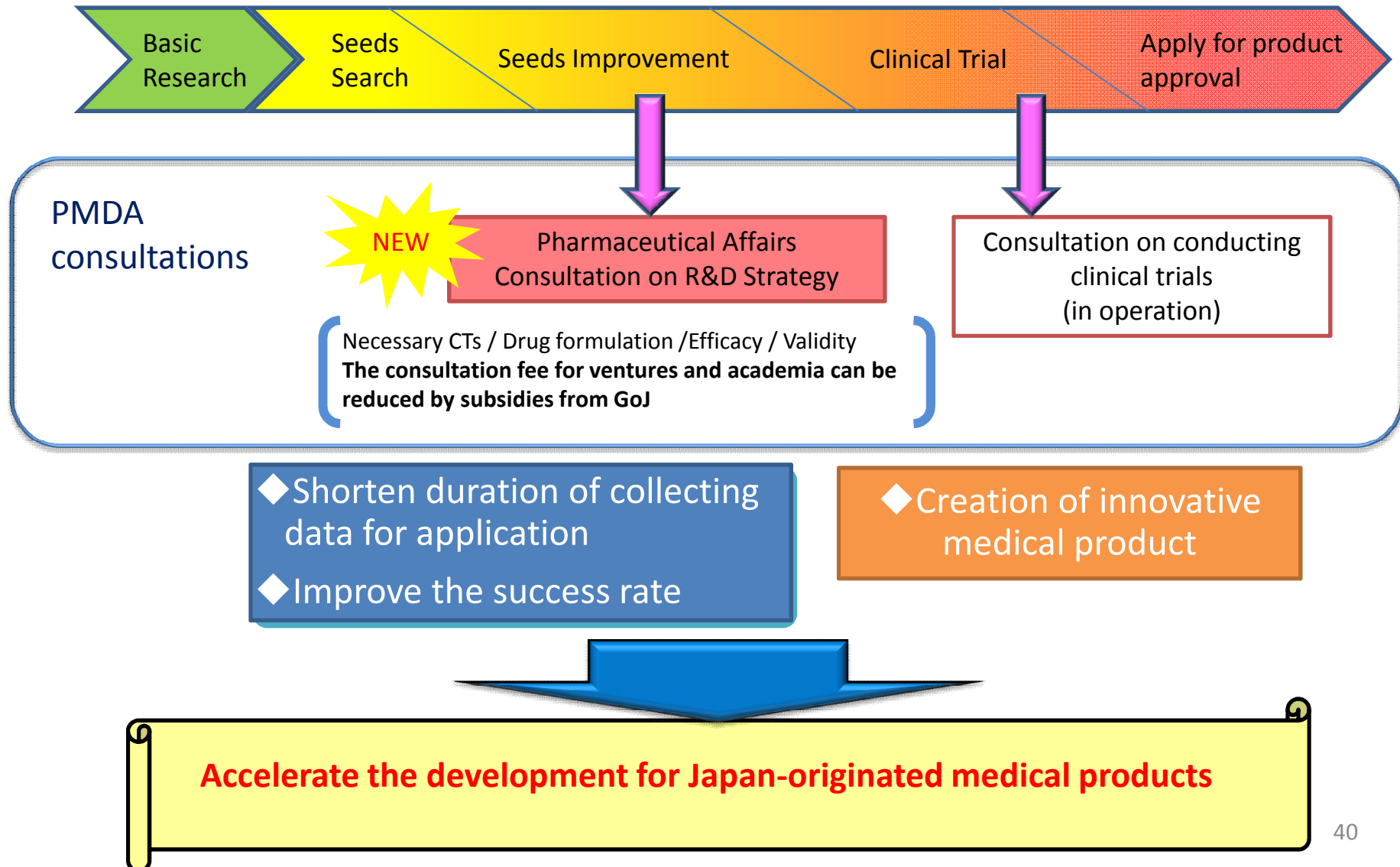
New Growth Strategy

# Current status in New Drug Research and Development Originated by Academia in Japan



# Pharmaceutical Affairs Consultation on R&D Strategy

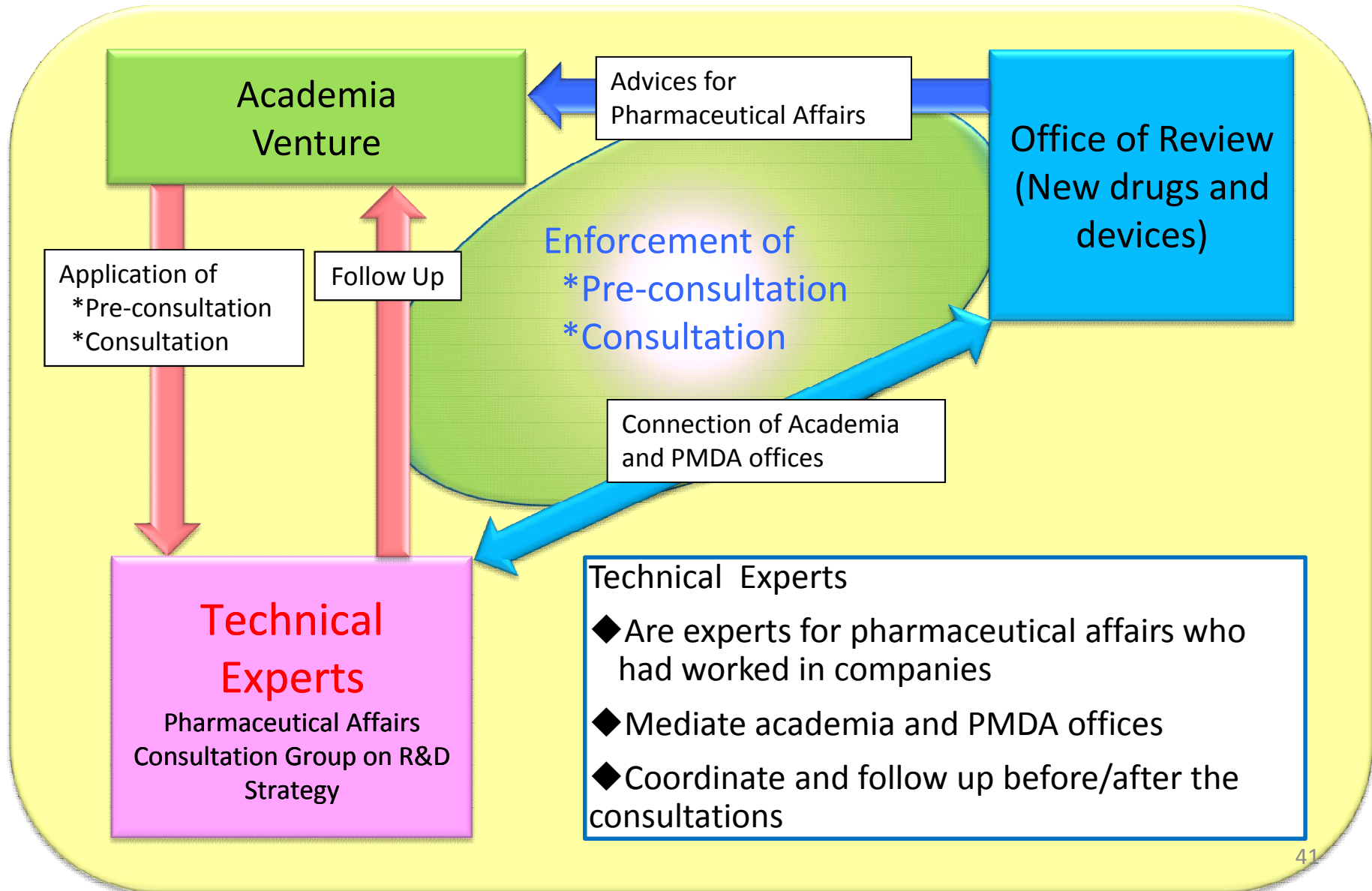
-To accelerate the development of Japan-originated medical products –



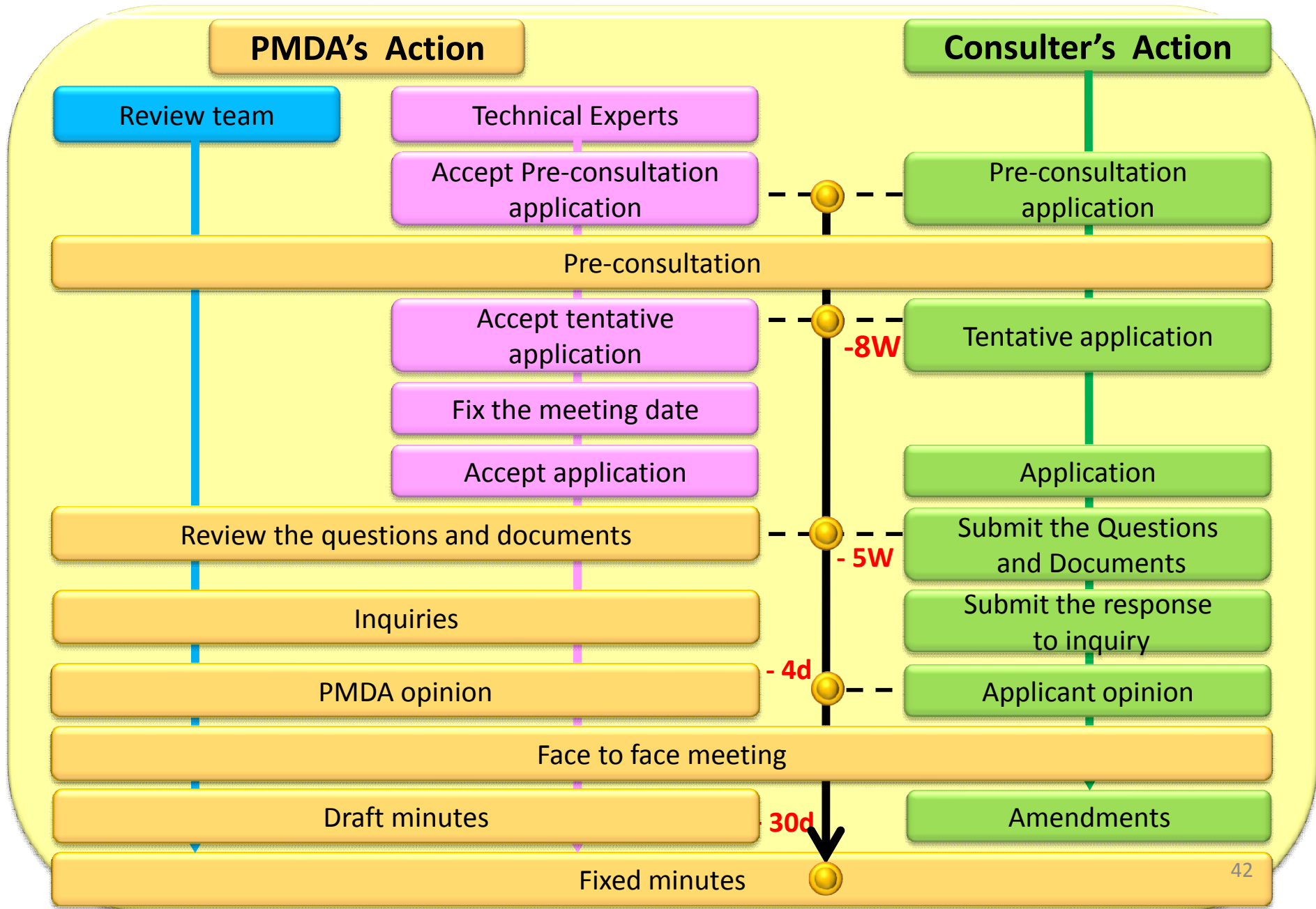


# Pharmaceutical Affairs Consultation Group on R&D Strategy

July 2011 started



# Flow



# Scope of the Pharmaceutical Affairs Consultation on R&D Strategy

## Innovative Products in following priority area

- Regenerative medicine (cell- and tissue- based products)
- Cancer
- Incurable disease and orphan disease
- Pediatrics
- Other area, products utilizing particularly innovative technologies

(Note) Regardless of the order among the areas.

# The number of each consultation

| consultation    | Pharmaceutical  | Medical device | Regenerative medicine | total            |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| <b>Academia</b> | <b>11</b>       | <b>1</b>       | <b>2</b>              | <b>14 (54%)</b>  |
| <b>Venture</b>  | <b>0</b>        | <b>1</b>       | <b>2</b>              | <b>3 (11%)</b>   |
| <b>Other</b>    | <b>5</b>        | <b>0</b>       | <b>4</b>              | <b>9 (35%)</b>   |
| <b>total</b>    | <b>16 (61%)</b> | <b>2 (8%)</b>  | <b>8 (31%)</b>        | <b>26 (100%)</b> |

| Pre-consultation | Pharmaceutical  | Medical device  | Regenerative medicine | total            |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| <b>Academia</b>  | <b>33</b>       | <b>8</b>        | <b>8</b>              | <b>49 (50%)</b>  |
| <b>Venture</b>   | <b>4</b>        | <b>8</b>        | <b>15</b>             | <b>27 (28%)</b>  |
| <b>Other</b>     | <b>8</b>        | <b>6</b>        | <b>8</b>              | <b>22 (22%)</b>  |
| <b>total</b>     | <b>45 (46%)</b> | <b>22 (22%)</b> | <b>31 (32%)</b>       | <b>98 (100%)</b> |

# Summary

- Consultation system in Japan is the important tool to support and encourage drug development for regulatory approval.
- PMDA provides consultations tailored for a range of needs and challenges to make the better consultation systems for each other.

Thank you for your attention !

