



Singapore Healthcare Management 2016

# SingHealth Patent Review Committee

To Improve Patent Management Process and Cost-Effectiveness

Guy Heathers, SingHealth  
Koh Choon Heng, SingHealth  
Chole Chu, SingHealth  
Shama Kazmi, SingHealth



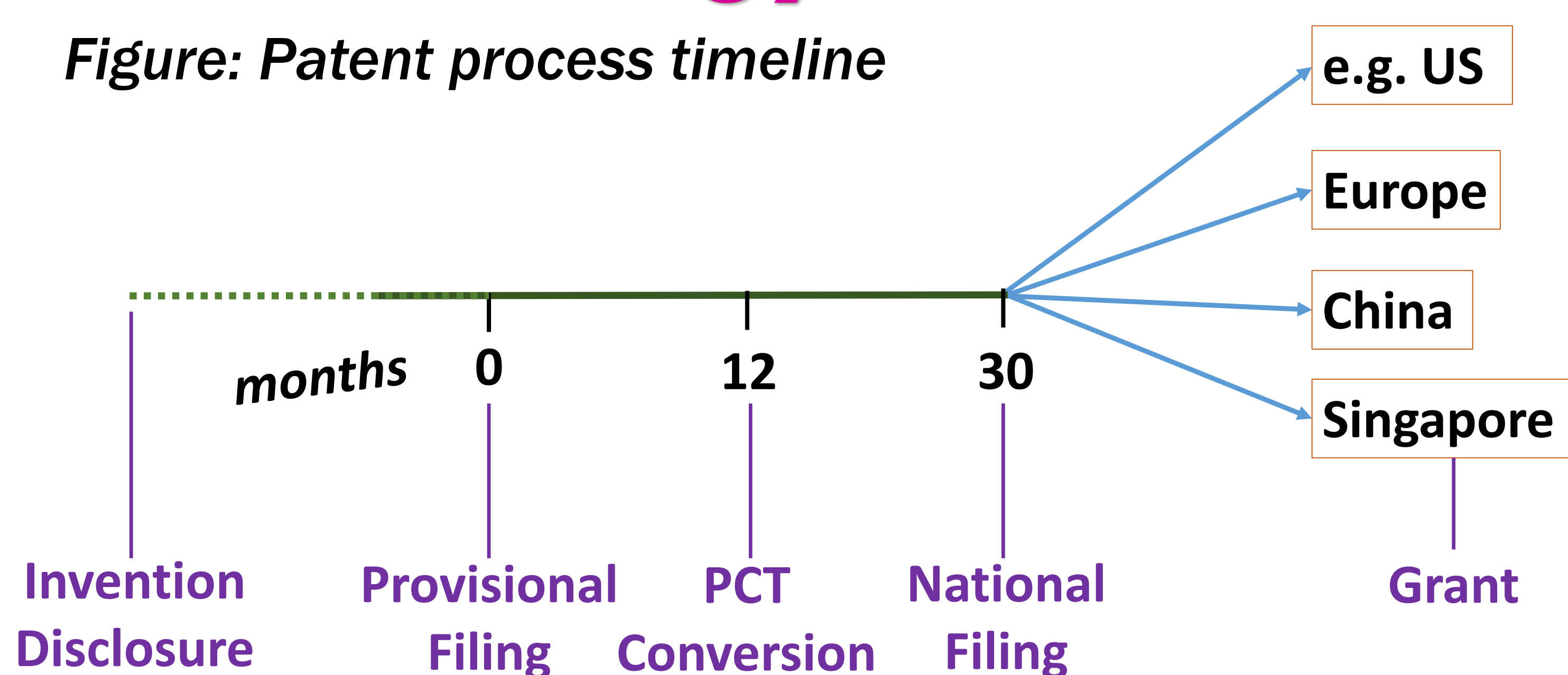
## Introduction

The SingHealth Patent Review Committee (SPRC) was established primarily to improve the decision-making process at each stage of patent prosecution by evaluating invention disclosures and patent applications, in order to effectively manage SingHealth's patent budget.

SingHealth Intellectual Property (SHIP) office is secretariat for SPRC.

## Methodology

Figure: Patent process timeline



At committee meetings, SingHealth inventors give a presentation on their patent applications, prior to PCT conversion and National Filing.



The presentation includes technical details of the invention, summary of market, value proposition, patentability, and development and commercialization plan.

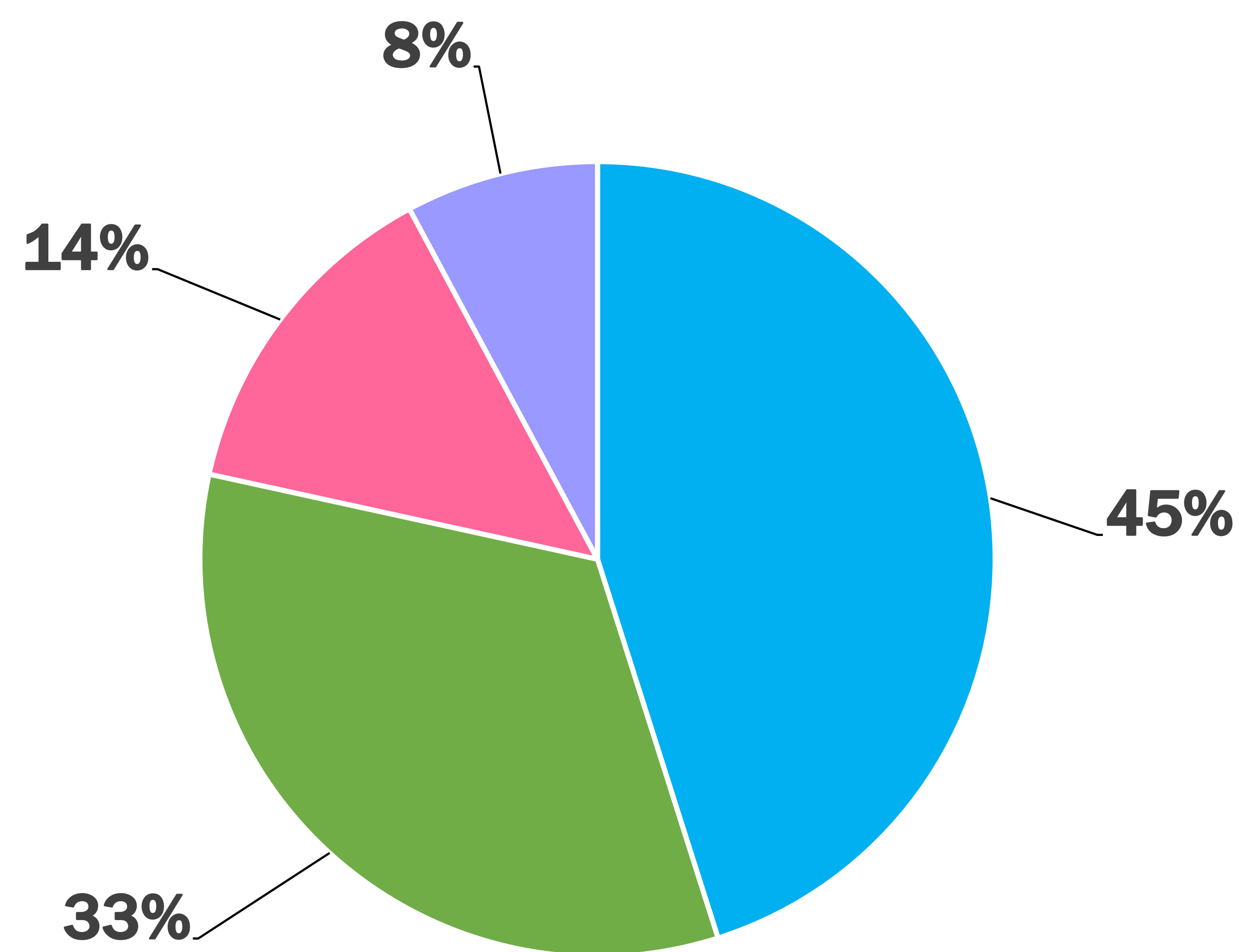


The committee members serve advisory roles such as suggesting filing and commercialization strategies. They provide advice to reject or support continuation of patent applications.



SHIP makes a final decision on whether to continue prosecution of each patent application.

## Results



- Lapsed/Withdrawn
- PCT Conversion
- National Phase Entry
- Renewals

A total of 51 patent applications reviewed by the committee from July 2015 to May 2016.

23 patent applications lapsed/withdrawn (i.e. not continued).

17 'provisional' applications converted to PCT applications.

7 PCT applications entered into National Phase of various countries.

4 patent application renewed.

## Conclusion

The SPRC has been very successful in helping SHIP make appropriate and timely decisions in order to significantly improve SHIP's management of its patent portfolio and budget, thus greatly improving SHIP's efficiency.