

CASE STUDY

Next-Generation Drug Development Powered by PPM Express





COMPANY DESCRIPTION

A mid-sized pharmaceutical organization specializing in innovative therapies for rare diseases and oncology was managing a pipeline of over 20 active drug development programs supported by a substantial annual research budget. Recognized as a leader in precision medicine, the company faced growing pressure to accelerate development timelines while upholding strict safety standards and complying with increasingly complex regulatory frameworks across multiple global markets.

THE CHALLENGES

Operating in the pharmaceutical industry's demanding regulatory environment, we faced project management challenges that traditional business tools simply couldn't address. Managing drug development programs lasting 10 to 15 years, involving hundreds of stakeholders, and requiring meticulous planning, transparency, and documentation to meet the expectations of the FDA, EMA, and other regulatory bodies proved to be incredibly complex.

CRITICAL OPERATIONAL OBSTACLES

Regulatory compliance complexity across multiple jurisdictions with constantly evolving requirements, creating risks of costly delays or program failures. Excessive R&D costs with uncertain returns and lengthy development cycles that strained capital allocation and investor confidence.

Clinical trial
coordination challenges
include patient
recruitment
bottlenecks, site
management
difficulties, and data
quality issues.

Poor cross-functional coordination between research, clinical development, regulatory affairs, and commercial teams, leading to misaligned priorities and duplicated efforts. Pipeline investment optimization struggles with difficulty prioritizing drug development investments based on market potential, development risk, and resource requirements.

THE SOLUTION

To address these challenges, we transformed our drug development operations by implementing PPM Express, a specialized project management solution tailored to the unique requirements of pharmaceutical R&D. By integrating PPM Express with our clinical trial management systems, regulatory information platforms, and laboratory information systems, we created a centralized command center that gave us greater visibility and control across all development programs.

VALUE DELIVERED

With PPM Express, we achieved enhanced tracking of key project milestones, timelines, risks and decision points, all centralized to improve transparency and oversight across our portfolio. Automated reminders and configurable dashboards gave us clear visibility into submission deadlines and major deliverables for every active program. While PPM Express does not include pharmaceutical compliance automation out of the box, its flexibility allowed us to design tailored workflows that support documentation, maintain audit trails and strengthen cross-team accountability.

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For clinical trial management, PPM Express provided portfolio-level visibility along with automated status tracking for recruitment progress, site performance and timely issue escalation. Most importantly, it enabled data-driven portfolio optimization, empowering our leadership to make informed decisions on program continuation, resource allocation and long-term strategy.

We also used PPM Express risk management features to configure early warning systems for potential development challenges such as delays or resource constraints, and to standardize our contingency planning processes. Although the platform does not include pharmaceutical-specific risk models by default, its customizable risk registers, assessment matrices and automated response tracking proved adaptable to the unique demands of our projects.

RESULTS ACHIEVED

Implementing PPM Express has brought significant improvements to our operational efficiency and strategic decision–making. The most notable impact was in project transparency, risk monitoring and workflow accountability, which helped us virtually eliminate missed deadlines and significantly reduce the risk of regulatory delays. We also saw better clinical trial performance thanks to clearer site management, more effective resource tracking and real-time monitoring of recruitment status.

DOCUMENTED PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

13%

64%

26%

compliance cost
reduction through
reduced compliance
management costs and
accelerated program
timelines,

reduction in risks of compliance delays thanks to automated tracking and deadline reminders,

acceleration in clinical trial completion through optimized workflow visibility and proactive issue escalation,

33%

45%

improvement in R&D resource utilization by eliminating program overlaps and improved resource planning and scheduling,

better pipeline decisionmaking accuracy through data-driven portfolio reporting and improved scenario analysis.

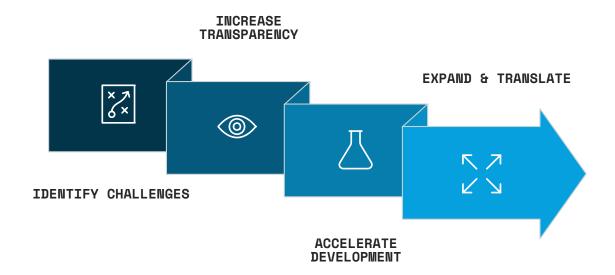
LONG-TERM STRATEGIC VALUE

Beyond immediate operational improvements, PPM Express changed the way we approach drug development strategy and portfolio management. Better visibility in program performance and resource utilization allowed us to conduct more informed partnership negotiations. As a result, we established three strategic alliances based on complementary development capabilities identified through detailed portfolio analysis.

The platform's reporting and analytics capabilities have enhanced our investor relations. Quarterly board presentations now include comprehensive portfolio dashboards that clearly demonstrate progress metrics, identify challenges, and outline future projections. This level of transparency has supported our efforts to secure funding and has enabled us to expand into new therapeutic areas.

Most importantly, the accelerated development timelines and improved program success rates allowed us to advance two programs into Phase III trials ahead of schedule. This progress has the potential to bring breakthrough therapies to market 19 months earlier than originally projected. Such acceleration benefits patients and provides us with significant competitive advantages in rapidly evolving therapeutic markets.

Our organizational culture has shifted toward proactive, data-driven decision making. Cross-functional teams now collaborate more effectively and identify potential obstacles earlier in the process. By increasing transparency and integrating risk management and reporting, PPM Express has helped us maximize both the efficiency and innovation potential of our pharmaceutical development efforts.



ABOUT PPM EXPRESS

PPM Express delivers modern Project Portfolio Management solutions for utilities and energy companies, enabling unified visibility, strategic prioritization, and connected collaboration with tools like Microsoft 365, SharePoint, and more.

The platform empowers organizations to lead the clean energy transition while maintaining reliability, compliance, and stakeholder value.

