



# **FDA Public Hearing on Internet and Social Media Promotion** *Insights & Next Steps*

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# Agenda

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- Meeting Overview
- Key Research
- Agency Solutions
- Industry Insights
- Perspectives and Realistic Expectations
- Industry/Coalition/4As Perspective & Next Steps

# FDA Public Hearing Overview

- Two days of hearings (Nov. 12-13); each presentation allotted 20 minutes or less
- FDA panelists included:
  - Thomas Abrams, RPh, MBA, Director of DDMAC
  - Kristin Davis, JD, Deputy Director, DDMAC
  - Jean-Ah Kang, PharmD, Special Assistant to Director, DDMAC
  - Kathryn Aikin, PhD, Social Science Analyst, DDMAC
- Specifically outlined five key issues for discussion
  - Accountability
  - Fulfilling regulatory requirements
  - Posting corrective information
  - Links
  - Adverse event reporting
- Public comments, due Feb. 28, 2010

# FDA Hearing: Live and Virtual Buzz

- Anticipation, interest extremely high
  - More than 800 attendance requests for 300 seats
  - 70 presenters including industry, agencies, third parties and media
- Coverage to-date includes *Reuters*, *Dow Jones*, *Ad Age*, *Med Ad News*, *Pharmaceutical Executive*
- Thousands engaged in meeting remotely (Webcast via FDA Live)
- Live-tweets during meeting amplified research and insights
- FDASM.com thrives post-meeting with new content added daily



# Hearing Highlights

## Agency Solutions

**DIGITAS HEALTH**

**360<sup>D</sup>**  
DIGITAL  
INFLUENCE  
Digitally Public. Relatively Worldwide.

## Key Research

 **wegohealth.**

**manhattanRESEARCH**

**Google**

## Industry Insight

**Pfizer**

*Lilly*

*Johnson & Johnson*

# Manhattan Research, WEGO Health

***Presented findings from physician and online “power-user” surveys measuring interaction levels, industry sentiment***

## **Power-Users (bloggers, moderators)**

- 79% think Companies’ social media info provides important product updates
- 90% believe companies should get involved in monitoring/correcting inaccurate info
- 64% agree companies should be responsible for unauthorized content

## **Physicians**

- 87% interact with drug and device companies online (up 23% since 2004)
- 60% use online communities for info, communication
- 56% are interested in using social media for product discussions with healthcare companies

# Google

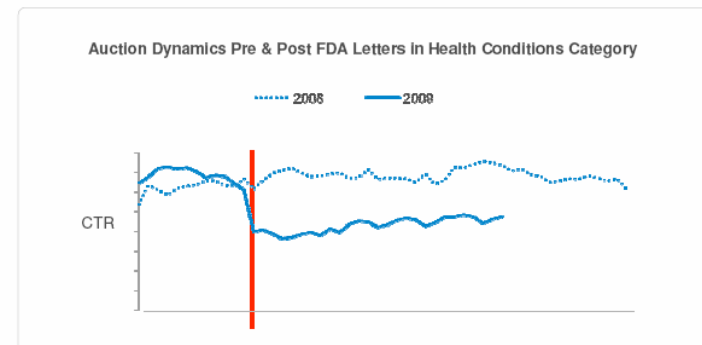
## *Data showcased negative impact of FDA Warning Letters on sponsored links, public perception of transparency*

### Impact of FDA Letters on Sponsored Links



Google Proprietary 8

### Post NOV Search Ads are Less Transparent and Relevant





# Digitas Health

## *Conducted pilot study analyzing treatment of benefit/risk information in online banner ads*

Current models perform sub-optimally



Poorest recall of all treatments tested  
**0.78 / 4 points**

Contextual balance + engagement device produced best recall, preference



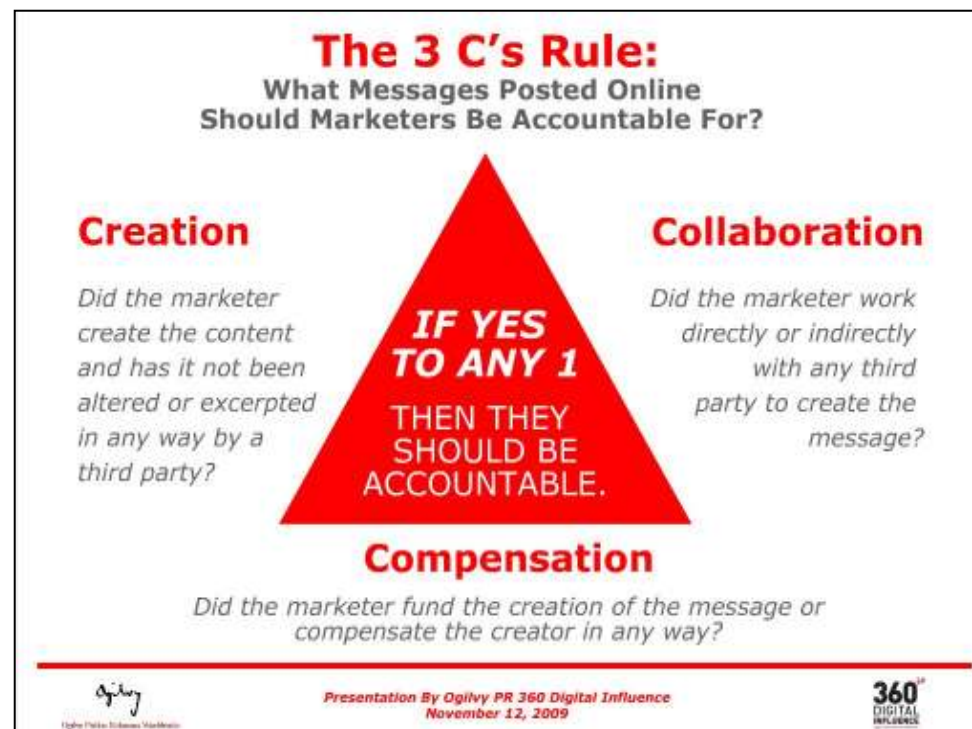
Best recall and preference  
**Recall: 2.03 / 4 points | Preference: 220 picks**

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# Ogilvy 360

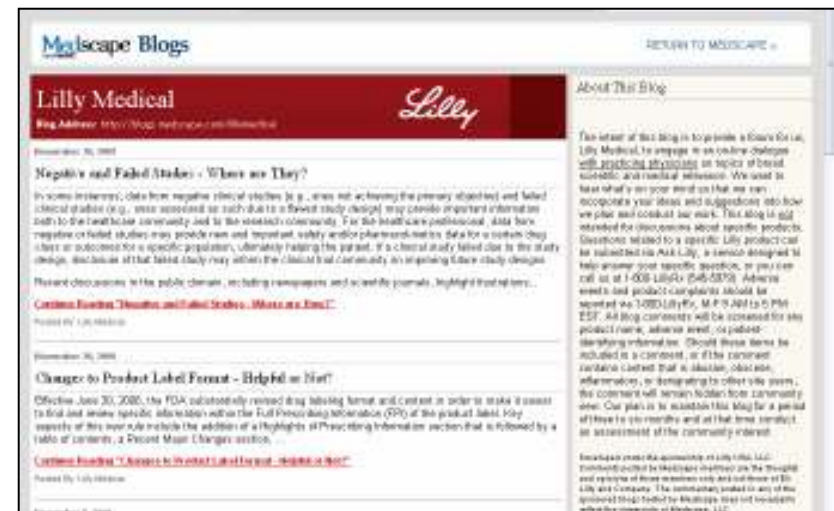
***Used its 3C's rule to define the content, messages and conversations online responsible for oversight by marketers***



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Communication

## *Discussed comfort level of social media participation, provided education recommendations*

- To-date, has avoided significant interaction in social media forums due to unclear FDA expectations
- Recently launched blog on Medscape addressing product questions
- Noted considerations, issues involved with product site side-Wikis
- Recommendations to FDA:
  - Lead public workshops to generate ideas/solutions, leverage collective knowledge
  - Create ongoing working groups to address emerging communication challenges



# Johnson & Johnson

## *Provided opinions, insight into role and responsibilities of pharma companies in social media space*

- Industry wants to engage consumers, physicians online responsibly
- Companies not responsible for the entire Internet or for content superimposed over company content
  - Responsibility for online content differs based on “who is talking, what they are saying, and where they are posting”
- User-generated content should not be considered promotional labeling or advertising

## *Conducted qualitative research measuring improved presentation of safety information*

- Developed five safety treatments for fictitious cholesterol medication (Xelatran)
- Applied to three common online content types

- Linear video (Patient testimonial)
- Interactive video (Q&A with recorded physician delivering answers)
- Interactive game (Q&A in timed quiz format)



# Pfizer: Research Results

- **Substantial interest in safety information, actively sought out info**
- **Preference for simple presentation and familiar flow/format (e.g., bullet point format and visual icons for text-based info)**
- **Not everyone navigated and learned in the same way**
  - Varying preferences for how they wanted to receive safety information, and how much control they wanted
  - Varying ways they clicked through a website or ad need to be considered when designing the online experience

# Industry/Coalition/4A's Perspective

Promising Ideas	Challenging/Unrealistic Ideas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Create system to flag and click to risk data<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Implement innovative suggestions (e.g., PhRMA)</li></ul></li><li>• Develop process to elevate FDA-regulated content</li><li>• Reverse course on “one click away ” warning letters</li><li>• Clearly state “<i>without control, companies have no responsibility</i>”</li><li>• Make the AER process more patient-friendly</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Abandon “one-click” position (difficulty of implementation)</li><li>• Enshrine existing AER reporting; pay for expansion with user fees</li><li>• Send AERs directly to FDA</li><li>• Create new FDA advisory committee</li></ul>

# FDA Meeting: Common Themes

- Where We Stand Today
  - Consumers & doctors heavy users of Internet
  - Consumers largely trust health info from strangers
  - Lack of FDA clarity slows Internet & social media adoption; limiting public health value of these media
  - 14 FDA search letters inhibit robust use, but watch carefully
  - Physicians and consumers need different guidelines
- What can/is happening before FDA Guidance
  - Clear statements of existing policy
    - No Power = No responsibility
    - No FDA responsibility to report incomplete AER reports
    - No FDA responsibility to follow up on incomplete AER
  - Apparent FDA Pre-clearance of ads and search that recognize unique context of the Internet , e.g., Yaz search ads

*\*Adapted from Re:Know blogger Brad Einarsen*



# Next Steps

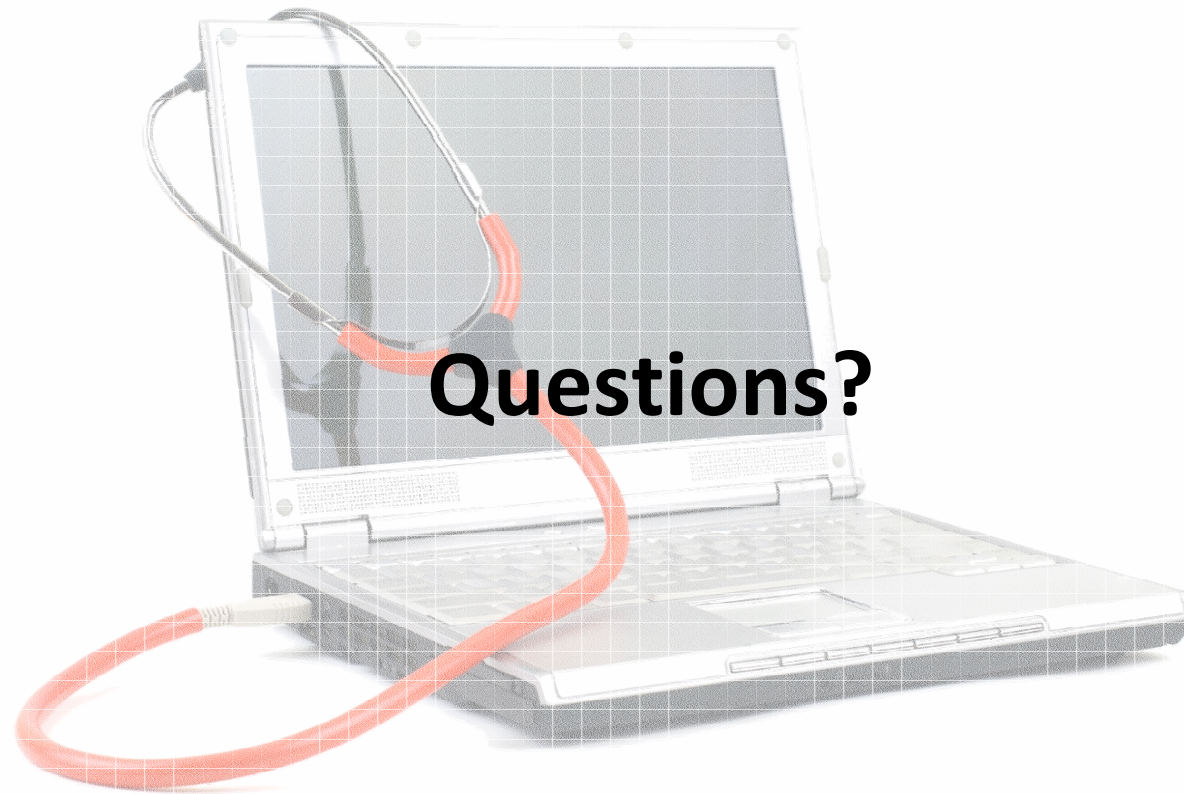
- Hearing participants, others providing strong data in written testimony for FDA submission (submission deadline Feb. 28, 2010)
- Give FDA a pathway toward policies that serve the public health, as well and companies and media
- **Provide a “draft of draft guidance”**
- Solicit broad participation, including patient and consumer groups
- Present a consensus document to FDA
- Encourage aggressive action, perhaps by mid- to late-2010

# *Draft of Draft Guidance*

- Must recognize Internet value in advancing public health, proper and effective use of medicines
- Matters needing guidance (perhaps)
  - New acceptable ad formats, including search
    - What constitutes adequate risk disclosure?
    - Where – in banners, one click or two clicks?
  - Clear articulation of responsibility of industry for problematic social media info
  - Guidance on industry responsibility on branded sites vs. third-party news, science, professional and social media sites (e.g., Viagra.com vs. WebMD)

# What Can You Do?

- What really matters to clients and agencies?
  - DATA, DATA, DATA
  - Anecdotes, too, that show a better way
- Outreach by you to demonstrate consensus
  - To doctor and patient groups
  - To media groups (e.g., Waterhouse, WebMD, Health Central, etc.)
- Draft support
- Financial support



**Questions?**