



Automated checks and delivery of submission-ready packages using Robotic Process Automation (RPA) BOTs.

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3D illustration of T cells or cancer cells



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Background

- Study data included in electronic submissions must be in a **format that a Regulatory Health Authority (RHA) can process, review, and archive.**
- An **RHA may refuse to accept an electronic submission package**, if the study data format is not submission compliant.
- Data intended for a submission to Regulatory Health Authorities must:
 - be **compliant** with the submission requirements
 - undergo a **QC process**
 - be delivered to the Submission Publisher in the **appropriate format/structure**
- **RHA release requirements and Sponsors implement.**

Janssen Implementation

- Janssen has developed a series of guidance and tools supporting processes related to creating submission-ready documentation to support clinical data submissions.
- It includes a suite of tools that is **using Robotic Process Automation (RPA) BOTs** :
 - **automated checks** on submission packages
 - **automated delivery of the said package** to the internal electronic publishing output network drive in accordance with **Electronic Common Technical Document (eCTD) folder structure** needed for publishing

What are RPA BOTs ?

RPA: Robotic
Process Automation

BOT: short for
roBOT

Digital Workforce

Interact with any
system or
application the same
way a human worker
would

AUTOMATE certain
tasks without
specific instructions
from human

Scope



CHECK

Ongoing
&
Final



SEND NOTIFICATION

verification results



DELIVER

Final

CRF/aECG



Sample CRF



Subject CRFs



aECG XML waveforms

SDTM Package



SDTM xpt



aCRF



Define xml/pdf



cSDRG

ADaM Package



ADaM xpt



Define xml/pdf



ADRG

Outputs (TLFs)



Tables



Listings



Figures

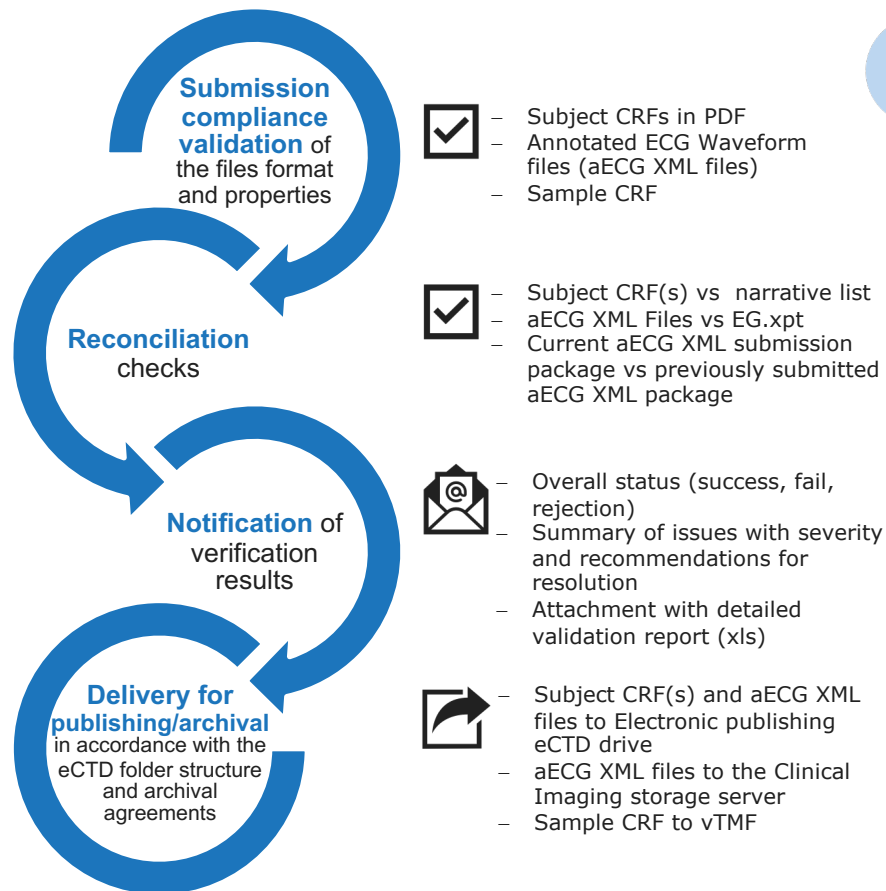
Clinical imaging storage server, vTMF, Electronic publishing eCTD drive, CTT Shared drive

TMF= Trial Master File
CTT= Clinical Trial Team

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eCRF & aECG RPA BOT

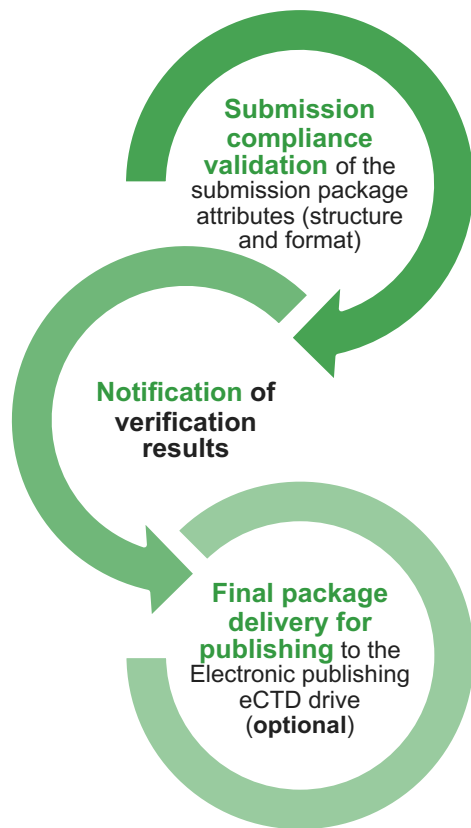


- **All files are checked** (as opposed to manual QC where only a sample was checked)
=> Minimized manual work and human error
- **Resolution recommendations** provided for identified issues



- **Cannot be used for legacy** or paper-based studies (RAVE CRF only)

SDTM and ADaM e-Submission RPA BOTs



Checks presence of required files, file type, naming conventions, files size, folder structure, attributes and content of define.xml, define.pdf, cSDRG, ADRG, aCRF...



- Overall status (success, fail, rejection)
- Summary of issues with severity and guidance for resolution
- Attachment with detailed validation report (xls)



Submission package delivered to electronic publishing eCTD drive, with email confirmation and report



- Ensure PDF documents within a package meet the attribute requirements as described in the **FDA's PORTABLE DOCUMENT FORMAT (PDF) SPECIFICATIONS** in alignment with ICH M2 recommendations

- Ensure documents are in a **format that the receiving center for submission, CDER or CBER, currently supports**

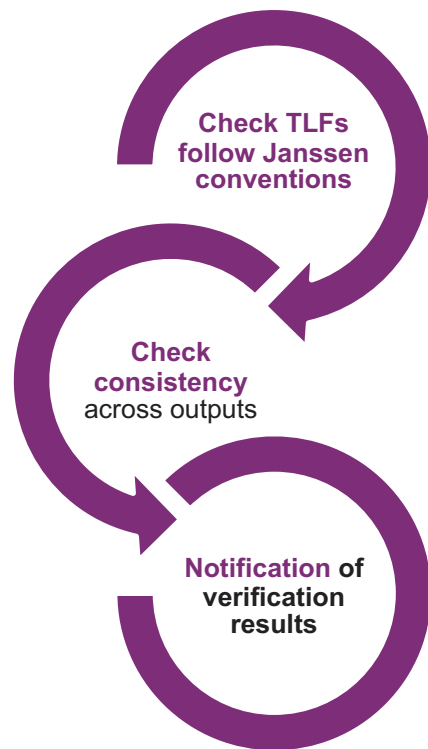
- Ensure submission package is present in the **correct folder structure (in accordance with the (eCTD) folder structure)**



- **Cannot be used for legacy** or paper-based studies

- **Does not fully check hyperlinks** in define.xml/pdf: check bookmarks are valid (not broken), collapsed...that but not that they point to intended location

TLFs Consistency BOT



Check TLFs follow Janssen conventions



- Checks font, letter cases, file names, mandatory content etc.
- Checks file size does not exceed 20kb



- Can be used for both **in-house and outsourced trials** (following Janssen process, and using standard reporting macros)

- Only titles file and .rtf outputs required

- **Issues identified early**, reducing volume of changes required after cross-functional reviews

- Can be **run by any assigned team member**, not lead programmer only



- Compare population rows
- Cross-check tables
- Consistency between titles file and rtf files

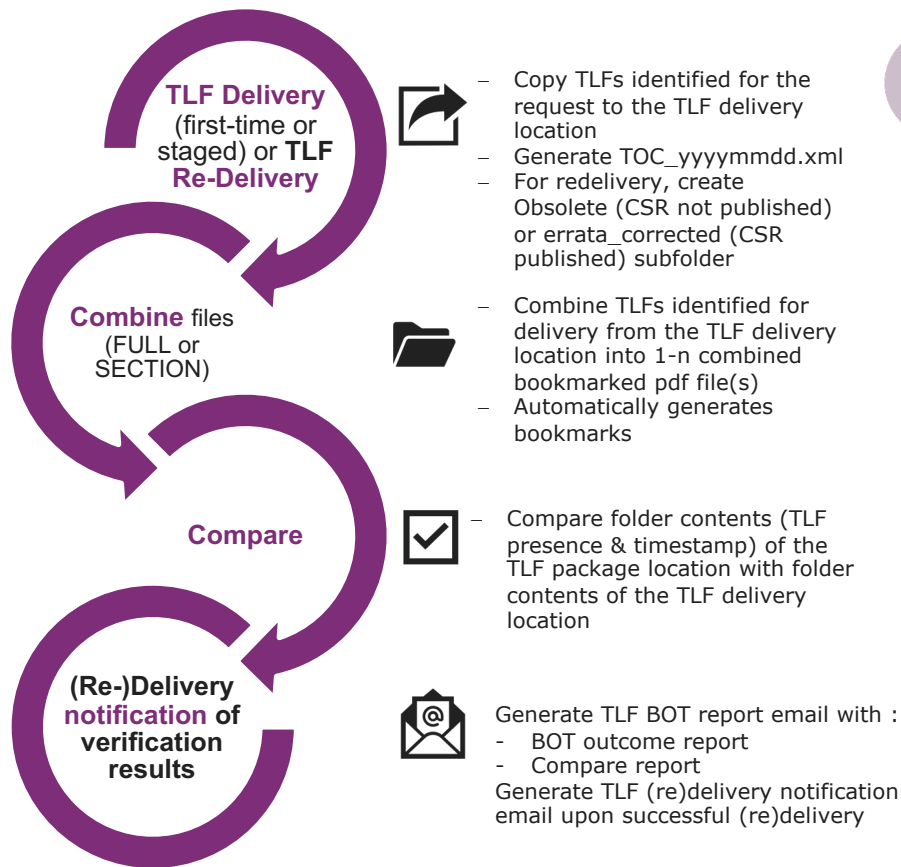


- Summary email sent with:
 - Consistency check outcomes
 - Report detailing failed checks



- Only for use with **outputs created in standard way**

TLFs delivery and re-delivery BOT



- **Combine only** and **compare only** modes available
- Can be used even if CSR is already published
- **TLF (re)delivery notification** sent to stakeholders



- Limited to **TLFs in production or preproduction** in Janssen statistical computing environment
- Compares only file names and date/timestamps; **file contents are not compared**

What our RPA BOTs do not do



BOT **does not manipulate** the content of the submission files.



BOT **does not replace any established Standard Operating Procedures.**



BOT **does not replace Risk-Based Quality Review** of deliverables



BOT **does not replace any compliance validations** (e.g. Pinnacle 21, Janssen proprietary checks) performed on study data/metadata during trial conduct.



BOT does not check ALL submission package attributes:

some checks cannot be programmed

=> **QC Checklists**

Step n°	Step details	Result: Manual Verification	Result: SCnDT RPA BOT Validation	Comment
1	Check whether the naming of the zip file: - Submission-ready SDTM package has the following format: "DBR_UNIQUE_RELEASE_NAME_YYYYMMDD_TRIAL_NAME_SUBXXX" (where XXX indicates the CDISC SDTM implementation guide version that was followed, and YYYYMMDD is the date the entire database was declared not subject to change, this is the date the latest database lock notification was sent for the data being submitted (i.e., for staged releases, the date of the latest database lock notification)). e.g., DBR_FL_YYYYMMDD_BESTTRIALNOW1001_SUB32 - For the Legacy packages: "DBR_UNIQUE_RELEASE_NAME_YYYYMMDD_TRIAL_NAME_LEGACY"	☐ OK ☐ Not OK, please add a comment	☐ OK ☐ Not OK, please add a comment	
2	Check whether the following files are present in the submission-ready SDTM package: - SAS version 5 transport files (.xpt files) - define.xml and associated define.xsl* - define.pdf - acrf.pdf (Annotated Case Report Form) - csdrg.pdf (Clinical Study Data Reviewers Guide (cSDRG)) *define.css and icon.gif files could be included in a SDTM package when define.xml v1.0.0 was utilized.	☐ OK ☐ Legacy n/a ☐ Not OK, please add a comment	Not applicable*	

Benefits of our RPA BOTs



Extensive Automated Verifications of file formatting and file structures of **ALL** submitted files – both during trial conduct and final stage.

As a result, **increased quality confidence**.



Automated Validation for Submission Compliance: for issues identified during the validation, a report will be generated and sent to the validation requester.



Assurance that the submission preparation process was followed **consistently**. Minimal chance of getting questions from HA on these deliverables during the submission review, that can result in a potential delay in drug approval.



Automated folder structure creation and delivery to the publisher or archival (when passes validation).



Time reduction for verification and delivery of these files: manual work reduction, faster overall QC/delivery time, human error reduction.

RPA BOT Support and Maintenance



RPA team: tech support, SMEs



Guidance documents: SOPs, Job aids, checklists, guidance on interpretation of validation results



Virtual business support **help desk**



Focused training, experience sharing and **Q&A sessions**

**Results from
BOT scrutinized**

User feedback

**Continuous
improvement
cycle**

**Findings
addressed**

**RPA team
review and
plan:**
broadcast/share,
update BOT



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