Food and Drug Administration

Identification of Alternative In Vitro Bioequivalence Pathways Which Can Reliably Ensure In Vivo Bioequivalence of Product Performance and Quality of Non-Systemically Absorbed Drug Products for Animals; Reopening of the Comment Period

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Request for comments; reopening of the comment period.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is reopening the comment period related to the use of in vitro methods as a mechanism for assessing the in vivo product bioequivalence (BE) of non-systemically absorbed drug products intended for use in veterinary species, published in the Federal Register of March 18, 2015 (80 FR 14146). FDA is reopening the comment period to update comments and receive any new information.

DATES: Submit either electronic or written comments by August 10, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Submit electronic comments to http://www.regulations.gov. Submit written comments to the Division of Dockets Management (HFA–305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Harshman, Center for Veterinary Medicine, Food and Drug Administration, HFV–170, MPN2, 7500 Standish Pl., Rockville, MD 20855, 240–402–0845.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

In the Federal Register of March 18, 2015 (80 FR 14146), FDA announced a public meeting to discuss the use of in vitro methods as a mechanism for assessing the in vivo product bioequivalence (BE) of non-systemically absorbed drug products intended for use in veterinary species. In the same notice, FDA said that it is seeking additional public comment to the docket. Interested persons were originally given until May 18, 2015, to comment on this issue.

II. Request for Comments

Following publication of the March 18, 2015, notification of public meeting and request for comments, FDA received a request to allow interested persons additional time to comment. The requester asserted that the time period of 60 days was insufficient to respond fully to FDA’s specific requests for comments and to allow potential respondents to thoroughly evaluate and address pertinent issues.

III. How To Submit Comments

Interested persons may submit either electronic comments regarding this document to http://www.regulations.gov or written comments to the Division of Dockets Management (see ADDRESSES). It is only necessary to send one set of comments. Identify comments with the docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document. Received comments may be seen in the Division of Dockets Management between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, and will be posted to the docket at http://www.regulations.gov.

Dated: June 4, 2015.

Leslie Kux,
Associate Commissioner for Policy.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for Office of Management and Budget Review; Comment Request; Establishment of a Tobacco User Panel

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) 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: Fax written comments on the collection of information by July 10, 2015.

ADDRESSES: To ensure that comments on the information collection are received, OMB recommends that written comments be faxed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, Attn: FDA Desk Officer, FAX: 202–395–7285, or emailed to oira_submission@omb.eop.gov. All comments should be identified with the OMB control number 0910–NEW and title “Establishment of a Tobacco User Panel”. Also include the FDA docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: FDA PRA Staff, Office of Operations, Food and Drug Administration, 8455 Colesville Rd., COLE–14526, Silver Spring, MD 20993–0002.

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.

Establishment of a Tobacco User Panel—(OMB Control Number 0910–NEW)

The Food and Drug Administration’s Center for Tobacco Products (CTP) proposes to establish a high quality, probability-based, primarily Web-based, panel of 4,000 tobacco users. The panel will include individuals who can participate in up to 8 studies over a 3-year period to assess consumers’ responses to tobacco marketing, warning statements, product labels, and other communications about tobacco products. CTP proposed the establishment of the panel of consumers
because currently existing Web-based panels have a number of significant limitations.

First, most existing consumer panels are drawn from convenience samples that limit the generalizability of study findings (Ref. 1). Second, although at least two probability-based panels of consumers exist in the United States, there is a concern that responses to the studies using tobacco users in these panels may be biased due to panel conditioning effects (Refs. 2 and 3). That is, consumers in these panels complete surveys so frequently that their responses may not adequately represent the population as a whole. Panel conditioning has been associated with repeated measurement on the same topic (Ref. 4), panel tenure (Ref. 2), and frequency of the survey request (Ref. 3). This issue is of particular concern for tobacco users who represent a minority of the members in the panels, and so may be more likely to be selected for participation in experiments and/or surveys related to tobacco products.

Third, a key benefit of the Web panel approach is that the surveys can include multimedia, such as images of tobacco product packages, tobacco advertising, new and existing warning statements and labels, and potential reduced harm claims in the form of labels and print advertisements. Establishing a primarily Web-based panel of tobacco users through in-person probability-based recruitment of eligible adults and limiting the number of times individuals participate in tobacco-related studies will result in nationally representative and unbiased data collection on matters of importance for FDA.

With this submission, FDA seeks approval from OMB to establish the Tobacco User Panel, a nationally representative, primarily Web-based panel of 4,000 current tobacco users. Data collection activities will involve pilot testing of panel recruitment and management procedures and systems, mail and in-person household screening, in-person recruitment of tobacco users, enrollment of selected household members, administration of a baseline survey, and panel maintenance surveys, following all required informed consent procedures for panel members. Once the panel is established, panel members will be asked to participate in up to eight experimental and observational studies over the 3-year panel commitment period. The first of these studies (Study 1) is included in this information collection request; approval for the remainder of the studies will appear in future requests. The current request also seeks approval to conduct up to two rounds of cognitive testing of new survey items and up to two focus groups to further refine study protocols, as needed. With this clearance, study investigators will be able to use the OMB approved data collection methods where appropriate to plan and implement the national panel.

The overall purpose of the proposed data collection is to collect information from a representative sample of tobacco users to provide data that may be used to develop and support FDA’s policies related to tobacco products, including their labels, labeling, and advertising. Data will be collected from the panel primarily through the use of randomized experimental designs, however, there may be data collected through the use of other methods, such as surveys, interviews, or online group discussions. Given the limitations on the existing Web-based panels, it is important to develop a new panel of tobacco users that balances the need to conduct experiments while limiting the number of tobacco-related studies per year so as to not bias study results.

FDA estimates the burden of this collection of information as follows:

In the Federal Register of October 16, 2014 (79 FR 62160), FDA published a 60-day notice requesting public comment on the proposed collection of information. FDA received three comments, however only two were PRA related. Within those submissions, FDA received multiple comments which the Agency has addressed. (Comment) One comment asked FDA for the opportunity to review the data collection plans and instruments including the sample design, data collection methodology, and panel performance evaluation plan. (Response) We will draw the original sample members via mail, telephone, or web. We will describe our plans to reduce the non-response bias in future individual studies as part of the OMB submissions for these studies. We consider the issue of conditioning effects as part of our overall panel management plan, which is described in Supporting Statement, Part A. (Comment) One comment stated that not every panelist will be eligible to participate in every study to minimize the potential for “conditioning” effects. However, this approach to participation is inconsistent with the requirement that every individual in the population has a non-zero probability of being in the sample. FDA will need to make trade-offs to balance these two interests. FDA could consider drawing data from similar respondents, as long as FDA knows that there are no important hidden differences between the respondents that may affect their responses.

(Comment) One comment asked FDA to consider drawing data from similar respondents, as long as FDA knows that there are no important hidden differences between the respondents that may affect their responses. (Response) We will draw the original sample with known, non-zero, and, to the extent possible, equal probabilities. The same will apply to any additional samples drawn for the panel to replace attrition. Furthermore, any subsample drawn from the panel for specific studies will also result in known probabilities of selection. We will derive a strategy of spreading the survey-taking load over all panel members to avoid excessive burden on any single member or group of members. We will implement this strategy by randomly selecting each subsample, but at the same time keeping track of each member’s survey-taking activity. As the number and frequency of survey-taking for a given member increases, their probability of selection will decrease, a strategy that we will implement using probability proportion to size sampling. This strategy will lead to known and measurable selection probabilities for each specific subsample. (Comment) One comment stated FDA should consider, whether in some instances, collecting fresh data from...
new samples of tobacco product users over time may provide better results.

(Response) Our proposed approach includes replenishment of the sample over time to address attrition from the panel. As such, the panel will include tobacco users with varying tenure lengths on the panel. We will be in a position to restrict a specific study subsample to the more recent panel members, if desired, and more generally, the panel will allow FDA to specify the composition of the sample with respect to tenure.

(Comment) One comment said FDA should consider inclusion of non-tobacco users or users of specific tobacco categories (e.g., e-cigarette users, moist smokeless tobacco users) in the sample to support comparative analyses between users and non-users or subgroup analyses.

(Response) FDA considered including non-tobacco users early in the planning process. However, the planned experimental and observational studies will examine issues specific to the tobacco-using population, especially those with lower socio-economic status. This includes the underlying demographics of users as well as their knowledge, attitudes, practices, behaviors, and reactions to various tobacco-related stimuli. Other existing data sources, including survey panels, support research with non-users. Moreover, limiting the panel to users reduces the overall public burden. Once the panel is firmly established, we may consider its expansion.

(Comment) One comment stated FDA should also consider how well the sample of 4,000 adult tobacco users will support the planned investigations.

(Response) The sample size of 4,000 was chosen after a careful review of, on the one hand, power and subclass analyses requirements, and on the other hand, the budgetary implications. After our careful review, we concluded that a sample size of 4,000 tobacco users represents a good balance, at least for the first iteration of the panel.

We should also mention that the young adult population (aged 18–25) and the low-income population (combined household income less than $30,000) will be oversampled allowing for more in-depth study of these two groups of tobacco users. We also include a screening feature that will result in oversampling of the smokeless tobacco users.

(Comment) One comment stated that FDA suggests that the approach includes a “3-year panel commitment period”. FDA should consider developing and sharing its plan for keeping or removing panelists. For example, will FDA keep or remove a panelist if he/she decides to quit using tobacco products? Also, how will FDA monitor whether incentives are influencing a panelist’s responses or behavior? These are only a few examples of issues that could arise; therefore, a thoughtful panel management plan is needed.

(Comment) One commenter commented that FDA should consider establishing mechanisms to evaluate the performance of the panel as well as the data derived from it. For example, data from the panel on measures such as current or past 30-day cigarette smoking might be compared against the most recent data from national surveys and other published reports.

(Response) We agree that benchmarking the panel sample characteristics—demographic, socioeconomic, and tobacco use—against other national data sources is extremely important. We will continuously check that our panel matches known underlying population characteristics. However, we will also monitor how the panel compares with the target population with respect to known patterns of behavior surrounding tobacco use. Differences will not necessarily suggest problems with the panel but they will stimulate further investigation and explanation.

(Comment) One commenter asked FDA to provide copies of the survey instruments for public comment.

(Response) Copies of the survey instruments used to screen and recruit panel members, as well as the first experimental or observation study (Study 1), are uploaded to the docket.

(Comment) One commenter strongly supports FDA’s proposed collection of information. The commenter stated that this panel is of great utility and the proposed probability-based panel will serve as a flexible tool, giving FDA the opportunity to conduct diverse studies.

(Response) FDA agrees with this comment and believes the panel will be a valuable tool for conducting new experimental studies.

FDA estimates the burden of this collection of information as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity or type of respondent</th>
<th>Number of respondents</th>
<th>Number of responses per respondent</th>
<th>Total annual responses</th>
<th>Average burden per response</th>
<th>Total hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Household Screening Respondent</td>
<td>29,385</td>
<td>0.33</td>
<td>9,697</td>
<td>0.16 (10 minutes)</td>
<td>1,552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel Member Enrollment Study</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,320</td>
<td>0.25 (15 minutes)</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel Member Baseline Survey</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,320</td>
<td>0.25 (15 minutes)</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel Maintenance/Annual Update Surveys</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>0.08 (5 minutes)</td>
<td>960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experimental/Observational Studies</td>
<td>10,800</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>29,805</td>
<td>0.30 (20 minutes)</td>
<td>5,364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel Replenishment Screening Respondent</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>0.33</td>
<td>924</td>
<td>0.25 (15 minutes)</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel Replenishment Enrollment Survey</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>0.33</td>
<td>924</td>
<td>0.25 (15 minutes)</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel Replenishment Baseline Survey**</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>0.33</td>
<td>924</td>
<td>0.25 (15 minutes)</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cognitive Interview Subjects</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0.33</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The collection burden was estimated using data from timed-readings of each instrument, including the mail and field screens, enrollment survey, baseline survey, panel maintenance questionnaires, and Study 1 questionnaire.

References

The following references have been placed on display in the Division of Dockets Management (HFA–305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852, and may be seen by interested persons between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, and are available electronically at http://www.regulations.gov.


Dated: June 4, 2015.

Leslie Kux,
Associate Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2015–14125 Filed 6–9–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4164–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA–2015–N–1702]

Baxter Healthcare Corporation et al.; Withdrawal of Approval of One New Drug Application and Four Abbreviated New Drug Applications

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is withdrawing approval of one new drug application (NDA) for Ondansetron (ondansetron hydrochloride [HCl]) Injection, USP in PL 2408 Plastic Container, 32 milligrams (mg) in 50 milliliters (mL), single intravenous (IV) dose, and four abbreviated new drug applications (ANDAs) for ondansetron HCl and Dextrose in 32 mg single IV doses. The holders of these applications have voluntarily requested that FDA withdraw approval of their applications and have waived their opportunity for a hearing.

DATES: Effective June 10, 2015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Emily Helms Williams, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 51, Rm. 6280, Silver Spring, MD 20993–0002, 301–796–3381.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 29, 2012, FDA issued a Drug Safety Communication to notify health care professionals that the 32 mg, single IV dose of ondansetron HCl, indicated for prevention of nausea and vomiting associated with initial and repeat courses of emetogenic cancer chemotherapy in adult patients, should be avoided due to the risk of a specific type of irregular heart rhythm called QT interval prolongation, which can lead to Torsades de Pointes, an abnormal, potentially fatal heart rhythm. Subsequently, FDA contacted the holders of the following applications and informed them that the Agency believes that in light of the safety concern associated with ondansetron HCl in the 32 mg, single IV dose, the following drug products should be removed from the market:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application number</th>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Applicant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANDA 077348</td>
<td>Ondansetron Hydrochloride and Dextrose in Plastic Container.</td>
<td>Hospira, Inc. (Hospira), 275 North Field Dr., Department 389, Bldg. H2–2, Lake Forest, IL 60045.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANDA 077480</td>
<td>Ondansetron Hydrochloride and Dextrose in Plastic Container.</td>
<td>Teva Pharmaceuticals USA (Teva), 400 Chestnut Ridge Rd., Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANDA 078308</td>
<td>Ondansetron Hydrochloride and Dextrose in Plastic Container.</td>
<td>Claris Lifesciences Ltd. (Claris), 2325 Camino Vida Roble, Suite A, Carlsbad, CA 92011.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>