

the speakers for the scheduled open public hearing session. The contact person will notify interested persons regarding their request to speak by October 29, 2007.

Persons attending FDA's advisory committee meetings are advised that the agency is not responsible for providing access to electrical outlets.

FDA welcomes the attendance of the public at its advisory committee meetings and will make every effort to accommodate persons with physical disabilities or special needs. If you require special accommodations due to a disability, please contact Dr. Carlos Peña at least 7 days in advance of the meeting.

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Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app. 2).

Dated: October 8, 2007.

**Randall W. Lutter,**

*Deputy Commissioner for Policy.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 2007D-0367]

#### **Draft Guidance for Industry on Antibacterial Drug Products: Use of Noninferiority Studies to Support Approval; Availability**

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing the availability of a draft guidance for industry entitled "Antibacterial Drug Products: Use of Noninferiority Studies to Support Approval." The purpose of this guidance is to inform industry of FDA's current thinking regarding appropriate clinical study designs to evaluate antibacterial drugs, and to ask sponsors to amend ongoing or completed studies accordingly. This guidance is in response to a number of public discussions in recent years regarding the use of active-controlled studies designed to show noninferiority as a basis for approval of antibacterial drug products.

**DATES:** Although you can comment on any guidance at any time (see 21 CFR 10.115 (g)(5)), to ensure that the agency considers your comment on this draft guidance before it begins work on the final version of the guidance, submit written or electronic comments on the draft guidance by December 14, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written requests for single copies of the draft guidance to the Division of Drug Information (HFD-240), Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857. Send one self-addressed adhesive label to assist that office in processing your requests. Submit written comments on the draft guidance to the Division of Dockets Management (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. Submit electronic comments to <http://www.fda.gov/dockets/ecomments> or <http://www.regulations.gov>. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for electronic access to the draft guidance document.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Edward Cox, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 22, Rm. 6412, Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002, 301-796-1300.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Background**

FDA is announcing the availability of a draft guidance for industry entitled "Antibacterial Drug Products: Use of Noninferiority Studies to Support Approval." Most antibacterial drugs have been approved based on active-controlled noninferiority trials. There have been a number of public discussions in recent years on the use of noninferiority studies to support regulatory approval of antibacterial drug products. Some of these discussions have focused on specific diseases such as acute bacterial sinusitis, acute bacterial otitis media, and acute bacterial exacerbation of chronic bronchitis. These public discussions have contributed to FDA's evolving understanding of the science of clinical trials and, in particular, the appropriate role of active-controlled studies designed to show noninferiority in the development of antibacterial drug products.

This draft guidance recommends that sponsors provide justification for the treatment effect size and the proposed noninferiority margin for all antibacterial development programs for which approval will rely on noninferiority studies.

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 agency's current thinking on the use of noninferiority studies to support approval of antibacterial drug products. It does not create or confer any rights for or on any person and does not operate to bind FDA or the public. An alternative approach may be used if such approach satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations.

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

This guidance refers to previously approved collections of information that are subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520). The collections of information in 21 CFR parts 312 and 314 have been approved under OMB control numbers 0910-0014 and 0910-0001, respectively, and the collection of information under the guidance for industry Special Protocol Assessment has been approved under OMB control number 0910-0470.

## **III. Comments**

Interested persons may submit to the Division of Dockets Management (see **ADDRESSES**) written or electronic comments regarding this document. Submit a single copy of electronic comments or two paper copies of any mailed comments, except that individuals may submit one paper copy. Comments are to be identified 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.

## **IV. Electronic Access**

Persons with access to the Internet may obtain the document at either <http://www.fda.gov/cder/guidance/index.htm> or <http://www.fda.gov/ohrms/dockets/default.htm>.

Dated: October 9, 2007.

**Jeffrey Shuren,**

*Assistant Commissioner for Policy.*

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