

# Biovac's Drive for Innovation: Partnering with IQVIA to Advance Healthcare

## Customer testimonial

Biovac is a key player in South Africa's healthcare sector. It specialises in vaccine manufacture and supply, emphasising pharmaceutical safety and innovation. Facing the challenge of outdated paper-based systems, Biovac embarked on a transformative journey to adopt an electronic system for pharmacovigilance. This shift aimed to enhance efficiency, accuracy, and public health safety. The transition from manual to digital methods was a strategic move to streamline adverse event monitoring and data management. Biovac's initiative integrates innovation with necessity, whilst at the same time impacting public health safety and aligning with biotechnology.



## Challenges

Biovac faced three specific challenges in its pharmacovigilance enhancement journey, each demanding a strategic solution.

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First, Biovac grappled with having a small PV team, and the need arose for a system that could significantly improve the team's efficiency.

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Second, the existing manual, paper-based system was labour-intensive and misaligned with evolving regulatory standards for case processing, databasing, and adverse event reporting. The team recognised the need for a shift to digital solutions.

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Finally, compliance with the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority's (SAHPRA) upcoming regulation mandating electronic case submission stood as the main challenge. Biovac proactively needed to implement a validated safety database before implementation.

These challenges catalysed Biovac's move towards a more efficient, digitally compliant system. Biovac sought a solution that would streamline its processes, keep up with regulatory changes, and improve overall efficiency within a reasonable cost structure.

## Solution

The chosen solution helped Biovac achieve balanced functionality and cost-effectiveness to improve its pharmacovigilance process. Through IQVIA's sophisticated Vigilance Platform, Biovac was able to reform its pharmacovigilance process, aiming to improve efficiency, ensure compliance with international standards and enhance the accuracy and speed of adverse event reporting. This would ultimately benefit Biovac by streamlining their operations and ensuring the safety and effectiveness of their vaccines.

## Implementation

Throughout the process, IQVIA demonstrated a flexible approach that addressed challenges particularly those arising from accommodating a sister company's needs. This adaptability ensured a smooth transition and an effective workflow that met Biovac's changing requirements.

## Benefits and results

The most significant impact that Biovac has experienced was the reduction in manual data entry, which previously occupied 90% of the team's time. The streamlined process has freed up time so that they can focus on more strategic pharmacovigilance tasks. The system also improved compliance and quality control, with Biovac now able to extract detailed metrics from the dashboard.

The user-friendly interface of IQVIA's platform was well-received, making it easier for staff to adapt to the new system. Automating data processing and report generation further highlighted the system's efficiency. IQVIA's solution marked a significant improvement in Biovac's operational efficiency and compliance, setting new standards in the healthcare industry.

## Long-Term impact and future plans

The partnership with IQVIA signifies a significant step in Biovac's progression towards becoming a global player in vaccine manufacturing. This collaboration has led to substantial operational improvements, particularly in data management and report generation. The scalability and advanced features of IQVIA's technology are crucial for Biovac's plans for global expansion and improving healthcare outcomes. Biovac looks forward to leveraging the platform's full potential, including advanced features like signal detection modules, to enhance its pharmacovigilance system further. This strategic partnership is set to drive future innovations and expansions, positioning Biovac for significant advancements in public health.