

# Office of Generic Drugs

## Generic Drug Global Program

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<https://www.fda.gov/drugs/generic-drugs/global-generic-drug-affairs>

Generic Drugs Forum 2021: Lifecycle of a Generic Drug on Apr. 28-29, 2021

# Learning Objectives



Overview of OGD's global affairs program



Generic Drug Global Engagement and Harmonization efforts



Provide an update on new developments in ICH since the publication of the ICH Reflection Paper

# THE VALUE PROPOSITION OF GENERIC DRUGS

Generic drugs increase access

Generic drugs are more affordable

Generic drugs are equivalent to the brand-name

Generic drugs are held to the same rigorous FDA standards as brand-name drugs



# GENERIC DRUGS AND PATIENT EXPECTATIONS

*"Thank you so very, very much  
for this — you have no idea  
how this generic brand will  
change the lives of untold  
numbers of people who were  
struggling to pay for their  
asthma medicine..."*

*I paid \$398.96 for my inhaler  
back in January, and today,  
when the cashier at the  
pharmacy told me that my  
total was only \$188.65, I almost  
broke down in tears! ...*

*Again, thank you from the  
bottom of my heart!"*

*— anonymous patient*

**20%**

Generic share of  
overall drug spending  
in the U.S.

**92%**

Generic prescriptions  
filled at \$20 or less

**\$6.97**

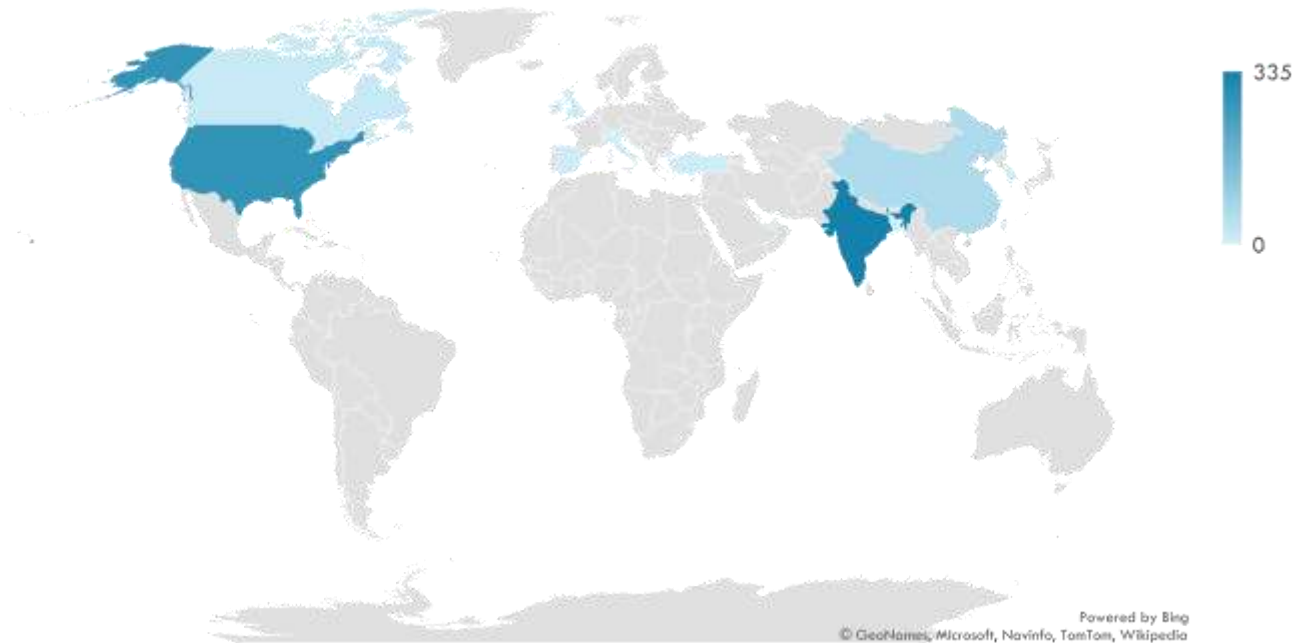
Generic drug (average co-pay)

**\$56.32**

Brand name drug (average co-pay)

# ANDA 2020 SUBMISSIONS BY COUNTRY

ANDA 2020 Submissions



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# INTERNATIONAL HARMONIZATION AND OGD

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FDA



## Global Generic Drug Affairs



The Office of Generic Drugs (OGD) ensures, through a review and regulatory process, that Americans have safe, effective, and high-quality generic drugs. The way OGD supports generic drug regulatory is through international engagements. The role of the Global Generic Drug Affairs Team is to lead, coordinate, and manage OGD's international activities in conjunction with FDA Centers and Offices to advance the mission of OGD and FDA.



# ICH AND OGD



- Global harmonization for generic drugs dates back to 2001 WHO report
- FDA strategically leveraged ICH reform initiated at the end of 2015 to propose Generic Drug initiatives
- Established a unique global affair program at OGD at the end of 2015
- Advocating for the expansion of the ICH portfolio to include generic drug standards
- Proposed a generic drug topic to ICH for guidance development to understand the opportunities and challenges of harmonization

# KEY PROPOSALS IN THE ICH REFLECTION PAPER



Develop a series of ICH guidelines on standards for demonstrating equivalence [e.g., bioequivalence (BE)] for

- (1) non-complex dosage forms
- (2) more complex dosage forms and products

Additional Strength Waiver for IR

Statistical Analysis for BE

BE Analysis for HVD

BE Analysis for NTI

BE for MR oral dosage forms

BE for Complex Products

- Inhalation
- Topical Dermatological
- Long-acting Injectable
- Other (e.g., Ophthalmic, Otic, Vaginal)

Model-based BE

M13 Guideline  
(Series), Annex, or  
Addendum

Potential New Guideline

New Guideline

New Guideline



This is the first topic specifically focused on the generic medicines industry.

The harmonized study designs in the M13 guidance are recommended for establishing bioequivalence for immediate release solid oral dosage forms.

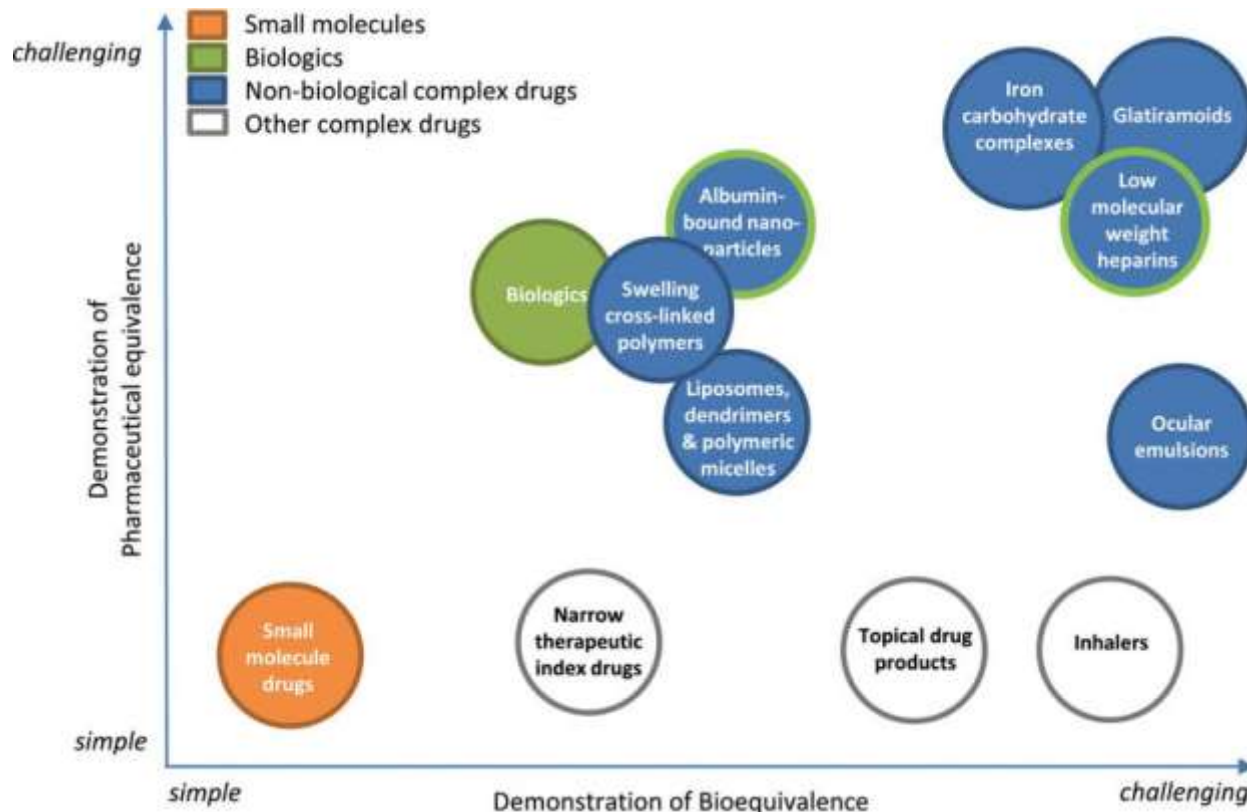
Scientific harmonization of BE study designs would “allow the streamlining of some important aspects of the conduct of these trials and optimize product development.”

### **“Global Industry Hails Bioequivalence Progress”**

[https://admin.ich.org/sites/default/files/2019-04/ICH\\_ReflectionPaper\\_GenericDrugs\\_Final\\_2019\\_0130.pdf](https://admin.ich.org/sites/default/files/2019-04/ICH_ReflectionPaper_GenericDrugs_Final_2019_0130.pdf)

GLOBAL  
DEVELOPMENT OF  
IMMEDIATE-RELEASE  
ORAL SOLID  
GENERICS COULD BE  
AIDED BY  
BIOEQUIVALENCE  
GUIDANCE BEING  
DEVELOPED BY THE  
ICH

# EQUIVALENCE OF COMPLEX DRUG PRODUCTS: ADVANCES IN AND CHALLENGES FOR CURRENT REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS



The reference to complex drug products in this slide is not necessarily synonymous with the definition of a complex product under GDUFA II

# FDA EFFORTS TO SUPPORT COMPLEX GENERIC DRUG DEVELOPMENT

- FDA is dedicated to promote complex generic drug development
  - Fund research studies
  - Translate these research results into product-specific guidance
  - Provide pre-ANDA meeting opportunities
  - Improve quality of ANDA submissions
  - Reduce the number of review cycles required for ANDA approval
  - Complex generics and value added medicines share common challenges on harmonization of regulation, lack of incentives and clarity of guidelines

# REGULATORY ALIGNMENT AND CHALLENGES

Socioeconomic, cultural and political  
differences –Infrastructure and resources

Risk tolerance, regulatory policies and  
decision-making processes differences

Nomenclature, terminology and labeling

Critical attributes for assessment of  
therapeutic equivalence

Pharmacovigilance and safety reports

FDA

# SUMMARY

Generic drugs comprise a significant portion of the pharmaceutical market, and common standards for global development for generics can improve access to generic medicines

ICH is uniquely positioned to develop harmonized recommendations as the global venue for harmonization of standards for pharmaceutical products

ICH reflection paper on “Further Opportunities for Harmonization of Standards for Generic Drugs” lays out the strategy for global harmonization for generic drugs

ICH M13 will be developed to harmonize BE standards for Immediate-Release oral dosage form drugs

Discussion of harmonization will lead to global standards for generic product equivalence

# Poll Question #1



**Before today I....**

- A. Knew OGD had a Generic Drug Global Program
- B. Knew nothing about OGD's Generic Drug Global Program

# Challenge Question #1



**Which of the following statements is NOT true?**

- A. ICH is focused only on new drugs
- B. ICH impacts both new and generic drugs
- C. ICH aimed to provide uniformed standards for pharmaceuticals for human use.
- D. ICH guidelines are developed by regulatory and Pharma authorities

# Challenge Question #2



## ICH M13 .....

- A. Is focused on the bioequivalence for immediate-release solid oral dosage forms
- B. Will result in product developers NOT having to generate multiple sets of data and information to support marketing authorization in more than one jurisdiction
- C. Is the first guideline to be fully dedicated to Generic Drug Development
- D. All statements are correct.



# Closing Thoughts

The communal  
appeal for faster  
generic drug  
approvals

Unprecedented  
globalization of  
pharmaceutical  
industry

Globalization of  
generic drug  
development  
encourages a more  
harmonized generic  
drug development  
process

Convergence of the  
technical  
requirements  
among different  
regulatory agencies



