



## *Press Release*

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### **Russians Seek to Enhance Status in Global Healthcare Community**

**Rockville, MD**—In an effort to transform Russia into a full-fledged player in international healthcare research, 30 Russian scientists recently completed a training course in international good laboratory practice (GLP)—a move that could begin to create new scientific opportunities and open new economic markets for the country. The training was held at the Shemyakin & Ovchinnikov Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry in Pushchino, Russia, near Moscow.

Training in GLP—the systematic model through which laboratory testing is carried out in a controlled, precise manner—is central to Russia’s development within the healthcare research arena. Without adhering to the model, newly created medical products, such as drugs, devices and biologics, simply cannot stand up to the regulatory scrutiny of other international governments and markets.

The training program was co-organized by the Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society (RAPS), a global professional society representing the regulatory affairs profession, and TEMPO, a noncommercial partnership of organizations seeking to improve the health of the Russian population through scientific innovation. The US State Department sought the expertise of RAPS in establishing standards and guidelines for Russian research facilities and scientific organizations to help build a bridge between Russian medical science and the global community.

The session marked the second time in the past year that representatives from RAPS visited Russia in support of the training initiative. During their previous visit, RAPS representatives gained a clearer understanding of Russia’s current regulatory environment and the areas where further instruction could be valuable. The latest visit featured actual hands-on, practical training for the Russian scientists—as well as lecture-based training and tours of scientific facilities—aimed at establishing international GLP compliance.

“It was extremely rewarding to progress from talking about GLP compliance to beginning the implementation of it,” said Linda Temple, MBA, CAE, RAPS’ Vice President for Professional Issues & Practice, who delivered a lecture to the scientists on behalf of RAPS.

Specifically, 30 Russian scientists—whose professional roles ranged from senior technicians to study directors—received a total of 144 hours of training in three different GLP systems: Russian, US and OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development). OECD is an international organization that helps

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governments tackle the economic, social and governance challenges of a globalized economy. It is critical that Russian scientists become familiar with these international GLP formats so that their medical innovations can one day reach the global marketplace.

Megan Goodfellow, RAPS' Program Manager for Professional Issues & Practice, found that despite obvious language barriers, the education process flowed quite smoothly. "Thanks to the eagerness of the scientists to learn the subject matter, any obstacles to communication were minimized." Goodfellow also reports that RAPS is now expanding the bilingual glossary of GLP terms and definitions created to support the learning process.

Each participant in the program received a certificate of attendance from TEMPO and RAPS, and upon passing a final examination, will receive an official diploma from the Russian Ministry of Education.

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#### **About RAPS®**

The Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society (RAPS) is the foremost worldwide member organization creating and upholding standards of ethics, credentialing and education for the Regulatory Affairs (RA) profession within the health product sector. Founded in 1976, RAPS represents nearly 10,000 individuals worldwide, working in government, corporations, academia, research and nonprofit organizations.

As the global source for Regulatory Affairs Certification (RAC), the [RA Code of Ethics](#), proprietary research and educational products, international conferences and the leading professional magazine, [Regulatory Affairs Focus](#), RAPS establishes industry standards for professionalism, knowledge and achievement. Through expert education and resources, RAPS provides regulatory affairs professionals with the tools necessary to create strategic value for their organizations. The RA profession is vital to the development, approval and provision of health products, including pharmaceuticals, biologics and biotechnology, medical devices, cosmetics, veterinary products and nutritional supplements.

RAPS is a nonprofit educational/scientific organization with headquarters in Rockville, MD, and members in 45 countries in Asia, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, North America and the Pacific Rim. RAPS is located at 11300 Rockville Pike, Suite 1000, Rockville, MD 20852; Phone: 301.770.2920; Web: [www.raps.org](http://www.raps.org)

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