

A Brief Review on Drug Regulatory Affairs

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Abstract

Drug regulatory affairs is a crucial area in making sure the quality, safety, and effectiveness of Indian pharmaceuticals. This entails putting particular regulations into practice and procedures to ensure the efficacy of medications while reducing the possibility of personal injury. This academic study project explores the complexities of drug regulation in the Indian pharmaceutical business and offers a thorough analysis of the regulatory landscape. The study sheds light on the various groups and committees entrusted with the responsibility of overseeing drug regulation, elucidating their functions, and detailing their geographical locations. But negotiating India's drug laws is not without its difficulties. The research explores the complexities and potential problems in this area in addition to clarifying the regulatory framework. It highlights the intended results while outlining the general aims and objectives of drug control in India. The study effort carefully examines current literature and data on the topic, using a variety of sources, to guarantee accuracy. It offers insights into the challenges encountered and makes suggestions to improve drug regulation in the Indian context, going beyond simple description. This study essentially acts as a thorough road map, revealing the complexities of drug regulation in India, addressing issues, and offering practical recommendations to strengthen the regulatory structure. It is a useful tool for comprehending the existing status of drug control, pinpointing areas in need of development, and eventually helping to improve public health and safety.

Keywords: Public health, efficacy, pharmaceutical products, drug regulation, drug regulatory affairs, Effective medicine.

Introduction

The introduction emphasizes how important drug regulatory matters are to the pharmaceutical business and how crucial they are to protecting public health. These regulations act as a vital barrier, guaranteeing that pharmaceuticals are both safe and effective while upholding a high standard of quality. To maintain these strict standards, a thorough system is in place within the Indian pharmaceutical industry. This entails the coordination of numerous committees and agencies, each of which is tasked with crucial duties such creating regulations governing the production, distribution of medications. These organizations are also in charge of reviewing and approving applications for novel medications and making sure that rules are followed. It is essential to get deeper into this system's core in order to provide a more detailed insight. The main goal of the pharmaceutical industry is to develop drugs that improve people's health without causing harm. In this context, the committees and agencies function as guardians or watchdogs, diligently ensuring compliance with rules and guaranteeing the safety and efficacy of medicines. Their role is akin to quality controllers, actively contributing to the overall health and safety of the populace by upholding rigorous standards in the pharmaceutical industry. An apt analogy is that of referees in a sports game. These regulatory bodies act as overseers, meticulously ensuring that all stakeholders adhere to the established rules, safeguarding safety and equity. Therefore, the main goal of drug regulatory activities in India is to guarantee that the public's

prescriptions are both beneficial and free of potential risks. It strengthens public health by careful monitoring and control, much like a safety net. Rationale As the main supplier of medications that support the upkeep of public health, the pharmaceutical sector plays a crucial role in healthcare. Strong laws and regulations must be established in order to guarantee the efficacy and safety of these medications.

This regulatory structure is comparable to the traffic laws that are in place to guarantee everyone's safety when driving. This project's main objective is to give a thorough understanding of how drug regulation operates in India, which is similar to exploring the complex regulations of the pharmaceutical industry. However, our initiative aims to uncover the inherent issues and difficulties that may occur inside this regulatory context, going beyond simple rule knowledge. This project aims to identify and understand the barriers in the field of drug regulation in India by drawing a comparison to playing a video game, where advancing to the next level requires knowledge of obstacles and problems. It seeks to determine what is working well and what needs improvement, essentially developing a road map for negotiating the challenges of pharmaceutical monitoring.

The word "imperative" emphasizes how crucial it is to have strict laws and regulations controlling medications in India. It highlights that this is an important duty rather than merely a wise suggestion. This is comparable to the non-negotiable necessity of using a seatbelt when operating a vehicle; it is an essential safety precaution rather than an option. This initiative essentially acts as a comprehensive road map that leads stakeholders to a deep comprehension of how drug control functions in India. With the ultimate goal of promoting a regulatory environment that guarantees the population's health and safety, it not only illuminates potential obstacles but also offers insights into areas for development.

Aims and objectives

1. To analyze the key committees and agencies responsible for drug regulation in India.
2. To assess the roles and functions of these committees and agencies.
3. To identify the headquarters of these regulatory bodies.
4. To examine the challenges faced by the Indian pharmaceutical industry in terms of drug regulation.
5. To propose recommendations for enhancing drug regulatory affairs in India.
6. Keep track of the ever-changing legislation in all the regions in which a company wishes to distribute its products.
7. Advise on legal and scientific restraints and requirements.
8. Collect, collate, and evaluate scientific data.
9. Prepare regulatory documents, such as clinical trial applications and marketing authorization applications.
10. Present regulatory documents to regulatory agencies and carry out any subsequent negotiations necessary to obtain or maintain marketing authorization for the products concerned.
11. Monitor and respond to regulatory inspections.
12. Manage adverse event reporting and product recalls.

13. Provide support for postmarketing studies and other regulatory requirements.

Key responsibilities of drug regulatory affairs professionals

1. Development of regulatory strategies

i. Thorough preparation for success: DRA specialists are essential in developing careful regulatory plans that cover the whole range of medication development. To guarantee a smooth integration of regulatory requirements with more general business objectives, this entails not only achieving regulatory standards but also closely coordinating tactics with the overall drug development plan.

ii. Risk identification and mitigation: They are skilled at anticipating possible regulatory obstacles and creating strong plans to successfully manage and reduce risks. By addressing possible roadblocks early in the process, they contribute to a more agile and streamlined drug approval process.

2. Regulatory documentation preparation

Accuracy in document creation: DRA specialists are entrusted with the complex duty of planning and gathering a wide range of regulatory documentation. Clinical Trial Applications (CTAs), Investigational New Drug (IND) applications, and Marketing Authorization Applications (MAAs) are among them. The painstaking preparation entails a dedication to precision, thoroughness, and rigorous compliance with legal requirements and scientific standards.

- Ensuring document compliance: Every document is an essential component of the regulatory puzzle, and the experts make sure that every detail conforms with regulatory standards, which enhances the submission's dependability and integrity.

3. Regulatory submissions and interactions

Coordinating the submission procedures:
The submission of regulatory paperwork is coordinated by DRA specialists. To important regulatory organizations including the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). This entails a precise and prompt filing procedure that guarantees the delivery of all required documentation to the relevant regulatory agencies.

- Effective agency involvement: They participate in more than just submissions. Continuous communication with regulatory bodies. This entails answering questions, offering explanations, and Handling possible problems cooperatively. These kinds of interactions are essential for promoting understanding and accelerating the approval process.

4. Adherence to regulations and post market monitoring

i. Guardians of compliance: Throughout the whole drug development life cycle, DRA specialists act as guardians of compliance. They make sure that every aspect of medication development complies with the complex web of national and international laws.

ii. Vigilance in the post-market phase: They are responsible for keeping a close eye on safety data during this phase.

To maintain the highest standards of patient safety, this entails carrying out thorough risk assessments and, when required, swiftly putting remedial measures into place. And regulatory compliance.

iii. These professionals operate at the intersection of scientific innovation and regulatory intricacies, where their expertise ensures not only the successful approval of drugs but also the continued safety and compliance throughout the product lifecycle.

Regulation of pharmaceutical drugs

The expert in regulatory affairs plays a crucial part in understanding and navigating the complex web of regulations needed to get new product approvals. This requires a thorough comprehension of the promises made by the business to regulatory bodies when product approvals have been obtained. In order to ensure continued adherence to regulatory requirements, the Regulatory Affairs specialist is also responsible for submitting annual reports and supplements to these agencies. Regulatory Affairs usually works with certain Centers, such the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research at the FDA headquarters, when interacting with regulatory bodies. This tactical decision enables a consolidated and efficient communication process, frequently avoiding the requirement to communicate with local district offices of the FDA. Understanding and assessing changes in medication manufacturing and testing operations are crucial, even though they do not immediately relate to regulatory affairs. Professionals can evaluate the necessity and timing of alerting the FDA thanks to this knowledge, demonstrating Regulatory Affairs' flexibility in responding to the ever-changing drug development landscape.

Governments' dedication to protecting public health by enforcing control over the efficacy and safety of various products, such as pharmaceuticals, veterinary medicines, medical devices, pesticides, agrochemicals, cosmetics, and complementary medicines, has led to the development of regulatory affairs as a relatively new profession. At the same time, businesses engaged in the development, testing, production, and promotion of these Products are driven to guarantee the security and positive effects of their contributions to welfare and public health. Regulatory Affairs is essential to product development since it actively shapes product marketing concepts and plays a crucial role in authorizing packaging and advertising materials prior to commercial use. Additionally, the Regulatory Affairs department is in charge of keeping up with all of the company's export markets' regulatory needs, which calls for a thorough and methodical approach. Despite recent international efforts to harmonize regulatory procedures, regulatory affairs experts face the difficulty of navigating various laws put in place by various governments. This means that while creating effective and cost-effective research and development projects, great attention must be taken to ensure that the outcomes can be used in a wide range of markets. Regulatory affairs specialists are often sought after for advice on issues related to research and development because of their in-depth understanding of rules and regulations. This highlights their crucial role in the strategic decision-making processes of organizations in the life sciences and healthcare sectors.

1. Essential skills and qualifications for drug regulatory affairs professionals

1. Toxicological insight: It is critical to have a thorough understanding of toxicology. This knowledge allows DRA experts to evaluate and handle possible safety issues related to medicinal ingredients, helping to create all-encompassing risk management plans.
2. • Clinical trial acumen: A key component of their scientific background is their mastery of clinical trial procedures. This information guarantees a sophisticated comprehension of the

clinical development process, enabling successful cross-functional collaboration teams and regulatory bodies.

2. Knowledge of regulations

- i. Global regulatory knowledge: DRA experts go above and beyond a basic comprehension of regional laws; they have a thorough understanding of the rules, procedures, and specifications that apply to different parts of the world. They can easily negotiate the intricacies of the global regulatory environment thanks to their global viewpoint.
- ii. Adaptability to regulatory changes: Because the regulatory landscape is constantly changing, regulatory experts need to keep up with new regulations. They are skilled at anticipating and adjusting to future regulatory changes in addition to current requirements.

3. Outstanding writing and communication abilities

- i. Strategic communication: A key component of their skill set is effective communication. When interacting with regulatory bodies, internal stakeholders, or external partners, DRA specialists clearly explain complicated regulatory ideas.
- Scientific accuracy in writing: They are capable of producing succinct, lucid, and scientifically correct regulatory documents. Every document is a painstakingly created work that communicates the regulatory compliance and scientific rigor necessary for approval.

4. Proficiency in project management

Simultaneous project management: Having strong project management abilities are necessary to oversee several regulatory tasks at once. DRA specialists are excellent at setting priorities, creating reasonable schedules, and making sure that project objectives are met on schedule.

- Cross-functional cooperation: Their project management abilities include coordinating activities among several teams and synchronizing regulatory goals with broader project goals.

5. Attention to detail and analytical thinking

- i. Careful examination of documents: The regulatory environment is harsh on mistakes. DRA experts provide a careful attention to detail when reviewing regulatory documents, guaranteeing compliance, accuracy, and completeness.
- ii. Analytical insight for strategy: When creating regulatory strategies, their analytical thinking is highlighted. To successfully navigate the regulatory system, they evaluate possible problems, foresee difficulties, and develop proactive tactics. DRA professionals are essentially specialists in both the scientific and regulatory fields, but they also have a special set of organizational and interpersonal abilities that enable them to navigate the challenging terrain of drug development and regulatory approval with ease.

Career opportunities available in drug regulatory affairs (DRA)

1. Expert in regulatory matters

- i. Master of submission: Regulatory Affairs Experts are the creators of submissions to regulations. They carefully prepare and oversee paperwork including Marketing Authorization Applications (MAAs) and Investigational New Drug (IND) applications. They must navigate

the complexities of regulatory rules and make sure that every aspect complies with health authorities' requirements.

ii. Guardians of compliance: One of their main duties is to ensure compliance. To protect the integrity of the regulatory submissions, they perform comprehensive regulatory checks and keep up with the most recent modifications and revisions to rules.

2. Project manager for regulations

i. Regulation Project managers are essential in coordinating the regulatory process as a whole. In addition to being skilled at handling deadlines, they are also strategic strategists in charge of organizing, carrying out, and successfully finishing regulatory tasks.

ii. Handling complexity: Their duties extend beyond fulfilling deadlines; they handle the intricacy of legal requirements, making sure that each stage of the project complies with legal standards.

3. Director of Regulatory Affairs

i. Strategic visionaries: The directors of regulatory affairs are the visionaries who oversee and direct the whole regulatory affairs staff. They provide strategic direction for the regulatory facets of drug development in addition to day-to-day operations.

ii. Financial stewards: Another aspect of their duties is overseeing regulatory budgets. They make sure that resources are distributed effectively, striking a balance between cost-effectiveness and the requirement for compliance.

4. Consultant for regulatory matters

i. Reliable advisors: Experts in regulatory affairs are in high demand out in the field. Using their extensive knowledge of regulatory nuances, they offer pharmaceutical businesses, biotechnology companies, and healthcare organizations crucial guidance.

ii. Problem solvers: Businesses look on their experience to overcome obstacles, such as deciphering complicated regulations, planning for market entry, or handling regulatory concerns. In order to provide customized solutions, consultants bring a wealth of experience.

5. Manager of clinical regulatory affairs

i. Clinical bridge: Clinical Regulatory Affairs Managers serve as a liaison between clinical operations and regulatory affairs in the field of drug development. They expedite the process of obtaining regulatory permission by ensuring that the clinical studies comply with all regulations.

6. Scientist in pharmaceutical regulation Clinical Regulatory scientific integrators

In pharmaceutical settings, scientists combine scientific knowledge with regulatory experience. They support

the creation of scientifically grounded regulatory strategies, guaranteeing that regulatory filings are both compliant and sound from a scientific standpoint.

i. Compliance innovators: These experts bring creativity to compliance by coming up with original answers to legal problems while upholding the strictest ethical and scientific guidelines ethical standards.

Review of the Literature

India's Drug Controller General (DCGI) with its main office in New Delhi, India, the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) is a key regulatory body. The careful supervision of clinical trials carried out in the nation and the approval process for new medications are at the heart of its purpose. By ensuring that any pharmaceutical items launched into the Indian market adhere to strict regulatory criteria, the DCGI essentially plays a crucial role in maintaining and protecting public health. DCGI's latest actions demonstrate its dedication to its mission by including a range of crucial tasks. This demonstrates a commitment to upholding a standard of quality in the pharmaceutical industry and includes the careful assessment and approval of new medications. Furthermore, DCGI is actively involved in the careful observation of ongoing clinical trials, ensuring the safety and efficacy of experimental therapies. The authorities do not only end with acceptance but also expands its dedication to enforcement, taking regulations pertaining to pharmaceutical Businesses discovered to be in violation of defined guidelines and norms. Fundamentally, the DCGI appears as the protector of medication efficacy and safety in India. By becoming a vital part of the authorization, oversight, and implementation procedures, authority becomes a pillar in safeguarding the welfare of the populace. Its purposes go beyond simple regulation; they represent a dedication to the highest standards of pharmaceutical integrity, demonstrating the commitment to public health and security in the ever-changing environment of the Indian pharmaceutical sector.

Central Drug Standard Control Organization (CDSCO)

The Central Drugs Administration is located in New Delhi. A crucial regulatory body, the Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) is mainly concerned with the strict regulation of medicine and cosmetic quality in India. Its primary duties include granting licenses to pharmaceutical manufacturing facilities and enforcing Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) to maintain the general safety and quality of pharmaceutical goods. As a vital regulatory organization, CDSCO is essential to guaranteeing that the requirements for the production of pharmaceuticals and cosmetics are continuously fulfilled. The activities of CDSCO have expanded considerably in recent years. As a sign of its dedication to careful supervision, the company currently performs extensive inspections of industrial facilities. This entails thorough testing of medication samples to determine their efficacy and safety, exhibiting a commitment to upholding the highest standards in the manufacturing of cosmetics and pharmaceuticals. Additionally, CDSCO demonstrates its dedication to quality assurance by taking aggressive regulatory action against businesses who are discovered to be violating set quality standards. In essence, CDSCO is the leading quality assurance organization for Indian-made pharmaceutical and cosmetic goods. CDSCO guarantees that these products continuously satisfy the highest standards through its multimodal strategy, which includes licensing, adherence to GMP, inspections, and regulatory actions. By doing this, the company plays a vital part in ensuring the welfare of customers, greatly enhancing the overall integrity and safety of pharmaceutical and cosmetic products in the Indian market.

The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC)

The Ghaziabad-based Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) is responsible for a crucial part in creating and maintaining pharmaceutical standards throughout India via the Indian Pharmacopoeia. IPC's main responsibility is to make sure medications meet established standards for efficacy, safety, and quality. IPC has expanded its activities in recent years, including the release and systematic review of pharmacopoeial standards to take into account the most recent developments in science. Notably, the commission works closely with pharmaceutical sector stakeholders requesting their opinions and thoughts in order to keep standards current and useful. IPC's dedication is further demonstrated by its involvement in research initiatives meant to raise pharmaceutical standards and adjust to the ever-changing demands of science and medicine. IPC essentially acts as the cornerstone of pharmaceutical quality control, assiduously striving to guarantee that medications manufactured in India continuously satisfy the highest standards, protecting public health and safety in the process. The strong foundation of India's pharmaceutical regulatory system is made up of the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI), the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), and the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC).

Their many responsibilities and wide-ranging actions are essential to preserving the safety, the nation's pharmaceutical products' effectiveness and quality. Collectively, they form an all-encompassing system that not only maintains high standards but also adjusts to the constantly changing pharmaceutical industry, ultimately guaranteeing the health and welfare of the Indian populace.

1. Lack of Harmonization: India's drug laws should be more in line with those of other countries standards to facilitate global trade.
2. Resource Limitations: Regulatory agencies frequently experience resource limitations, which might impede their capacity to carry out exhaustive audits and inspections.
3. Counterfeit Drugs: The spread of counterfeit medications continues to be a serious problem that affects patient safety.
4. Clinical Trial Regulation: Ensuring prompt approvals and ethical conduct of clinical trials is a continuous challenge.

Megatrends

Professionals in regulatory affairs must comprehend how global megatrends are changing because these trends can have a major long-term impact on their roles. According to the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), megatrends include responding to geopolitical changes, embracing digital transformations, fostering autonomy, unlocking the human dimension, pursuing leaner, cleaner, and greener initiatives, and adapting to a changing environment. These megatrends have ramifications for a number of industries, encompassing the fields of medicine, therapeutic product development, and regulation.

In the regulatory and pharmaceutical In the context of climate change, manufacturing methods are changing, with a focus on sustainable procedures, less environmental effect, and a move toward a circular manufacturing sector.

Recognizing the weaknesses in global supply networks, governments have decided to localize the manufacturing of essential drugs due to geopolitical risks that have been made worse by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The pandemic has highlighted the dangers of infectious diseases, a threat that is probably going to get worse due to climate change. The pharmaceutical sector is impacted by a number of factors, including antimicrobial resistance, the growing burden of chronic illnesses in an aging population, rising mental health pressures, and financial restrictions on healthcare spending. Positive advancements do exist, though, such as the potential of precision medicine and the rise in digital Opportunities for industry developments include integration in healthcare systems, the shift to a learning healthcare model, and an increased focus on preventative medicine and wellbeing. The emergence of artificial intelligence (AI), digital disruption, and the human element are particularly likely to have the greatest impact on the regulatory affairs industry. Future developments in regulatory affairs include using real-world evidence, integrating patient preferences into regulatory decision-making, utilizing big data, artificial intelligence, and machine learning in regulatory processes, enabling real-time regulation, and encouraging national regulatory bodies to rely on, harmonize, and converge globally. Regulatory affairs Professionals must keep up with these developments in order to adjust tactics and guarantee efficient regulatory procedures in the ever-changing pharmaceutical industry.

Institutions in India that provide regulatory services

There are a large number of colleges and Regulatory issues are a course offered by universities all around the world. Additionally, the course materials can be accessed via interactive CDs, internet, and distant learning. According to the results of a recent survey on employment trends in clinical trials, the regulatory affairs position is in the most demand and is expanding at the fastest rate. A medication the large field of regulatory affairs (RA) cannot be taught solely through books or course materials. Professionals find it difficult to stay up to date with the latest changes and additions because the issues pertaining to the area are frequently updated.

Importance of regulatory affairs

In today's competitive environment the reduction of the time taken to reach the market is critical to a product's and hence the company's success. The proper conduct of its Regulatory Affairs (RA) activities is therefore of considerable economic importance for the company. Inadequate reporting of data may prevent a timely positive evaluation of a marketing application. A new drug may have cost many millions of pounds, Euros or dollars to develop and even a three-month delay in bringing it to the market has considerable financial considerations. Even worse, failures to fully report all the available data or the release of product bearing incorrect labeling, may easily result in the need for a product recall may lead to the loss of several millions of units of sales, not to mention the resulting reduction in confidence of the investors, health professionals and patients. A good Regulatory Affairs professional will have a 'right first time' approach and will play a very important part in coordinating scientific Endeavour with regulatory demands throughout the life of the product, helping to maximize the cost-effective use of the company's resources.

The first point of contact between the government and the business is frequently the Regulatory Affairs department.

Government authorities' opinions of the company will be improved by the attitudes and behaviors of

Regulatory Affairs (RA) experts. Senior Regulatory Affairs (RA) experts are increasingly being appointed to boardroom positions, where they may advise on and further influence their firms' strategic decisions, due to the significance of the Regulatory Affairs function.

Need of regulatory affairs in the pharmacy curriculum

The biotechnology of pharmaceuticals and the fields of medical device research and development are among the most strictly controlled in the country. Given the pharmaceutical industry's explosive rise in India, there is an increasing demand for regulatory affairs experts to satisfy the changing demands of the world's sectors. Regulatory matters Professionals are the essential link between pharmaceutical companies and global regulatory bodies. A thorough understanding of the laws, rules, standards, and directives set forth by regulatory organizations is essential to their work. There is an urgent need to incorporate the current industry requirements into pharmacy colleges' standard curricula as the pharmaceutical sector becomes more and more competitive on a worldwide basis. This deliberate action seeks to provide students with up-to-date knowledge so they may make valuable contributions to the pharmaceutical industry after graduation. This article delves into the field of regulatory education, highlighting its significance, accessible learning materials, courses, the content of the syllabus, and the wide range of career options in regulatory affairs. Given the pharmaceutical industry's global trend toward increased competition, businesses understand that competent task execution under the direction of a thorough comprehension of regulatory rules is essential to their existence. This insight highlights the importance of regulatory affairs in guaranteeing that all pharmaceutical business operations comply with thorough regulatory scrutiny. The pharmaceutical industry, one of the most tightly regulated industries, recognizes the significance of managing regulatory affairs matters thoroughly and methodically in order to guarantee compliance and, eventually, the success and sustainability of operations.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Indian pharmaceutical sector is a vital worldwide supplier of healthcare, and the critical role of It is impossible to overestimate the importance of good medication regulatory affairs in preserving its integrity. The following suggestions are put out to strengthen drug laws in India and bring the sector up to international standards:

1. Harmonization:

India ought to make a concerted effort to align its regulations with those of other countries. This alignment promotes confidence in the international market by guaranteeing the consistent quality of pharmaceutical items and facilitating easier exports.

2. Capacity building:

Investing in regulatory organizations' capacity building is crucial. Conducting comprehensive inspections and audits depends on these bodies having enough personnel and the tools they need. Increasing regulatory capacity will improve supervision and compliance in the industry.

3. Control of counterfeit drugs:

Putting strict controls in place to manage the manufacturing and The dissemination of fake medications is

crucial. In order to protect public health, strong regulatory enforcement and cooperation with law enforcement organizations can assist reduce the occurrence of fake medications.

4. Simplified clinical trials:

To speed up the development of new drugs while maintaining patient safety, there is a requirement for a simplified and effective clinical trial approval procedure. Regulatory process simplification can promote innovation and research in the pharmaceutical industry. By implementing these suggestions, India may strengthen its dedication to producing high-quality, safe, and effective medications while also raising its pharmaceutical sector to international standards. These actions are essential for maintaining public confidence, encouraging global cooperation, and eventually advancing healthcare globally.

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