

<https://www.regulations.gov>. Submit both copies to the Dockets Management Staff. If you do not wish your name and contact information to be made publicly available, you can provide this information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify this information as “confidential.” Any information marked as “confidential” will not be disclosed except in accordance with 21 CFR 10.20 and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA’s posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469, September 18, 2015, or access the information at: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf>.

**Docket:** For access to the docket to read background documents or the electronic and written/paper comments received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and insert the docket number, found in brackets in the heading of this document, into the “Search” box and follow the prompts and/or go to the Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852, 240-402-7500.

You may submit comments on any guidance at any time (see 21 CFR 10.115(g)(5)).

Submit written requests for single copies of the draft guidance to the Division of Drug Information, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10001 New Hampshire Ave., Hillandale Building, 4th Floor, Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002. Send one self-addressed adhesive label to assist that office in processing your requests. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for electronic access to the draft guidance document.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Susan Levine, Office of Generic Drugs, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 75, Rm. 1674, Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002, 240-402-7936, [Susan.Levine@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Susan.Levine@fda.hhs.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### **I. Background**

FDA is announcing the availability of a draft guidance for industry entitled “Topical Dermatologic Corticosteroids: In Vivo Bioequivalence.” This draft guidance is intended to assist applicants who submit ANDAs for topical corticosteroids. This draft guidance describes recommendations for an in vivo pharmacodynamic approach to demonstrate the bioequivalence of topical corticosteroids. When finalized, this guidance will replace FDA’s 1995 guidance for industry of the same name.

This draft guidance provides recommendations for the study design, method qualification, data analysis, and data reporting for the pilot dose-duration vasoconstrictor response study and pivotal vasoconstrictor bioequivalence study used for topical corticosteroids. The draft guidance also discusses considerations and approaches for estimating key study parameters and sample size for the pivotal vasoconstrictor bioequivalence study.

This draft guidance is being issued consistent with FDA’s good guidance practices regulation (21 CFR 10.115). The draft guidance, when finalized, will represent the current thinking of FDA on “Topical Dermatologic Corticosteroids: In Vivo Bioequivalence.” It does not establish any rights for any person and is not binding on FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if it satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations.

### **II. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995**

While this guidance contains no collection of information, it does refer to previously approved FDA collections of information. Therefore, clearance by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501–3521) is not required for this guidance. The previously approved collections of information are subject to review by OMB under the PRA. The collections of information in 21 CFR 314 have been approved under OMB control number 0910-0001. The collections of information related to current good manufacturing practices have been approved under OMB control number 0910-0139. The collections of information pertaining to controlled correspondence related to generic drug development have been approved under OMB control number 0910-0797.

### **III. Electronic Access**

Persons with access to the internet may obtain the draft guidance at <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/guidance-compliance-regulatory-information/guidances-drugs>, <https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents>, or <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Dated: October 18, 2022.

**Lauren K. Roth,**

*Associate Commissioner for Policy.*

[FR Doc. 2022-23032 Filed 10-21-22; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4164-01-P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

### **Food and Drug Administration**

[Docket No. FDA-2022-D-1864]

### **Physicochemical and Structural (Q3) Characterization of Topical Drug Products Submitted in Abbreviated New Drug Applications; Draft Guidance for Industry, Availability**

**AGENCY:** Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or Agency) is announcing the availability of a draft guidance for industry entitled “Physicochemical and Structural (Q3) Characterization of Topical Drug Products Submitted in ANDAs.” This draft guidance is intended to assist applicants who submit abbreviated new drug applications (ANDAs) for liquid-based and/or other semisolid products applied to the skin, including integumentary and mucosal (*e.g.*, vaginal) membranes (referred to as “topical products”). This draft guidance document provides recommendations for physicochemical and structural (collectively, “Q3”) characterizations that can be used to identify the dosage form of a proposed generic (test) topical product, and to describe properties of the drug product that may be critical to its performance (to support a demonstration of bioequivalence (BE)).

**DATES:** Submit either electronic or written comments on the draft guidance by December 23, 2022 to ensure that the Agency considers your comment on this draft guidance before it begins work on the final version of the guidance.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments on any guidance at any time as follows:

#### *Electronic Submissions*

Submit electronic comments in the following way:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:*

<https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Comments submitted electronically, including attachments, to <https://www.regulations.gov> will be posted to the docket unchanged. Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for ensuring that your comment does not include any confidential information that you or a third party may not wish to be posted, such as medical information, your or anyone else’s Social Security number, or confidential business information, such as a manufacturing process. Please note that if you include your name, contact

information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>.

- If you want to submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made available to the public, submit the comment as a written/paper submission and in the manner detailed (see “Written/Paper Submissions” and “Instructions”).

#### Written/Paper Submissions

Submit written/paper submissions as follows:

- *Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier (for written/paper submissions):* Dockets Management Staff (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

- For written/paper comments submitted to the Dockets Management Staff, FDA will post your comment, as well as any attachments, except for information submitted, marked and identified, as confidential, if submitted as detailed in “Instructions.”

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the Docket No. FDA-2022-D-1864 for “Physicochemical and Structural (Q3) Characterization of Topical Drug Products Submitted in ANDAs.” Received comments will be placed in the docket and, except for those submitted as “Confidential Submissions,” publicly viewable at <https://www.regulations.gov> or at the Dockets Management Staff between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, 240-402-7500.

- **Confidential Submissions**—To submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made publicly available, submit your comments only as a written/paper submission. You should submit two copies total. One copy will include the information you claim to be confidential with a heading or cover note that states “THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.” The Agency will review this copy, including the claimed confidential information, in its consideration of comments. The second copy, which will have the claimed confidential information redacted/blacked out, will be available for public viewing and posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>. Submit both copies to the Dockets Management Staff. If you do not wish your name and contact information to be made publicly available, you can provide this information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify this information as “confidential.” Any information marked as “confidential” will not be disclosed except in accordance with 21 CFR 10.20

and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA’s posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469, September 18, 2015, or access the information at: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf>.

*Docket:* For access to the docket to read background documents or the electronic and written/paper comments received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and insert the docket number, found in brackets in the heading of this document, into the “Search” box and follow the prompts and/or go to the Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852, 240-402-7500.

You may submit comments on any guidance at any time (see 21 CFR 10.115(g)(5)).

Submit written requests for single copies of the draft guidance to the Division of Drug Information, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10001 New Hampshire Ave., Hillandale Building, 4th Floor, Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002. Send one self-addressed adhesive label to assist the office in processing your requests. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for electronic access to the draft guidance document.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Susan Levine, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 75, Rm. 1674, Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002, 240-402-7936.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

FDA is announcing the availability of a draft guidance for industry entitled “Physicochemical and Structural (Q3) Characterization of Topical Drug Products Submitted in ANDAs.” This draft guidance is intended to assist applicants who submit ANDAs for liquid-based and/or other semisolid products applied to the skin, including integumentary and mucosal (e.g., vaginal) membranes. This draft guidance document provides recommendations for physicochemical and structural (collectively, “Q3”) characterizations that can be used: (1) to identify the dosage form of a proposed generic (test) topical product and (2) to describe properties of the drug product that may be critical to its performance (to support a demonstration of BE). This draft guidance does not address Q3 characterization of topical products for purposes of product quality control.

Basic Q3 characterization of a topical product can be used to describe its

dosage form (e.g., an emulsion). The nomenclature used to describe the dosage form of topical products (e.g., solutions, suspensions, gels, lotions, creams, shampoos, ointments, pastes, etc.) is not precisely defined by a systematic classification of the compositional, physicochemical, or structural attributes of the drug product. Consequently, for topical products, it may not be possible to infer the Q3 attributes of a particular dosage form based upon the dosage form nomenclature.

Comprehensive Q3 characterization of a topical product can be used to establish a detailed profile of Q3 attributes that specifically describes the nature of that product and identifies a collection of attributes that describe the arrangement of matter (e.g., the polymorphic form(s) of the active ingredient(s) and/or the pH of the drug product) that may modulate the systemic or local availability of the active ingredient(s) from the product. Because Q3 characterization describes essential attributes of a drug product that may be critical to its performance, differences in Q3 attributes between a test product and the reference standard selected by FDA can indicate a risk that the differences may impact the respective bioavailability and/or BE of the two products. Conversely, a demonstration that there are no differences in Q3 attributes between a test and reference standard substantially mitigates the risk of potential failure modes for BE that may otherwise arise from any differences in Q3 attributes.

This draft guidance provides recommendations on the types of characterizations that constitute a basic and comprehensive Q3 characterization. This draft guidance also describes the concepts of “sameness,” “similarity,” and “difference” in comparing Q3 characterizations of two topical products, and how a showing of “Q3 sameness,” “Q3 similarity,” or “Q3 difference” between a test topical product and the reference standard may impact what additional evidence may be recommended to demonstrate BE, as part of a comparative product characterization-based approach.

This draft guidance is being issued consistent with FDA’s good guidance practices regulation (21 CFR 10.115). The draft guidance, when finalized, will represent the current thinking of FDA on “Physicochemical and Structural (Q3) Characterization of Topical Drug Products Submitted in ANDAs.” It does not establish any rights for any person and is not binding on FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if

it satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations.

## II. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

While this draft guidance contains no collection of information, it does refer to previously approved FDA collections of information. Therefore, clearance by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501–3521) is not required for this guidance. The previously approved collections of information are subject to review by OMB under the PRA. The collections of information for the submission of ANDAs have been approved under OMB control number 0910–0001. Applicant submission of controlled correspondence related to generic drug development and FDA approval is approved under OMB control number 0910–0797. The collections of information that support Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) for Nonclinical Laboratory Studies have been approved under OMB control number 0910–0119. The collections of information in 21 CFR part 320 for “Investigational New Drug Safety Reporting Requirements for Human Drug and Biological Products and Safety Reporting Requirements for Bioavailability and Bioequivalence Studies in Humans” have been approved under OMB control number 0910–0014. The recordkeeping requirement for Current Good Manufacturing Practice (CGMP) sample retention in 21 CFR 211.170 has been approved under OMB control number 0910–0139.

## III. Electronic Access

Persons with access to the internet may obtain the draft guidance at <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/guidance-compliance-regulatory-information/guidances-drugs>, <https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents>, or <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Dated: October 18, 2022.

**Lauren K. Roth,**

*Associate Commissioner for Policy.*

[FR Doc. 2022–23016 Filed 10–21–22; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA–2013–N–0134]

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for Office of Management and Budget Review; Comment Request; Mammography Quality Standards Act Requirements

**AGENCY:** Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or we) is announcing that a proposed collection of information has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Submit written comments (including recommendations) on the collection of information by November 23, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** To ensure that comments on the information collection are received, OMB recommends that written comments be submitted to <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. The OMB control number for this information collection is 0910–0309. Also include the FDA docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Domini Bean, Office of Operations, Food and Drug Administration, Three White Flint North, 10A–12M, 11601 Landsdown St., North Bethesda, MD 20852, 301–796–5733, [PRASStaff@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:PRASStaff@fda.hhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In compliance with 44 U.S.C. 3507, FDA has submitted the following proposed collection of information to OMB for review and clearance.

#### Mammography Quality Standards Act Requirements—21 CFR Part 900

*OMB Control Number 0910–0309—Extension*

The Mammography Quality Standards Act (Pub. L. 102–539) requires the establishment of a Federal certification and inspection program for mammography facilities; standards for accreditation and certification bodies for mammography facilities; and standards for mammography equipment, personnel, and practices, including

quality assurance. Implementing regulations are found in part 900 (21 CFR part 900). The regulations are intended to assure safe, reliable, and accurate mammography on a nationwide level. Under the regulations, as a first step in becoming certified, mammography facilities must become accredited by an FDA-approved accreditation body (AB). This requires undergoing a review of their clinical images and providing the AB with information showing that they meet the equipment, personnel, quality assurance, and quality control standards, and have a medical reporting and recordkeeping program, a medical outcomes audit program, and a consumer complaint mechanism. On the basis of this accreditation, facilities are then certified by FDA or an FDA-approved State certification agency and must prominently display their certificate. These actions are taken to ensure safe, accurate, and reliable mammography on a nationwide basis.

FDA meets with its National Mammography Quality Assurance Advisory Committee (NMQAAC) for the purposes of advising FDA’s mammography program on advances in mammography technology and procedures and on appropriate quality standards for mammography facilities. NMQAAC is made up of representatives of the mammography community, consumer and industry groups, and government. The meetings are open to the public and time is allotted for public statements on issues of concern in the mammography field. The chairperson may also call upon attendees to contribute to the committee discussions.

FDA also regularly meets or holds teleconferences with its approved accreditation bodies and State certification agencies to discuss issues of mutual concern. We also engage with the Conference of State Radiation Program Directors (CRCPD), a professional organization of State agencies concerned with radiation protection. The CRCPD has established a standing Mammography Committee, which meets with FDA mammography staff at least once a year.

Finally, in recent years, FDA mammography staff have met several times with representatives of manufacturers working on the new applications of digital technology in mammography to resolve problems preventing the making of that technology generally available. FDA mammography staff have also worked with representatives of the manufacturers to develop quality assurance manuals for full field digital mammography units.