

# Summary and Discussion Points for Pharmacokinetic (Category2) & Clinical Abuse Potential Studies (Category3)

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# FDA Guidance: Conceptual Framework for Evaluation

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FDA considers the development of these products a **high public health** priority.

...the extent to which an abuse-deterrent product is able to reduce abuse will **never be absolute**.

...FDA will take a **flexible, adaptive** approach to the evaluation and labeling of potentially abuse-deterrent products

# Pharmacokinetics: Category 2

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- Silvia's Questions:



- What is the impact of the rate of rise, which may contribute to differential abuse potential among drugs, formulations, and routes of administration?
- Is it possible to predict clinical abuse potential study results based on different pharmacokinetic profiles between formulations?

## Panel Recommendations

Pharmacokinetic parameters such as  $C_{max}$ ,  $T_{max}$  and AUC will nearly always need to be evaluated in the context of pharmacodynamic outcomes

- Particularly for intranasal studies
- Possible exception of oral study where PK of tampered is identical to PK of intact (for simple physical barrier formulation)

Pharmacokinetic data alone can answer questions about BE/BA, food effects , alcohol interactions

# Subject Selection and Qualification

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- Do the following influence subject selection?



- Dose or doses of the test drug
- Range of doses of the test drug
- Setting or establishment of an appropriate placebo response

Use of same (or intermediate dose) in Qualification appears to have advantages over use of a lower dose

- Lower dose may result in plateau effects, increased dropouts and select for a less relevant population
- Subject eligibility criteria should attempt to strike balance between Type I and Type II errors (e.g., 2 doses vs. 1 dose in qualification)

# Blinding and Manipulation

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- How can we improve blinding?
  - Is it acceptable to encapsulate crushed product that can not be taken into a solution?
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- Lack of public data on appropriate manipulation techniques
  - Blinding should be undertaken, but not to extent that it obliterates the features of the formulation you are trying to assess in the study
  - (Encapsulation may be acceptable but should generally be last resort:
    - use of alternative vehicles (tomato juice? Apple sauce?) or placebo solution manipulations (flour in placebo solution?) preferable)

# Measures and Interpretation

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- Measures
  - Does it make a difference if measures are taken in a unipolar or a bipolar scale(s)?

- Primary measures of Drug Liking should be bipolar for most cases
  - Unipolar measures such as Good and Bad Effects important for interpretation
- Over reliance on Emax may increase risk of false negative
- Consider whole profile of effects and **in particular** end-of-day/next-day measures of Overall Liking and Take Drug Again
- Derived endpoints evaluating time course profile important for interpretation
- Value of open-ended feedback or development standardized follow-up questions?

# Interpretation and CID

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- Interpretation of results
  - What constitutes a clinically significant difference in drug liking between the test drug and positive controls?

Insufficient data currently available to support pre-specifying  $\delta_1$  super superiority margin

- $\delta_1$  must be based on scientific/regulatory consensus
- Sufficient data to pre-specify  $\delta_2$  (PBO-Control) but probably not needed
- Interpretation of clinical relevance should consider whole profile of effects → Convergence of data
- Make use of anchors on bipolar scales – Strong liking/disliking vs. Neutral
- Make better use of other arms within the study (e.g., PBO vs. Test; intact arm in oral study, oral arm in IN study) or add additional comparisons → preferable to adding multiple doses
- (Start to consider how we may develop non-inferiority/equivalence margins in comparison to existing ADFs?)

# Statistics

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- Statistical analysis
  - What is the best approach?

Recommendations for statistical analysis relatively clear

- Data may require non-parametric methods not mentioned in guidance

Use of responder analysis to arbitrarily convert continuous Drug Liking variable into categorical variable

- Potential loss of power
- Interpretability, i.e., assumptions of clinically relevant margins X 2 (% of subjects and % decrease in Liking)

Data presentations must consider the end-users of the labels (prescribers)

- Data presentation should be familiar and easy to understand



