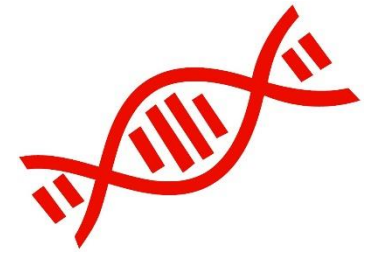


# Assistant Professor Wisit Tangkeangsirisin, PhD, Thailand

- Assistant Professor, Faculty of Pharmacy,  
Silpakorn University, Thailand



# How to handle the pre-existing non-comparable biopharmaceuticals licensed prior to the biosimilar approval pathway: experience from Thailand

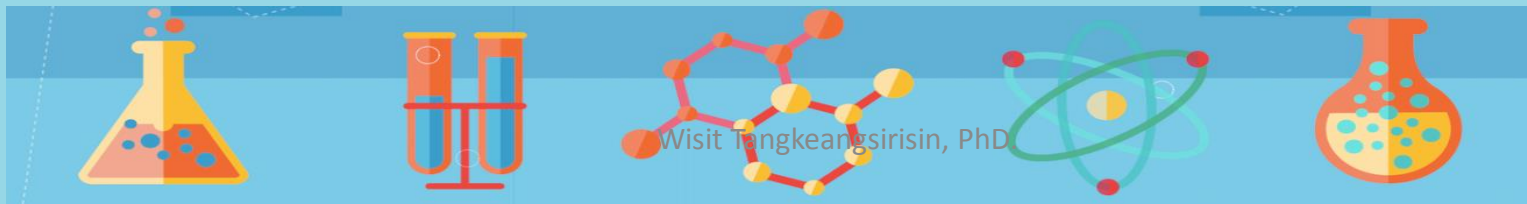
Assistant Professor Wisit Tangkeangsirisin, PhD  
24 September 2019

# How to handle the pre-existing non-comparable biopharmaceuticals licensed prior the biosimilar approval pathway: experience from Thailand



***Wisit Tangkeangsirisin, PhD***  
***Faculty of Pharmacy***  
***Silpakorn University, THAILAND***

***2nd Turkish Interactive Workshop on Regulatory Assessment of Biosimilars***  
***23 September 2019***



# AGENDA

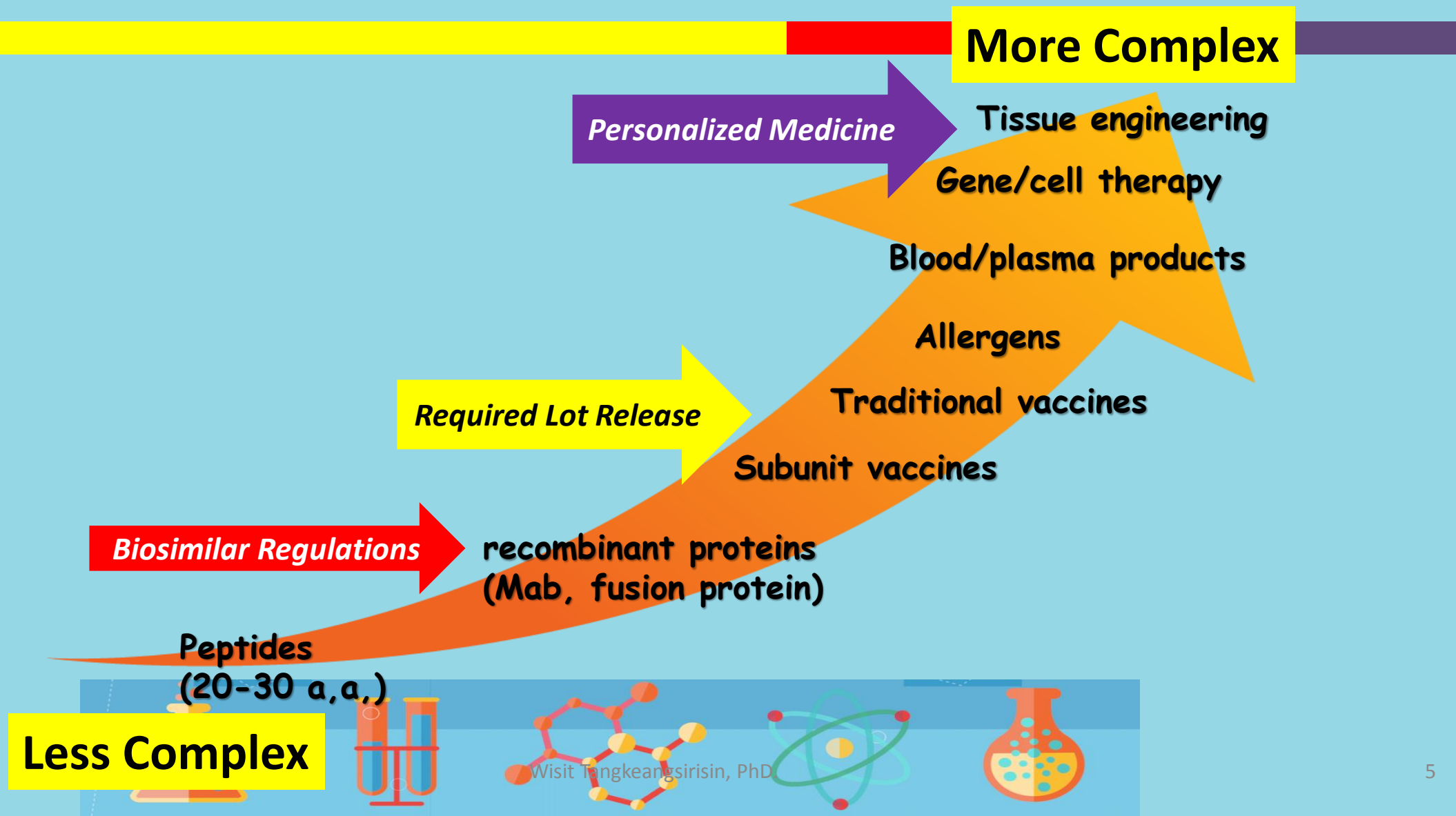
What is Biologicals/Biosimilar?

Biosimilar Approval Foundation

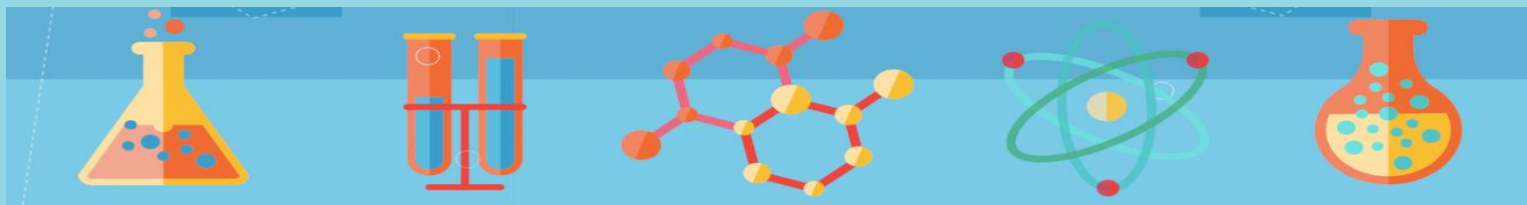
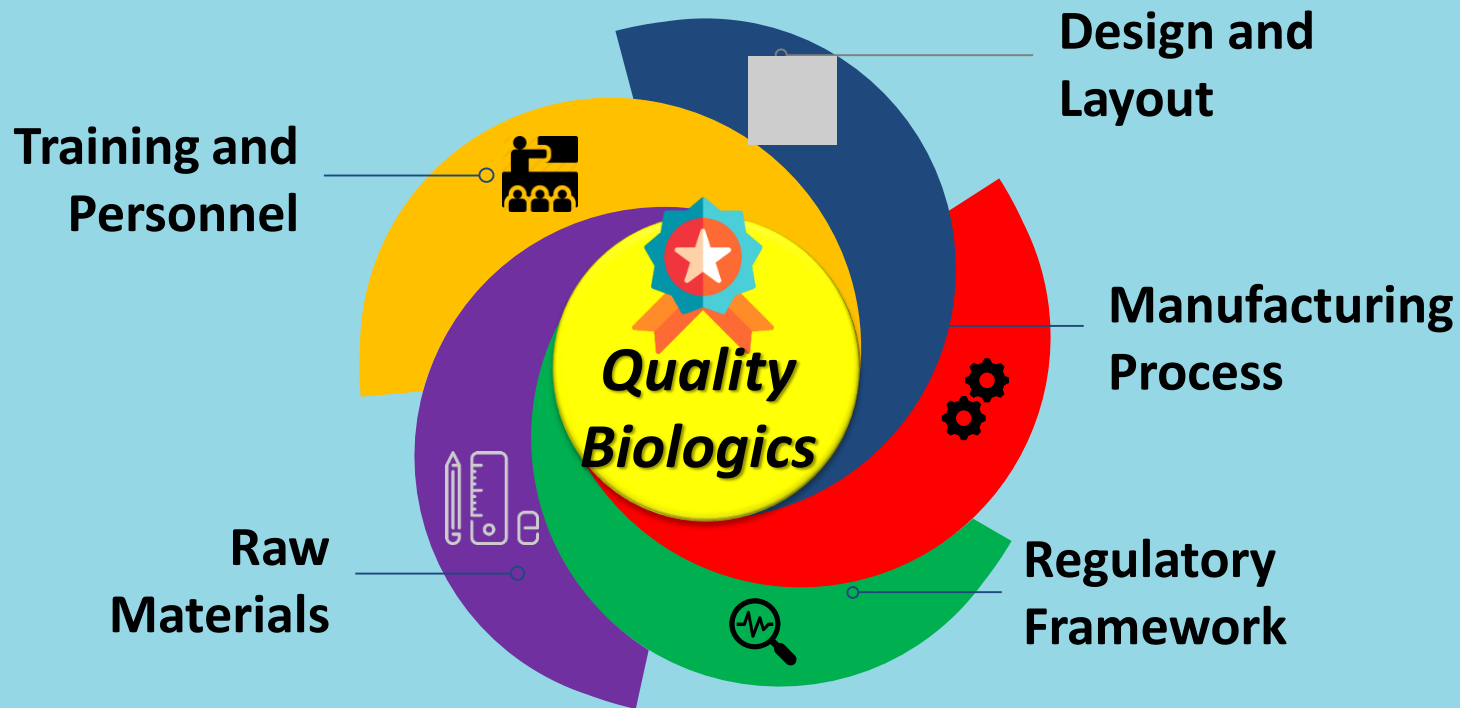
Biosimilar Global, ASEAN and Thailand Regulation



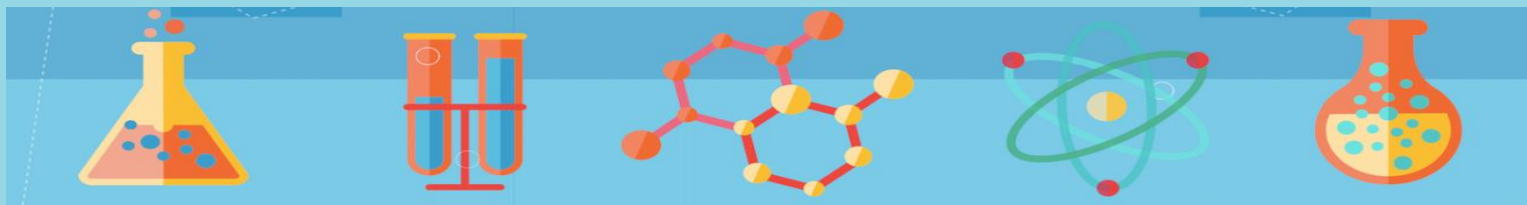
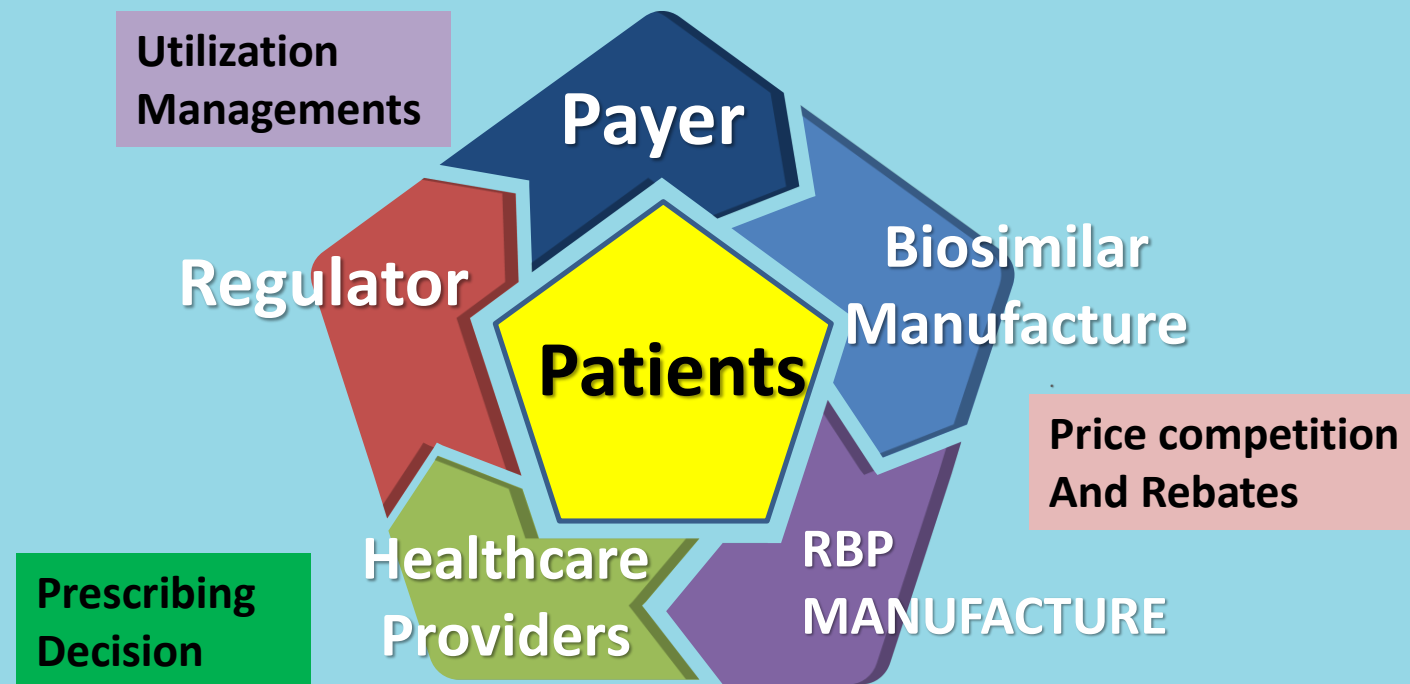
# Heterogeneity of Biologicals



# Elements of quality biologicals



# STAKEHOLDERS of Biosimilar

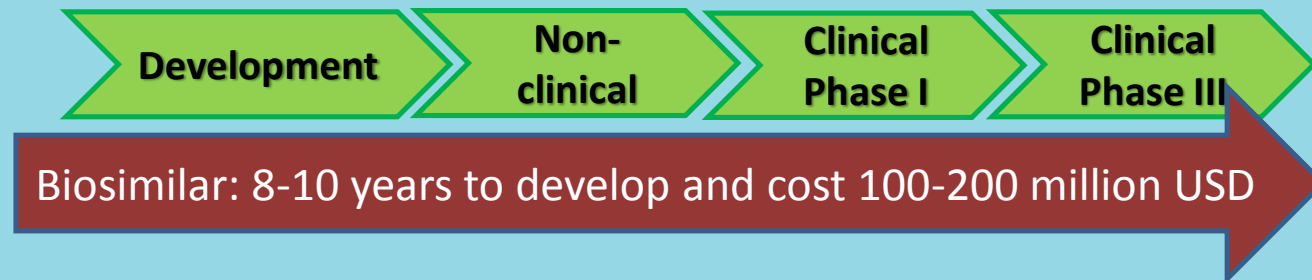


# Reduced cost for production of biosimilars

## *Original Reference Biologic Development Scheme*



## *Biosimilar Development Scheme*

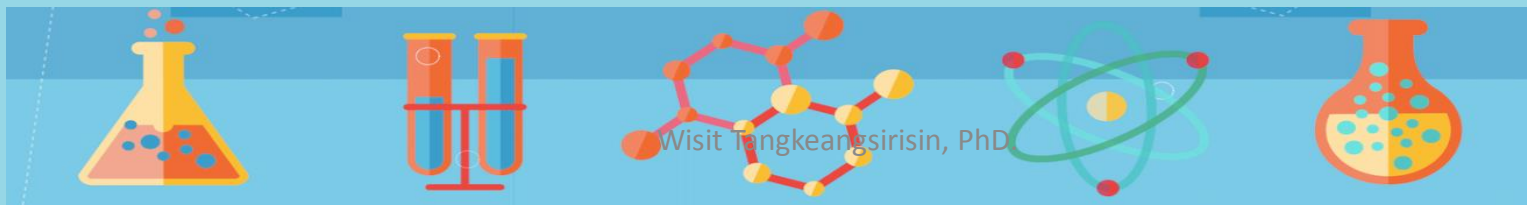


GBI Research. 2017. Biosimilar development the incentives and challenges. <https://www.pharmaceutical-technology.com/comment/comment/what-are-the-incentives-and-challenges-to-biosimilar-development-5751024/>

Wisit Tongkeangsirisin, PhD



# BIOSIMILAR DEVELOPMENT



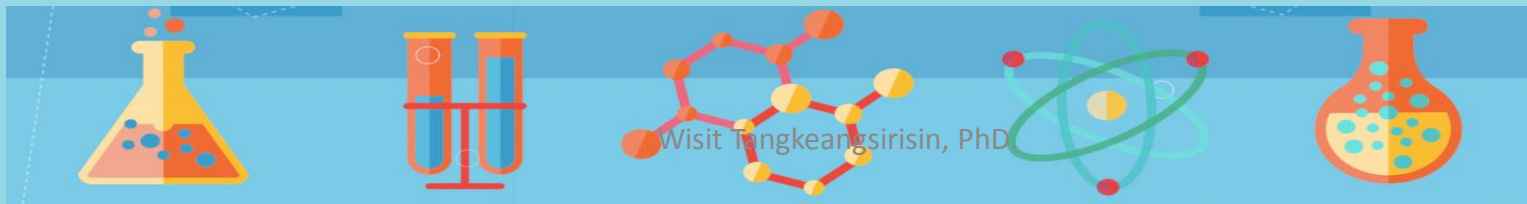
Wisit Tongkeangsirisin, PhD

# Market Challenge Issues

**Biosimilar is not built through traditional clinical training (Educational issues)**

**Interchangeability**

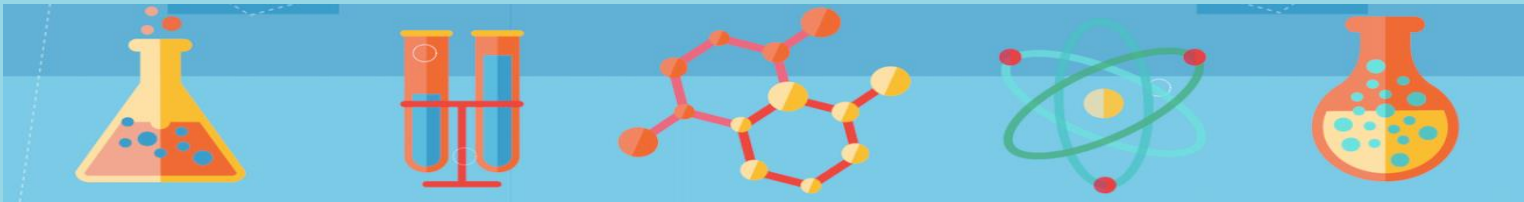
**Perceptions and concerns brings to unsuccessful communication to patients (nocebo effect)**



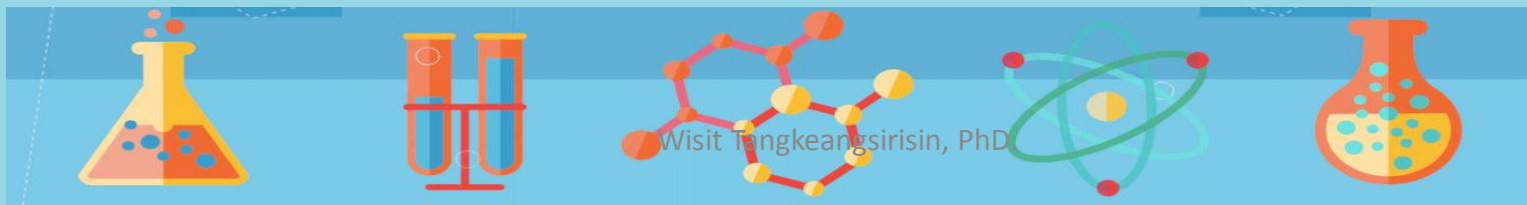
# Concern of Biologicals including Biosimilars

- **Quality** → impurity, immunogenicity ?
- **Safety**
  - Study in Asian Race within the indications ?
  - Interchangeability → safety concern in some products ?
- **Efficacy**
  - Extrapolation of indication ??
  - Do we really need interchangeability study (for all indication)?

*Hype or Facts?  
Scientific and  
Logical thinking*



# BIOSIMILAR GLOBAL REGULATION



# Regulatory Convergence Biosimilars/Biologicals

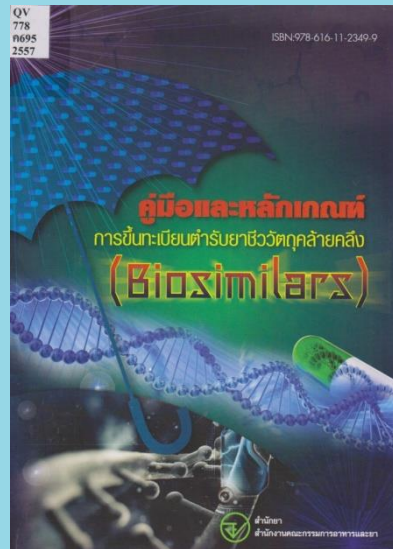
## EMA becomes reference for other Competent Authorities

# WHO recommends authorities to approved biosimilar



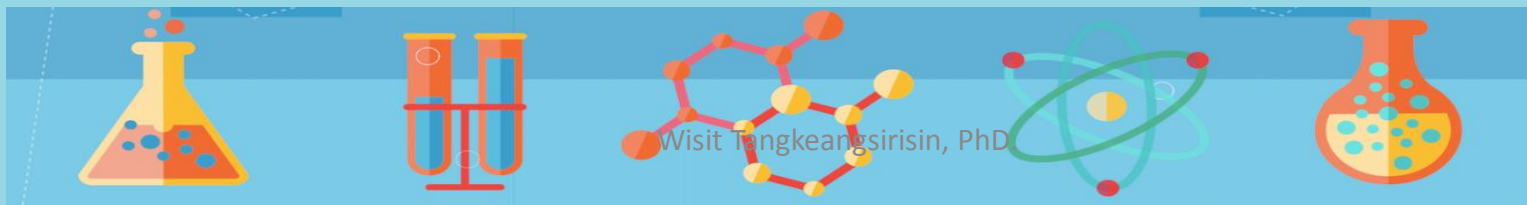
# Thailand Biosimilar Guidelines

- Adopted from EMEA Biosimilar Guidelines (Revision 1) 2013

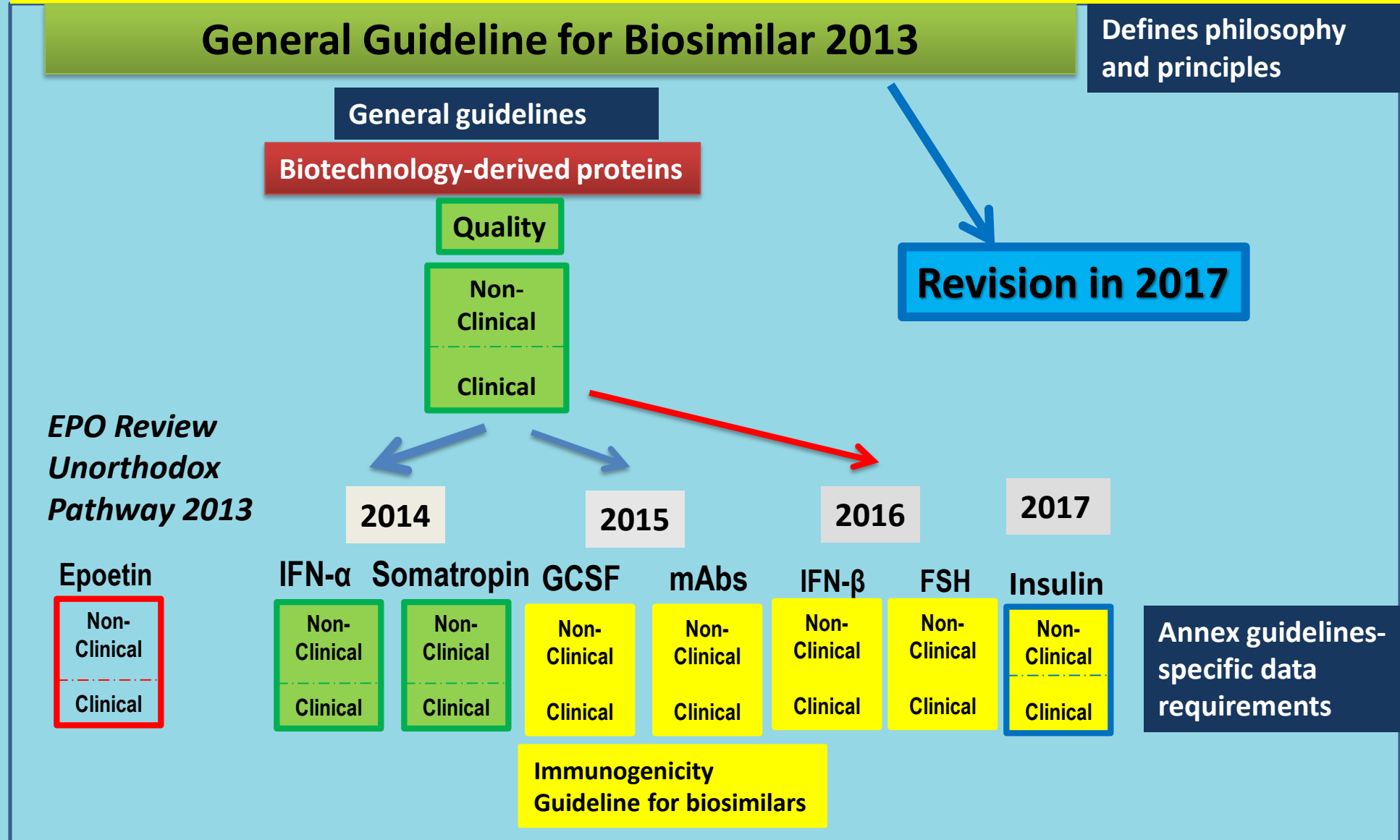


Revision

Revision in 2017



# Current Thailand Biosimilar Guidelines

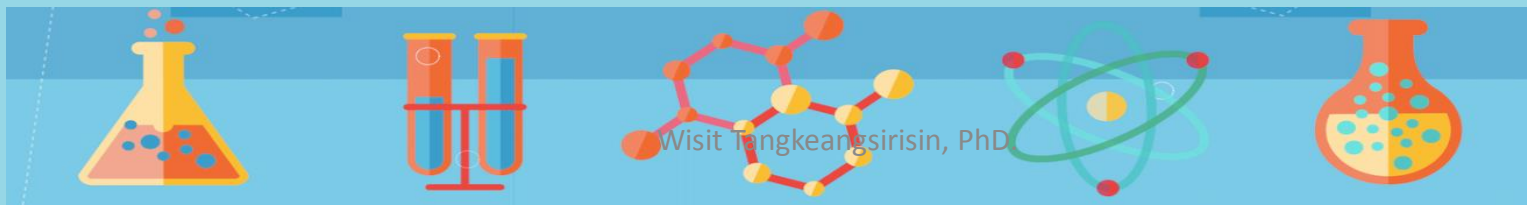


# Different regulatory requirement for biosimilars in Asian countries

*Adapted from Curr Rheumatol Rep (2017) 19:47*

	<b>China</b>	<b>India</b>	<b>Japan</b>	<b>Korea</b>	<b>Taiwan</b>	<b>Thailand</b>
Interchangeability	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not allowed	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Automatic Substitution	Not mentioned	Not mentioned	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not mentioned
Indication Extrapolation	Allow	Allow	Allow on Provision	Allow on Provision	Allow on Provision	Allow on Provision
Reference Product	Registered in China in clinical study	Registered in India with provision	Registered in Japan with provision	Registered in Korea with provision	Authorized in Taiwan	Authorized in Thailand
Others	Single arm study may be acceptable					

## No Naming and Labeling Issues in Most ASEAN Countries





# Approved Biosimilar in Thailand

INN	RBP in Thailand	Biosimilar in Thailand	Non-comparable Biologicals
Epoetin alpha	√	Binocrit*	> 10
Filgrastim	√	Zarzio, Nivestim	few
Infliximab	√	Remsima*	×
Rituximab	√	Truxima, xx	×
Trastuzumab	√	Ogivri, Herzuma	×
Adalimumab	-	xx	×
Bevacizumab	√	Mvasi	×

\* Approved before Biosimilar GL in place

# Biologicals in the Real World

**Innovator  
Biologicals**

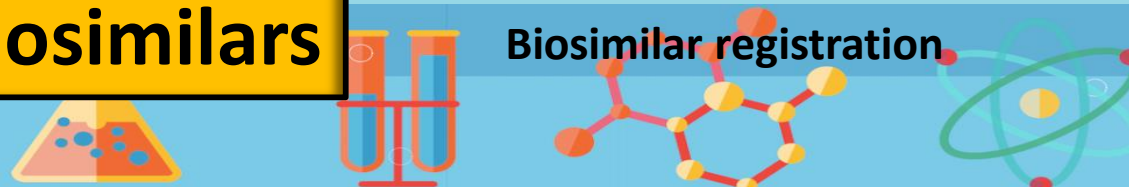
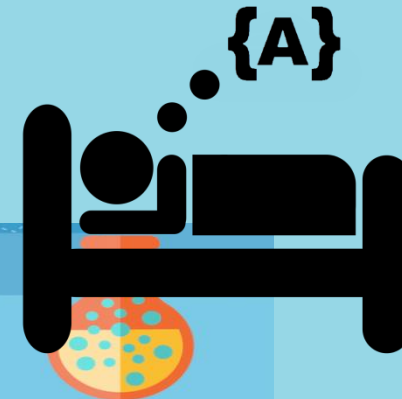
NDA

**Stand alone Biologics  
(Non-comparable  
biologicals)**

- Abbreviated Dossier  
(stringency is vary)
- Some data depend on  
Innovator's Data

**Biosimilars**

Biosimilar registration



# Type of Biopharmaceuticals in the Global Market (including Thailand)

## Innovator Biopharmaceuticals

- Novel Product
- Patent Protection
- Fully Regulatory Dossier

## Similar Biotherapeutic Products (Biosimilar)

- Highly Similar to Innovators that has been authorized
- Approved by biosimilar regulatory pathway

## Non-comparable Biopharmaceuticals

- Not approved in accordant with WHO SBP/ Biosimilar Guidance
- Should not be approved as generic



**World Health  
Organization**

**Post ECBS version  
ENGLISH ONLY**

**EXPERT COMMITTEE ON BIOLOGICAL STANDARDIZATION**  
**Geneva, 12 to 16 October 2015**

**REGULATORY ASSESSMENT OF APPROVED rDNA-DERIVED  
BIOTHERAPEUTICS**

**PROPOSED ADDENDUM TO: WHO TRS 987, Annex 4.**

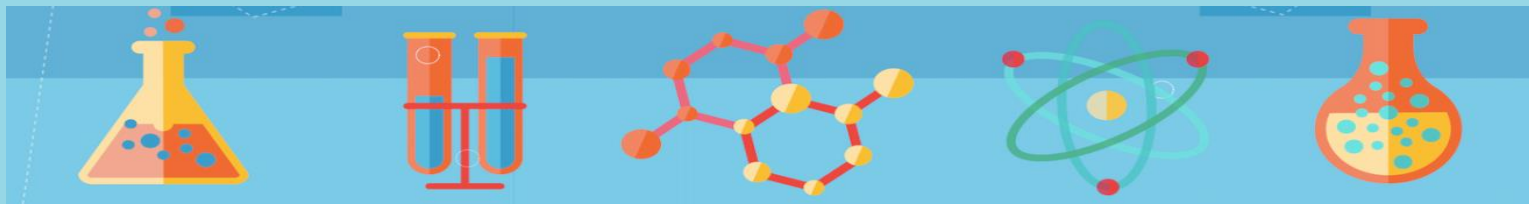
*Guidelines on the quality, safety and efficacy of biotherapeutic protein products prepared by  
recombinant DNA technology*

© World Health Organization 2015



# What should be done with these already licensed products?

- To develop approaches *to evaluating these already licensed products according to current guidelines or for phasing them out* in a reasonable period of time
- WHO guidance on Regulatory Assessment of Approved rDNA-Derived Biotherapeutics (2015)



# Four Options

1. Leave on the market and strengthen post market surveillance to identify possible adverse effects associated with use

2. Withdraw from the market immediately

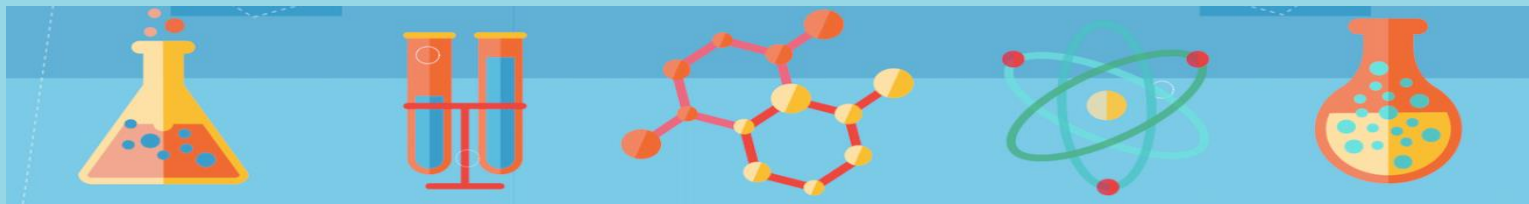
3. Withdraw only when a safety or efficacy problem has been identified

4. Leave on the market for a specified period, during which time manufacturers would be required to submit appropriate missing data and a “risk management plan” for regulatory evaluation to support the continuation of the license. (stepwise assessment)



# EPO cases in Thailand

- **What Are the issues about EPOETIN in Thailand?**
  - 15 brands of EPO-alpha and 1 brand of EPO-beta have been licensed in Thailand
  - Access to Epoetin by UC patients due to the low price



# Biosimilar recombinant human erythropoietin induces the production of neutralizing antibodies

Kearkiat Praditpornsilpa<sup>1</sup>, Khajohn Tiranathanagul<sup>1</sup>, Pawinee Kupatawintu<sup>2</sup>, Saengsuree Jootar<sup>3</sup>, Tanin Intragumtornchai<sup>4</sup>, Kriang Tungsanga<sup>1</sup>, Tanyarat Teerapornlertratt<sup>5</sup>, Dusit Lumlertkul<sup>6</sup>, Natavudh Townamchai<sup>1</sup>, Paweena Susantitaphong<sup>1</sup>, Pisut Katavetin<sup>1</sup>, Talerngsak Kanjanabuch<sup>1</sup>, Yingyos Avihingsanon<sup>1</sup> and Somchai Eiam-Ong<sup>1</sup>

- .....30 patients with chronic kidney disease treated by sc injection with biosimilar r-HuEpo and who developed a sudden loss of efficacy.
- Sera from 23 of these patients were positive for r-HuEpo-neutralizing antibodies, and their bone marrow biopsies indicated pure red-cell aplasia, indicating the loss of erythroblasts.
- However, we can clearly state that repeated subcutaneous injections of biosimilar agents could result in the development of anti-r-HuEpo-associated PRCA.



## EDITOR'S NOTE:

Biosimilar is a term applied to subsequent versions of biopharmaceutical products that have been approved by the regulatory authorities of a given country. The pathway for approval is thus specific for that country, and because of regulatory differences, the biosimilar classification may not apply in other countries.

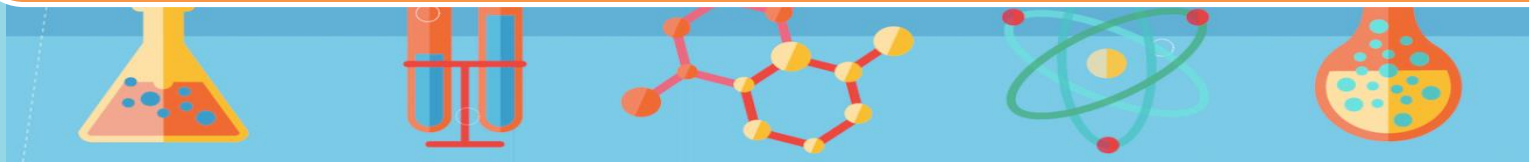


# Reality About EPOETIN in Thailand

**16 EPOETIN brands has been registered in Thailand**

**Not a single brand registered as BIOSIMILAR**

**EPOETIN switching has been commonly done in Thailand**



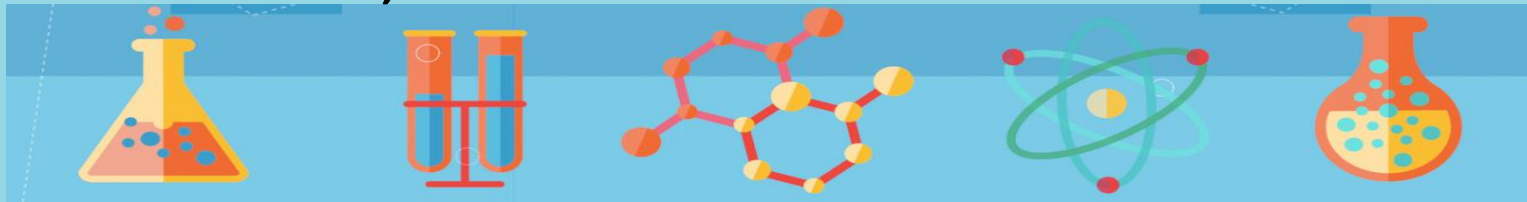
# EPOETIN PRCA Solutions

## Legal Actions

- Revised Regulations
  - 2009 ASEAN Harmonization / ICH
  - 2013 Biosimilar Registration Pathway
- New EPO registration will be submitted as either New Biologics or Biosimilar
- Reassessment process for the registered EPO (EPO review)
- Pharmacovigilance

## Non-legal Actions

- Dear Dr. Letter, Alert Letter



# Possible Causes for High Reporting PRCA in Thailand

**Products?**

**Quality?**

**Formulation?**

**Storage and  
Handling?**

**Route of  
Administration?**

**Interchangeability of  
Products?**

**Genetic?**

**?????**



# Active Surveillance Methods

## Intensive (hospital) Monitoring

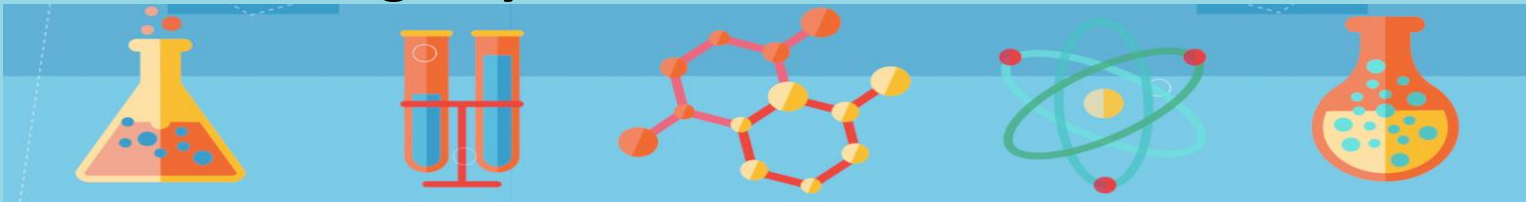
- Product of interest
  - New drug, High alert drug

## Cohort event monitoring

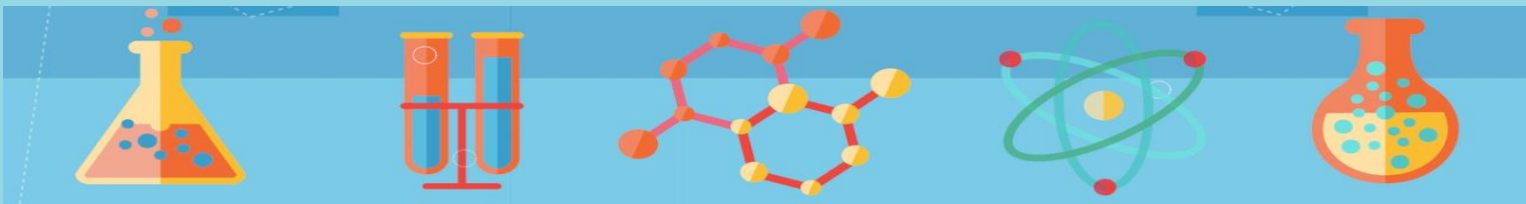
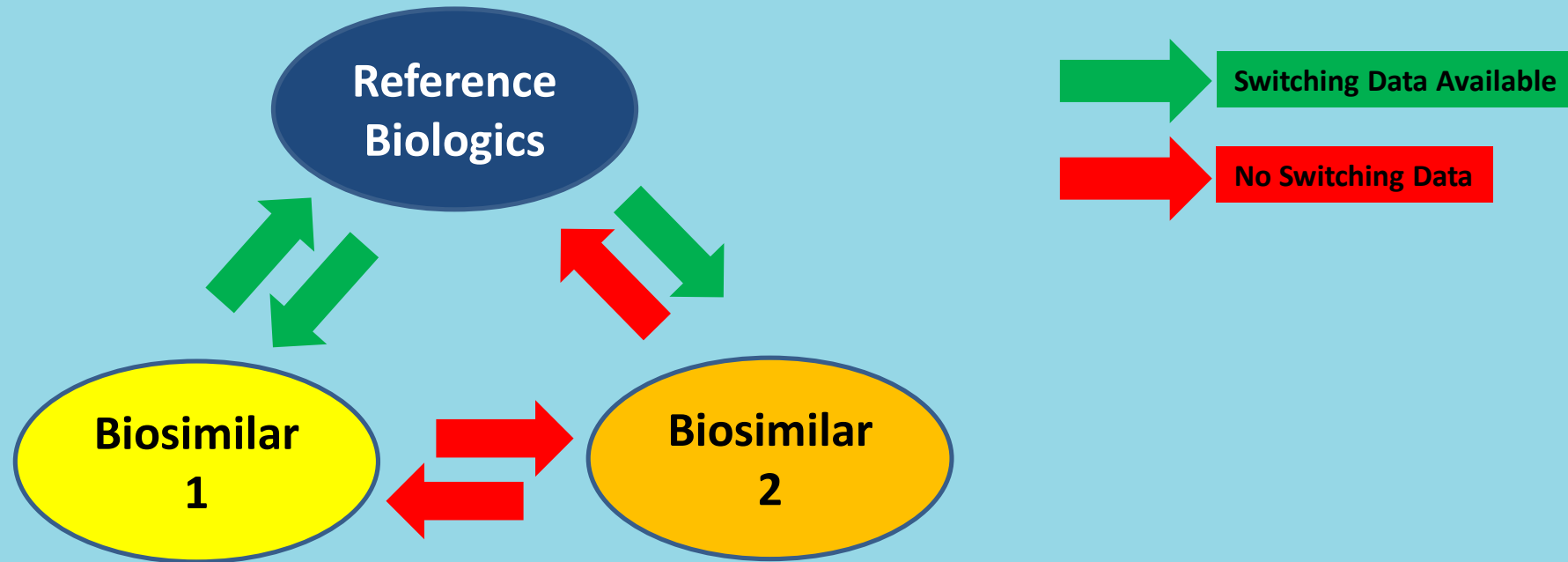
- Anti-TB drugs (New drug, New regimen)
- Epoetin

## Registry

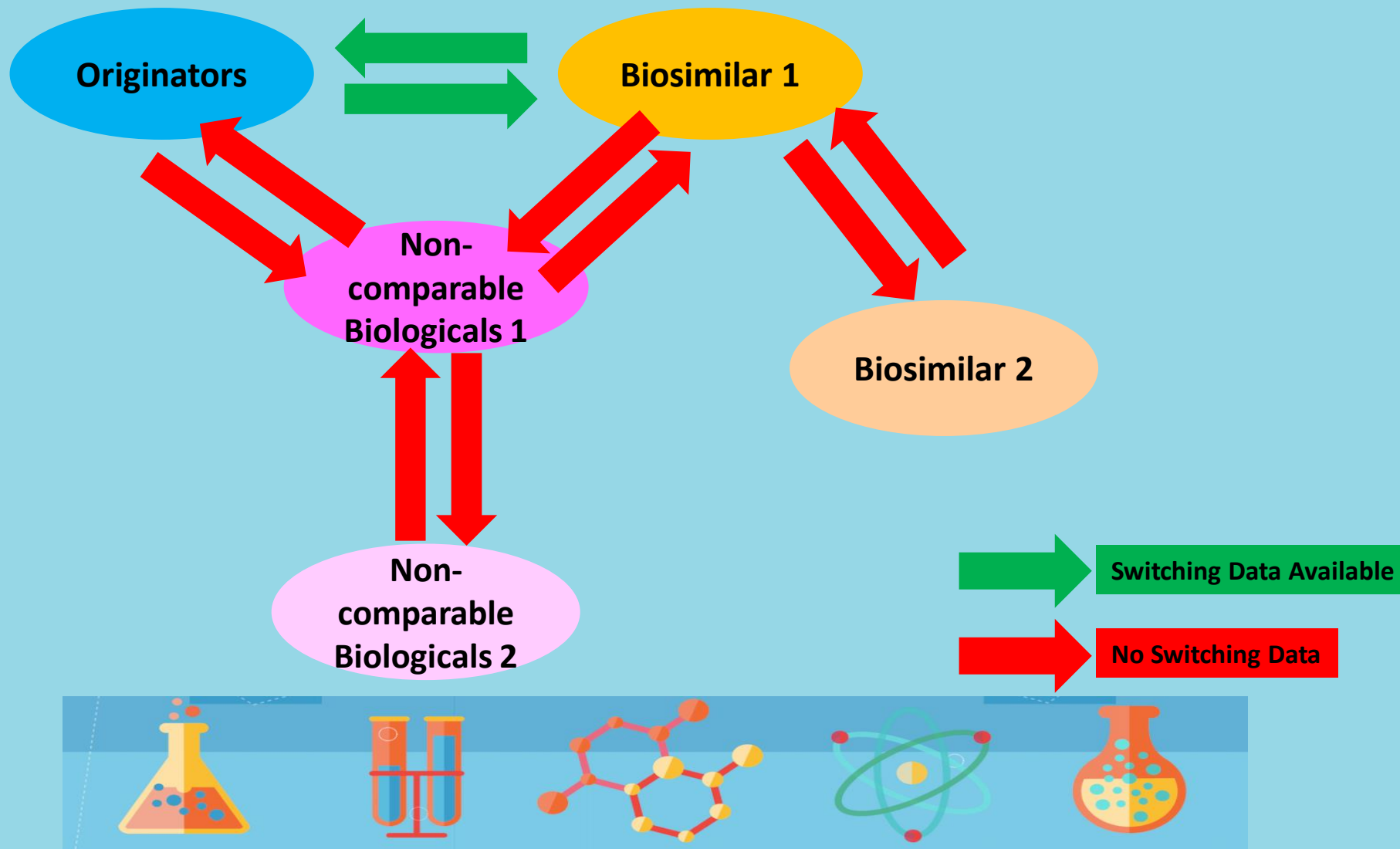
- Thai EPO registry



# Switching study model in real world situation

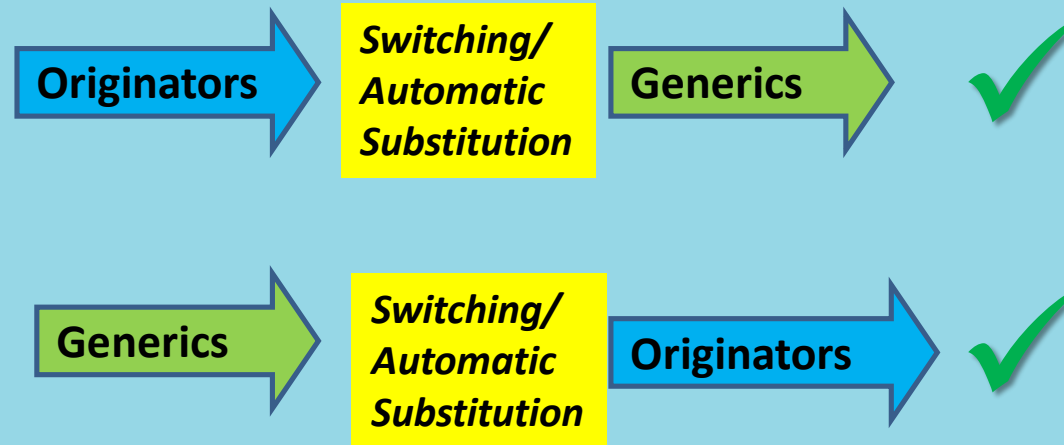


# Real World of Switching on Biopharmaceuticals

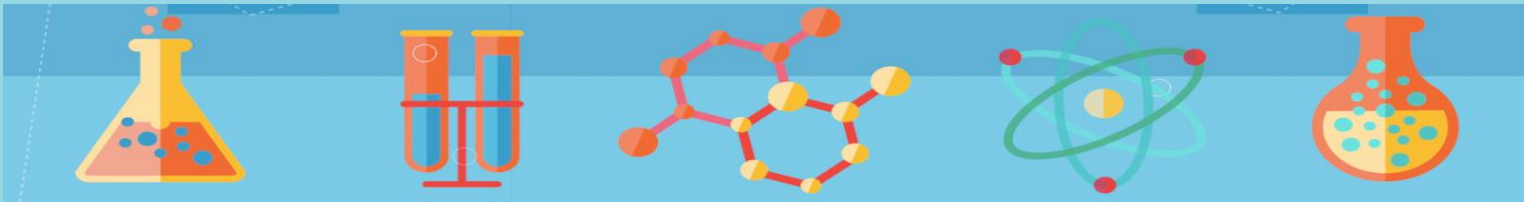


# Interchangeability Model

**Chemical**

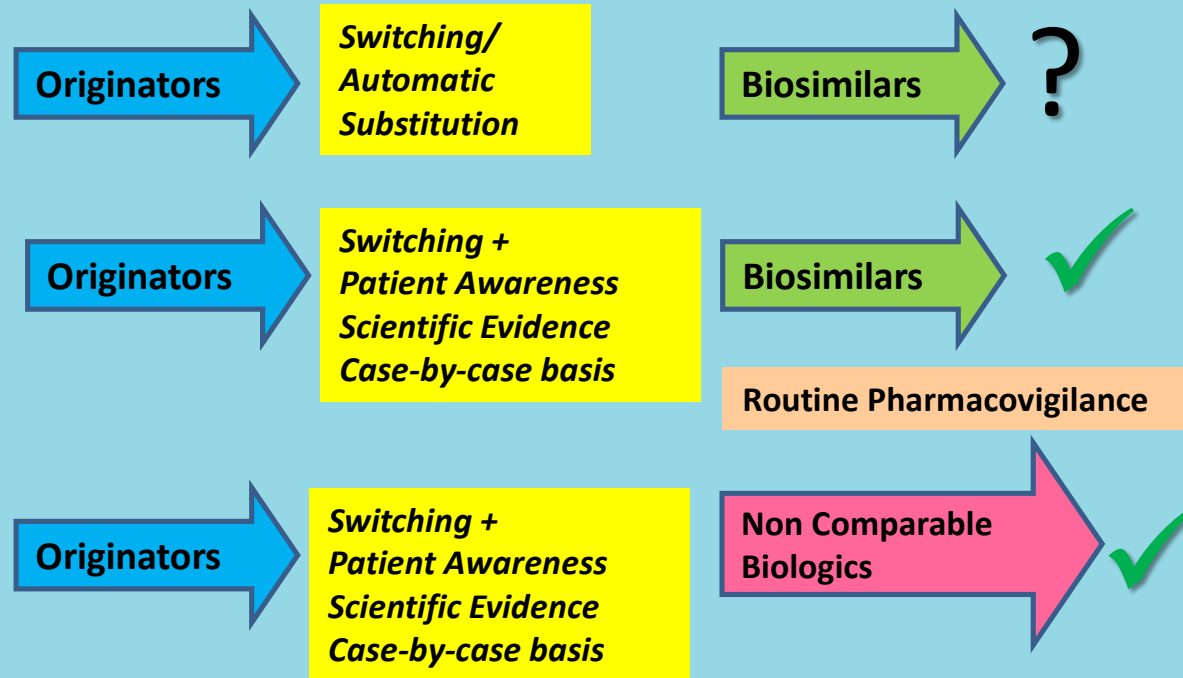


*Routine Pharmacovigilance  
Routine Quality Monitoring*

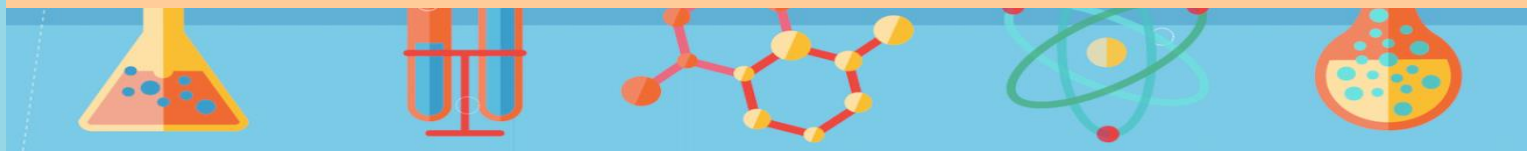


# Interchangeability Model

## Biologics



*Routine Pharmacovigilance  
Risk Management  
Stepwise Evaluation*



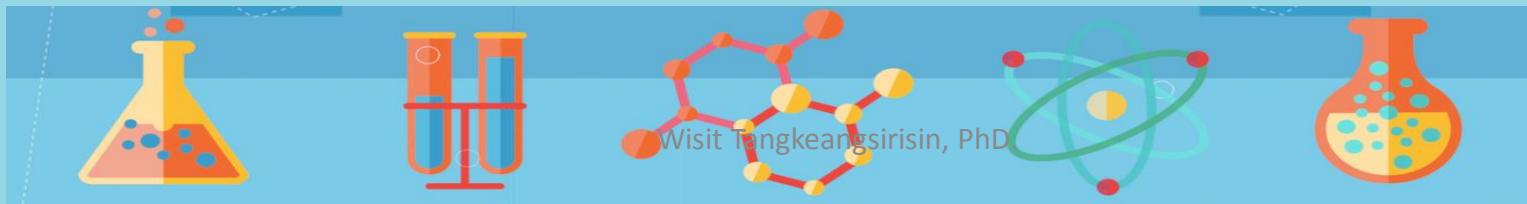


# Take Home Message

**Biosimilar is now the global trend**

**Non-comparable Biologicals should be re-evaluated for their safety and efficacy by submission missing data**

**Routine Pharmacovigilance and risk management plan should be implemented to ensure the safety and efficacy of all biologicals**





**Thank you**  
**Any questions, comments and**  
**suggestions are welcomes**