Inhalation Drug Delivery Systems 2019
Ensuring Quality, Safety and Regulatory Compliance for Inhalation Drug Delivery Systems
May 28–29, 2019, Boston, MA

Featuring Lessons Learned and Case Studies From Industry Experts:

- Suraj Ramachandran
  Merck
- Marco Laackman
  Harro Höfliger
- Badre Hammond
  Aptar
- Vibha Puri
  Genentech
- Guenther Hochhaus
  University of Florida
- Hugh Smyth
  University of Texas
- Michael Eakins
  Eakins & Associates
- Pavan Muttil
  University of New Mexico
- Daniel Norwood
  Smithers Rapra and Pira
- Meredith Earl
  Liquidia Technologies
- Gyorgy Vas
  Intertek
- Allen Kesselring
  EKG Labs
- Piet Christiaens
  Nelson Labs
- Anup Paul
  Stress Engineering Services
- Anselm Ebert
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And Comprehensive Coverage On:

- Regulatory Compliance Issues for Inhalation Therapies
- Combination Product Design
- New Strategies for Showing the Bioequivalence of Inhalation Drugs
- Achieving an Inhaled Insulin Product
- Powder Dosing and DPI Manufacturing Technologies
- Developing a Generic Inhaled Product
- Sterilization Issues Surrounding Inhalation Therapies
- Extractables and Leachables Testing
- Nebulizers
- Alternative Therapeutic Fields: Inhaled Antibiotics

- Future Directions in Inhalation and Respiratory Drug Delivery Research
- Novel Technologies for Pulmonary and Nasal Delivery
- The Challenges of Developing Inhalation Devices
- Applying QbD Principles to Inhalation Therapies
- Improving Patient Adherence With Product Design
- Establishing Clear Relationships Between in Vitro and in Vivo Data
- Delivery of Inhaled Drug Products Using PRINT Technology

Featuring Representation From:

- Merck
- 3M
- Harro Höfliger
- University of Florida
- Aptar
- EKG Labs
- InterTek
- Nelson Labs
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Tuesday, May 28, 2019

Complimentary Breakfast

Chairperson’s Welcome and Opening Remarks

Regulatory Considerations

Decoding FDA’s Recent Combination Drug Product Guidance: Applications to DPIs, pMDIs, and Nasal Sprays

Badre Hammond, Director, Aptar

Introduction: April 2018 the FDA released guidance for quality consideration for pMDI and DPI affecting the inhalation approach to ANDA/NDA application. This comes at the back of final FDA Guidance for Combination Products issued in January 2017, which defines a Combination Product as a product composed of two or more different types of medical products (i.e., a combination of a drug, device, and/or biological product with one another). There are three types of combinations products: single entity, co-packaged, or cross-labeled. The drug applicant therefore needs to demonstrate compliance with all CGMP regulations applicable to each of the constituent parts included in the Combination Product.

Description: This presentation will provide guidance on how does the 2018 guidance affect future submissions and summarize an overview on Combination Products FDA guidance focusing on respiratory and nasal drug products, specifically DPIs, pMDIs, and Nasal Sprays. In addition, insights on optimal approaches to help secure approval in this changing and challenging regulatory landscape. Finally, Aptar will review EMA’s strategy as they elevate their requirement in this space.

Specifically, the following topics will be reviewed:

- The Basics – medical device, combination product, and packaging components
- NDA/ANDA submissions: regulatory pathway review for combination products
- Human Factor studies in the context of combination product
- Clarify expectations: Sponsor, device supplier, and regulators

Outcome for Participants: Attendees will gain practical insights to navigate FDA/EMA expectations for device information in NDA and ANDA submissions for combination products, in the context of the current guidance.

Networking Break

USP Chapters Addressing Key Quality Attributes for Inhalation Drug Products

Michael Eakins, Principal, Eakins & Associates


The required physicochemical tests for inhalation and nasal drug products are listed and described in <5> while methods for major performance measures relating to dose delivery to the patient, such as delivered-dose uniformity and particle size measurements are provided in <601>. A draft revision of <601> was published in the Pharmacopeial Forum 44(5) September 2018. A revised version of General Information chapter <1601> became official June 2018 which provides guidance on the drug substance delivery rate, total drug substance delivered and the aerodynamic assessment of nebulized aerosols. A new chapter <1602> became official April 2017 and defines potential standardized methods for characterizing the in vitro performance of a given metered dose inhaler (MDI) drug product with a specific spacer and valve holding chambers. The presentation will provide an overview of key points in these chapters.

Other key quality attributes for inhalation drug products are addressed in chapters devoted to plastic and elastomeric packaging materials that are used to construct inhalation delivery systems and also extractables and leachables from packaging materials. The chapter Elastomeric Closures for Injections <381> is undergoing a major revision and a proposed revision was published in the Pharmacopeial Forum 43(3) May 2017 that added a new General Information chapter <1381> and also moved the functional requirements into a new chapter <382> with an accompanying General Information chapter <1382>. The presentation will review the proposed changes and how these changes will affect elastomeric components used in inhalation delivery systems. Chapter <1664> Assessment of Drug Product Leachables Associated with Pharmaceutical Packaging/Delivery Systems became official in 2015 and included a subpart <1664.1> Orally Inhaled and Nasal Drug Products.

Demystifying the Regulatory Environment for Drug-Device Combination Products

Suraj Ramachandran, Director, Regulatory Affairs — Drug-Device Center of Excellence, Merck

Abstract in Progress

Complimentary Lunch
Delivery Challenges for Lung Infections: Inhaling Drugs and Unveiling Bugs
Hugh Smyth, Professor of Pharmaceutics, University of Texas

Inhaled antimicrobials have a long history of success in the clinic but several formidable challenges to developing these products exist. This presentation will address these challenges and opportunities by reviewing past successes and failures while discussing newer therapies and delivery strategies under development.

Challenges and Potential Solution for a Streamlined Development of Generic Inhalation Drugs
Guenther Hochhaus, Professor of Pharmaceutics, University of Florida

Approval of generic inhalation drugs remains a challenge. At this time, the FDA is suggesting a weight of evidence approach that compares in vitro characteristics of the generic and innovator formulation, pharmacokinetics to primarily assess systemic safety, as well as biomarker / clinical studies to ensure equivalence of efficacy. However, biomarker / clinical studies are challenging and represent a large financial risk due to the generally observed flat dose-response relationship, distinct variability, and the large number of patients required for such clinical trials without providing sufficient high resolution in detecting differences in the pulmonary equivalence. A method to assess local equivalence with high resolution and lower costs is therefore urgently needed. This talk will review and discuss potential alternative approaches for the development of generic inhalation drugs.

In Silico Methods—Computational Modeling and Simulations for Combination Product Development
Anup Paul, Ph.D., P.E., Senior Associate, Stress Engineering Services, Inc.

Computational Modeling and Simulations (CM&S), i.e. in silico methods, can be used throughout the device lifecycle supporting discovery, ideation, product design, reliability assessment, manufacturing process and failure investigation activities. In this presentation, we discuss the evaluation of a Dry Powder Inhaler (DPI) product using CM&S methods. Computational modeling can be applied to assess the capability of the DPI design to maximize the drug dose per inhalation and minimize the dose-to-dose variations. Additional simulations can evaluate the reliability of mechanical systems like dose counters and also manufacturing processes. The design can be evaluated for the range of design and use variables, thus ensuring a robust design even before prototypes are generated for testing.

As the reliance on computational models increases there is a need to ensure that the models represent a credible approximation of reality. In silico data obtained from credible models can be leveraged for regulatory submissions. The recently published American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) V&V 40 standard provides procedures to standardize the verification, validation and uncertainty quantification (VVUQ) necessary to demonstrate the credibility of computational models for medical devices. Data obtained from physical testing is necessary to define adequate inputs to the model and to validate the outputs.

This presentation will use case studies to focus on the following points:

- Application of in silico methods for development of combination products for inhaled therapies.
- Leveraging test methods to obtain data for model input and verification/validation of outputs.
- Overview of the ASME V&V 40 standard for computational modeling of medical devices.
- Leveraging in silico data for regulatory submissions.

Delivery of Inhaled Drug Products Using PRINT Technology
Meredith Earl, Principal Scientist, Liquidia Technologies, Inc.

Authorship: Meredith Earl, Stephanie Anderson, Brian Farrer, Robert Roscigno, Toby Vaughn, Ben Maynor

The PRINT® technology is a particle engineering platform that enables precise control of particle size and shape for a wide range of particle compositions. We believe this control can result in improved drug delivery. Liquidia has leveraged the PRINT technology to design particles for inhaled products. Liquidia’s lead product, LIQ861, is a dry powder formulation of Treprostinil which leverages the benefits of local delivery in the lung for the treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension. LIQ861 is specifically designed to maximize the therapeutic benefits of Treprostinil in a convenient and easy to use dry powder inhaler. A summary of the preclinical toxicology and results from Liquidia’s Phase 1 safety, tolerability, and PK single ascending dose study in healthy volunteer subjects will be presented.

Complimentary Happy Hour Sponsored by
Wednesday, May 29, 2019

7:30  Complimentary Breakfast

8:15  Chairperson’s Remarks

8:30  In-Depth Coverage on Extractables and Leachables

Commentary on the Past Twelve Years of Implementing the PQRI Leachables and Extractables Recommendations for OINDP
Daniel Norwood, Senior Consultant, Smithers

- What was done right.
- What could be improved.
- Why things were done the way they were.
- What are the gaps?

The Product Quality Research Institute (PQRI) recommendation document entitled “SAFETY THRESHOLDS AND BEST PRACTICES FOR EXTRACTABLES AND LEACHABLES IN ORALLY INHALED AND NASAL DRUG PRODUCTS” was submitted to FDA on 8 September 2006. Since that time, these recommendations have been widely implemented in the pharmaceutical industry and endorsed publicly by regulatory authorities around the world. This presentation will give an “insider’s look” at the process of developing the recommendations, as well as discuss their implementation. It will also attempt to present a balanced perspective on what was done right, what could be improved, and where the gaps are in these recommendations. Efforts to fill the gaps and improve the recommendations will also be discussed, along with the pivotal role that USP has played since 2006.

10:00  Extractables & Leachables for Inhalation Products – From Basic Concepts to Study Designs
Piet Christiaens, Scientific Director at Nelson Labs Europe

The level of concern and the need for Extractables and Leachables testing required by health authorities, is associated with both the risk of interaction between the Drug Product and the container/closure system and with the route of administration (USP 1664). To further complicate the picture, regulatory concern regarding extractables and leachables in OINDP’s is directly related to the particular type of OINDP, such as Metered Dose Inhalers (MDI), Dry Powder Inhalers (DPI), Inhalation solutions and Nasal Sprays (as per USP 1664.1). This chapter includes recommended exposure thresholds (SCT, QT) above which individual organic leachables in an OINDP must be qualified and/or evaluated for safety concern. These “safety thresholds” are then linked to the recommended Analytical Evaluation Threshold (AET) which basically answers the question of “How low do you go?”.

A tailor made approach in designing E&L studies for OINDPs, together with best practices and the threshold approach will be explained through case studies.

11:00  Mid-Morning Networking Break

11:20  Hitting the Limit: Challenges and Considerations Behind Successful Extractable and Leachable Method Design
Allen Kesselring, Director of Science & Operations and Founding Member, EKG Life Science Solutions

Beginning with the origins of modern Extractable/Leachable studies, the risk of inhalation products exposing patients to deleterious materials is widely recognized as significant. As both inhalation packaging/container size and dosing quantities can vary significantly, the development of appropriate extractable and leachable methodologies can vary from the near routine, to situations that are near impossible. This presentation will cover several topics including limits of analysis, levels of interest, proper design of experiments, sample preparation concerns and the need for proper controls in the development of useful leachable analysis.

12:20  Analytical Evaluation of Inhalation Based Drug or Delivery Systems and Medical Devices
Gyorgy Vas, Business Technical Scientific Liaison, Intertek

Inhalation based delivery devices are complex systems, and they are delivering active pharmaceutical components or recreational substances (nicotine, cannabis), or as another function, support live functions (anesthetic instruments). As the use of these products, systems and devices are complex, the analytical testing can be extremely challenging. According to the FDA packaging guidance as well as USP <1664> general chapter, the inhalation administration route has the highest risk.

As the wide range of application requires different level and different intensity testing, different regulations, regulatory guidances and standards, could guide the testing (USP <1163> for inhalation drug products, ISO 18562 for inhalation based medical devices).

This presentation will focus on the analytical testing issues for different inhalation products from inhalation based medical devices through the very popular electronic nicotine delivery systems.

1:20  Complimentary Lunch

2:20  Poor Translational Success of Inhalation Products: Different Mechanism of Preclinical Delivery Devices and Clinically Irrelevant Animal Models
Pavan Muttil, Associate Professor, College of Pharmacy, University of New Mexico

Significant progress has been made over the last half-century in delivering therapeutics by the pulmonary route. Inhaled therapeutics are commonly administered to humans using metered dose inhalers, nebulizers, or...
dry powder inhalers, and each device requires a different formulation strategy for the therapeutic to be successfully delivered into the lung. Numerous preclinical studies, involving small and large animals, have evaluated aerosol drugs, vaccines, and immunotherapeutics that are delivered by the pulmonary route. These preclinical studies used different delivery devices including nose-only, whole-body, and intratracheal administration systems, each of which works with different aerosolization mechanisms. Unfortunately, these delivery platforms usually lead to variable drug deposition in the respiratory tract of animals. Further, the animal models used in these studies rarely represent the human lung anatomy and physiology.

What the attendees will learn from this talk:

1. Obstacles and variables that affect successful pulmonary delivery in animal models based on:
   - Type of delivery device,
   - Type of formulation, and
   - The animal model used.

2. Factors that could enhance the reproducible deposition of drugs in the respiratory tract of preclinical animal models.

3. Factors necessary for successful translation of studies performed in preclinical models to humans.

3:20 Powder Dosing and DPI Manufacturing Technologies

*Marco Laackman, Division Leader, Harro Höfliger*

Dry powder inhalers on the market distinguish significantly in terms of powder fill weight, container closure system and manufacturing technologies. Reservoir-based inhalers, typically containing 0.2 to 1.0 g of powder, pre-metered DPs based on hard capsules, blister strips, cartridges or disks, containing 1 to 25 mg of powder per dose unit and cannot be filled by using the same equipment. Several methods are available for industrial filling and manufacturing of DPs, and in the course of product development it is important to know, which dosing system will be most appropriate to fill the given device and formulation. The originators developed diverse dry powder inhalation technologies. This complexity will be discussed in respect to up-scaling requirements from lab testing to commercial scale manufacturing.

4:20 The HFA Challenge: The canister role as an integral part of the pMDI drug delivery system

*Dr. Anselm Ebert (Ph.D. in Neuroscience) is now Director of the Business Development Department at H&T Presspart*

The canister historically was a safe containment system for CFC + API, and the only difference from can to can was size: Taller, thinner, shorter, fatter, however 65 years on with the introduction of HFA and complex formulations, combinations the canister plays a significant role in the efficacious delivery of the drug to the patient. The relationship between propellant, drug and canister has significantly changed. Different technologies can be used to accommodate this relationship. A new plasma surface treatment for MDI canisters, presents its advantages compared to existing technologies.
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