



4164-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA 2016-D-1254]

Assessing Adhesion With Transdermal and Topical Delivery Systems for Abbreviated New Drug Applications; Revised Draft Guidance for Industry; Availability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SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or Agency) is announcing the availability of a revised draft guidance for industry entitled "Assessing Adhesion With Transdermal and Topical Delivery Systems for ANDAs." This revised draft guidance supersedes the draft guidance entitled "Assessing Adhesion with Transdermal Delivery Systems and Topical Patches for ANDAs," which was announced in the *Federal Register* on June 1, 2016. This revised draft guidance provides recommendations for the design and conduct of studies evaluating the adhesive performance of a transdermal or a topical delivery system (collectively referred to as TDS). Depending on the objectives of a TDS product development program, applicants may choose to evaluate TDS adhesion in clinical studies performed to evaluate TDS adhesion only or in clinical studies performed with a combined purpose (e.g., for the simultaneous evaluation of adhesion and bioequivalence (BE) with pharmacokinetic (PK) endpoints). The recommendations in this revised draft guidance relate exclusively to studies submitted in support of an abbreviated new drug application (ANDA).

DATES: Submit either electronic or written comments on the revised draft guidance by

[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*]

to ensure that the Agency considers your comment on this revised draft guidance before it begins work on the final version of the guidance.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 2016-D-1254 for "Assessing Adhesion With Transdermal and Topical Delivery Systems for 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.

- 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 docket, see 80 FR 56469, September 18, 2015,

or access the information at: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/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.

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

Submit written requests for single copies of this 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 guidance document. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kris Andre, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 75, Rm. 4728, Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002, 240-402-7959.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### I. Background

FDA is announcing the availability of a revised draft guidance for industry entitled "Assessing Adhesion With Transdermal and Topical Delivery Systems for ANDAs." This revised draft guidance supersedes the draft guidance entitled "Assessing Adhesion with Transdermal Delivery Systems and Topical Patches for ANDAs," which was announced in the

*Federal Register* on June 1, 2016 (81 FR 35025). FDA received six comments on the draft guidance, which were considered before publication of this revised draft guidance.

This revised draft guidance provides recommendations for the design and conduct of studies evaluating the adhesive performance of a TDS submitted in support of an ANDA. Depending on the objectives of a TDS product development program, applicants may choose to evaluate TDS adhesion in studies performed to evaluate TDS adhesion only or in studies performed with a combined purpose (e.g., for the simultaneous evaluation of adhesion and BE with PK endpoints). FDA recommends that applicants consult this revised draft guidance in conjunction with any relevant product-specific guidances for industry, when considering the design and conduct of studies that may be appropriate to support the BE of a proposed generic TDS product to its reference listed drug and/or reference standard product.

During the product's labeled wear period, a TDS is reasonably expected to encounter torsional strains arising from body movements, changes in environmental temperature or humidity such as the daily exposure to water (e.g., during routine showering), and contact with clothing, bedding, or other surfaces. TDS products that do not maintain consistent and uniform adhesion with the skin during the labeled wear period can experience varying degrees of TDS detachment, including complete detachment, at different times during the product wear.

When the adhesion characteristics of a TDS are not sufficiently robust, as evaluated against its labeled conditions of use, the TDS may exhibit variability in the surface area that is in contact with the skin. For example, when a TDS is partially detached, there may be uncertainty about the resulting drug delivery profile and, hence, uncertainty about the rate and extent of drug absorption from the TDS. When the potential for complete detachment of the TDS increases, the

risk of unintentional exposure of the drug product to an unintended recipient (e.g., a household member who may be a child) also increases.

This revised draft guidance is being issued consistent with FDA's good guidance practices regulation (21 CFR 10.115). The revised draft guidance, when finalized, will represent the current thinking of FDA on "Assessing Adhesion With Transdermal and Topical Delivery Systems for 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. This guidance is not subject to Executive Order 12866.

## II. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

This revised draft guidance refers to previously approved collections of information found in FDA regulations. These collections of information 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 314 have been approved under OMB control number 0910-0001.

## III. Electronic Access

Persons with access to the internet may obtain the guidance at either <https://www.fda.gov/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/default.htm> or <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Dated: October 3, 2018.

Leslie Kux,

Associate Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2018-21959 Filed: 10/9/2018 8:45 am; Publication Date: 10/10/2018]