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Regulatory Challenges of Brain Delivered Therapies: A Combination Product Perspective

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Abstract

Delivery of therapeutic agents directly to the central nervous system can be critical to address a number of diseases. Intraventricular administration of drugs has been used for over 50 years. Despite a substantial number of drugs routinely administered to the central nervous system in the course of medical practice, very few medical devices are appropriately cleared in the US for this route of administration. This review explores the regulatory challenges, the supplementary testing and more stringent acceptance criteria required for combination products and medical devices intended for CNS therapies. A case study of the recent Brineura® combination product approval is also presented.

Keywords: Intracerebroventricular; Intraventricular; FDA; Combination product; Drug administration; Central nervous system; Regulatory; Brineura

Abbreviations: CFR: Code of Federal Regulations; CNS: Central Nervous System; CSF: Cerebrospinal Fluid; Intrathecal: Administration within the Cerebrospinal Fluid at any Level of the Cerebrospinal Axis, Including Injection into the Cerebral Ventricles; Intraventricular: Administration within a Ventricle; ICV: Intracerebroventricular; FDA: U.S. Food and Drug Administration; FD&C Act: Food, Drug, and Cosmetics Act.

Introduction

Delivery of therapeutic agents directly to the Central Nervous System (CNS) can be critical to address a haemorrhage, CNS lymphoma, glioblastoma and refractory pain. The two principal routes of administration to the Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF) are via intrathecal lumbar puncture, or directly in a lateral ventricle of the brain.

Intraventricular, or intracerebroventricular (ICV) administration of drugs has been used for over 50 years, and delivery of therapeutic agents to the brain can be accomplished by a variety of means [1]. The most direct access requires subcutaneous implantation of an ICV access device or ventriculostomy port, such as an Ommaya reservoir [2]. Excellent comprehensive reviews on this subject have already been written [1,3]. Despite a long history of successful outcomes, there is only one drug specifically approved for this route of administration (per the FDA Drug Labeling Database [4]). A few therapeutic agents are approved for intrathecal administration, and depending on the drug, this may or may not include "intraventricular" administration based on the approved labeling found in Table 1. For example, in the case of DepoCyt[®] (cytarabine), which has an official FDA-approved route of administration of "intrathecal", the Dosage and Administration section of the labeling text instructs the user to administer the drug by "intraventricular or lumbar puncture". Conversely, other drugs approved for intrathecal delivery are not explicitly approved for intraventricular delivery, although many are used off-label via this route of administration.

Despite the lack of approved drugs specifically intended for intraventricular delivery, many therapies are administered to the brain in the course of routine medical practice. Drugs commonly delivered intraventricularly include: chemotherapy agents (methotrexate, mafosfamide, cytarabine, etoposide), radioisotopes, contrast agents, antimicrobials, and pain modulating agents (morphine, lidocaine, baclofen, bupivacaine, ziconotide) [1,3,5-22]. While there is an increasing number of drugs being administered off-label via the intraventricular route, pharmaceutical companies wishing to develop drugs for intraventricular delivery face greater challenges than drugs developed for other, more common routes of administration.

Challenges with the Development of Drugs for Intraventricular Delivery

Administration of drugs via the intraventricular route poses numerous challenges. Firstly, surgical implantation of an ICV access device (also known as Ommaya-type reservoir and catheter, or ventriculostomy port) is required for administration. Complications associated with the procedure are described in other comprehensive reviews [3,23]. Secondly, very few disposable medical devices are appropriately cleared in the US for intraventricular administration of drugs. The vast majority of medical devices used for therapeutic drug delivery are cleared for the intravascular route only, although these devices are commonly used off-label for intrathecal and intraventricular administration. Additionally, the regulatory framework surrounding devices intended for intraventricular administration is lacking (see "regulatory considerations" below) and there are few incentives for medical device developers to enter the market (smaller market, greater risks, etc.). Consequently, drug developers find themselves responsible for finding or developing devices appropriate for intraventricular delivery of their drugs. Finally, differences exist between the testing requirements to obtain approval or clearance for drugs and medical devices intended for intraventricular versus intravascular uses. Supplementary testing, including biocompatibility and endotoxin, and more stringent acceptance criteria have been established for drugs and devices intended for delivery to the CNS. The regulatory considerations and testing requirements for devices intended for intraventricular drug administration are discussed in the following sections.

Regulatory considerations

The FDA has established a classification system for medical devices, shortly after the 1976 Medical Device Amendments to Section 201(h) of

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Product Brand Name	Product Generic Name	Originator	Initial Approval Date	Routes of Administration	Reference / /BLA /NDA #		
Brineura	Cerliponase alfa	BioMarin Pharmaceutical Inc.	04/27/2017	Intraventricular	761052		
Spinraza	Nusinersen	Biogen	12/23/2016	Intrathecal	209531		
Prialt	Ziconotide	Jazz Pharmaceuticals Inc	12/28/2014	Intrathecal	021060		
Gablofen	Baclofen	Mallinckrodt Inc, Brand Pharmaceuticals	11/19/2010	Intrathecal	022462		
Depocyt	Cytarabine	Sigma Tau Pharmaceuticals Inc	04/01/1999	Intrathecal	021041		
Lioresal	Baclofen	Saol Therapeutics Inc.	06/17/1992	Intrathecal	020075		
Isovue-M	lopamidol	Bracco Diagnostics Inc	12/31/1985	Intrathecal	018735		
Omnipaque	lohexol	Ge Healthcare Inc	12/26/1985	Intrathecal; Intravascular; Intravenous; Oral	018956		
Infumorph 200; Infumorph 500	Morphine Sulfate	West Ward Pharmaceuticals Corp	09/18/1984	Epidural; Intrathecal	018565		
Indium DTPA In 111	Pentetate indium Disodium In 111	GE Healthcare Inc	02/18/1982	Intrathecal	017707		
Elliotts B	Sodium Cation, Sodium Bicarbonate, Anhydrous Dextrose, Magnesium Sulfate, Potassium Chloride, Calcium Chloride, Sodium Phosphate	Lukare Medical Llc	09/27/1966	Intrathecal	020577		
Methotrexate	Methotrexate	Hospira Worldwide Inc	08/10/1959	Intra-arterial; Intramuscular; Intrathecal; Intravenous	011719		

Generic versions of the RLD are not included in this table for simplicity.

Data retrieved from FDA Label Database, 6 Apr 2017 [4]. List of drugs approved prior to 1980 may be incomplete.

Table 1. List of Reference Listed Drugs Approved for Intrathecal and Intraventricular Delivery

the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) [24]. Every device is first assigned one of three regulatory classes is based on the level of control necessary to assure the safety and effectiveness of the device: Class I (general controls), Class II (general and special controls), and Class III (general controls and premarket approval). Devices are further classified by medical specialty panels contained in 21 CFR 862-892, according to the description and intended use of the device. Each classified device has a 7-digit number associated with the medical specialty (e.g. 21 CFR 880.5440 - Intravascular administration set) and a three letter product code which is used on the Medical Device Listing form [25-27] (e.g. FPA - Intravascular administration set). And while most medical devices can be appropriately classified according to the pre-existing product classes, some new and innovative products are more challenging to fit into this regulatory framework. New de novo classification is required for devices that have not been previously classified under the FD&C Act. The challenge with de novo applications is that they are automatically assigned a Class III designation, meaning the highest level of controls and regulatory requirements. Intraventricular drug administration is one of those areas where few appropriate classifications exist, and a new regulatory framework is needed.

For example, when searching for medical devices used to deliver pharmaceutical products to the brain, one would naturally gravitate to the Neurology medical specialty panel (21 CFR Part 882: Neurological Devices). Interestingly, there are no established classes for devices intended for drug administration in the Neurology panel [28]. In fact, to the authors' knowledge, there is only a single product code, "PWH", which was recently introduced by FDA for infusion components that contain NRFit[™] connectors. These connectors are specifically intended for neuraxial routes of administration and fall under the General Hospital specialty panel (21 CFR Part 880). Most administration sets fall under 21 CFR 880.5440 (Intravascular Administration Set) [29,30]. This means that administration of drugs with devices classified as above would constitute an off label use, if used in any route other than intravascular. Similarly, epidural administration sets are also not intended for intrathecal or intraventricular administration. Interestingly, multi-purpose syringes, needles and port needles are cleared under the General Hospital specialty panel (21 CFR Part 880). This means that these devices have a broad 510(k) clearance with no restrictions to routes of administration. From a regulatory perspective, these devices are appropriately cleared or approved for intraventricular administration of medications. However, from a testing perspective, syringes and needles may not meet present day criteria for devices intended for intraventricular administration. Details of additional testing required for neuraxial devices are discussed further below.

Implanted ICV access devices, or ventriculostomy ports, are classified under the Neurological Devices specialty panel (882.5550: Central nervous system fluid shunt and components, Product Code: JXG) [31]. Despite being commercially available for over 40 years, only a handful of ports are actually cleared by the FDA for administration of medications [31]. Table 2 below illustrates the clearances of a few ICV devices: while the Codman and Integra Life Sciences devices have broad clearance for administration of any therapeutic drug, the Medtronic ICV access devices are only cleared for injection of chemotherapy agents or radioisotopes. Other types and brands of ventricular reservoirs and catheters exist; however, they are not appropriately cleared for drug administration.

The regulatory requirements for expanding the clearance or intended use of a currently marketed medical device are very extensive. Device manufacturers wishing to modify the indication for use would have to submit new premarket notification (510(k)) or premarket approval (PMA). And for many devices that were cleared or approved a long time ago, this would require complying with today's testing standards, which are more stringent than they were decades ago. Additional testing, tighter limits and the requirement to submit a new 510(k) or PMA are significant obstacles to regulatory approvals, especially considering that the market size for devices used in intraventricular administration may be extremely small. Hence, there are very few medical devices appropriately cleared for intraventricular drug administration.

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Device	Company	510K	Indication for Use
Ventriculostomy reservoir and catheter (Holter Selker, Holter Rickham or Holter Salmon-Rickham type)	Codman (formerly J&J, now Integra LifeSciences)	K102961	The Ventriculostomy Reservoir Set is indicated for use to gain access to the cerebral ventricles or other intracranial cavities for the purpose of diagnostic studies or therapeutic drug administration with or without a shunting device. When used with the shunting device, the ventriculostomy reservoir is also indicated for use as the proximal fluid pathway*
Integra CSF reservoir with integral connectors	Integra LifeSciences	K153041	The Integra CSF Reservoir provides access to the lateral cerebral ventricles via hypodermic puncture for sampling and/or injection of fluids. It is useful in obtaining CSF samples for cytological and chemical studies, for monitoring ventricular fluid pressure and for ventricular drainage. The Convertible Integra CSF Reservoir may be utilized in hydrocephalic patients as a component in systems designed to shunt CSF from the lateral ventricles into either the right atrium of the heart or the peritoneum*
CSF Ventriculostomy Reservoirs	Medtronic	K874498 (1988)	CSF-Ventriculostomy reservoirs, when attached to ventricular catheters, provide access to the lateral cerebral ventricles, to cystic tumors, and to debulked tumor cavities via hypodermic puncture for the injection of chemotherapeutic agents and/or radioisotopes* For direct access to cerebral ventricles with the ability to be adapted to either a simple ventriculostomy or a valved shunt system, injections, aspirations and intraventricular pressure determinations**

* Indication for use statement obtained from 510(k) summaries found on FDA 510(k) database (https://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/DeviceRegulationandGuidance/Databases/default.htm).

Indication for use statement obtained from Instructions for Use manual for the Medtronic CSF-Ventriculostomy reservoir Part Number: 44111

Indication for use statement obtained from FOIA request submitted to CDRH.

Table 2: Intraventricular Access Devices Cleared for Administration of Fluids or Medications.

Additional testing required for medical devices intended for intraventricular administration

Differences exist between the testing required to obtain approval or clearance for medical devices intended for intraventricular compared to intravascular uses. Additional testing, including biocompatibility and endotoxin, and more stringent acceptance criteria have been established for devices that are intended for direct or indirect contact with the CSF.

Endotoxin limits: The Bacterial Endotoxin test (BET) is an assay to detect or quantify endotoxins from Gram-negative bacteria, generally conducted using amoebocyte lysate from the horseshoe crab (also known as the Limulus Amoebocyte Lysate (LAL) test). Endotoxin limits for drugs and medical devices that come into contact with the human body (direct or indirect) are typically established according to USP or AAMI standards [32-34]. Specifically, the endotoxin limit for parenteral drugs, defined on the basis of dose is calculated according to the formula below:

Endotoxin limit = K/M

K = threshold pyrogenic dose of endotoxin per kg of body weight;

M= maximum recommended bolus dose of product per kg of body weight.

The threshold (K) is 0.2 Endotoxin Units (EU)/kg for intrathecally administered drugs and 5 EU/kg body weight for all other routes of administration. Although endotoxin limits for drugs administered to the brain or ICV space are not specifically highlighted in USP <85>, presumably the same limit as intrathecally administered drugs applies to ICV drugs since they are delivered to the same contiguous biological fluid (Cerebral spinal fluid (CSF)). If a drug is infused continuously, M is total dose administered in a single hour period [32].

For medical devices, the endotoxin limit for the finished device is Not More Than (NMT) 20 EU per device or 0.5 EU/mL for intravascular use, and NMT 2.15 EU or 0.06 EU/mL for devices in contact with cerebral spinal fluid (refer to USP <161>). As previously discussed, there are very few medical devices cleared for ICV delivery of drugs. Those devices that have general clearance, such as syringes or needles, are unlikely to be tested to the tighter endotoxin limits (2.15 EU/device) for CSF contact. Rather, they are most likely designed to meet limits for intravascular administration. Additional challenges arise when multiple devices (e.g. an administration kit) are required (refer to USP <161>). In the situation where a set of devices are assembled and used together, the combined devices must meet the endotoxin limits, as listed above. For example, a set of 5 components assembled together to deliver drug to the CSF would need to meet the 2.15 EU or 0.06 EU/mL limit for the system, suggesting that each individual device should ideally be less than 2.15/5 = 0.43 EU/device. The tighter limits are not necessarily achievable for certain medical devices or perhaps may fall below the limit of quantitation. Further, device manufacturers have very few incentives for testing already cleared or approved products to more stringent limits. The responsibility of additional testing lies with the drug manufacturer intending to develop an intraventricular-delivered drug.

Biocompatibility: Medical devices that come into direct or indirect contact with the human body should be tested for biological compatibility with the body in order to determine the risk for potential adverse reactions. The degree of biocompatibility testing that is recommended in ISO-10993 and FDA's Guidance on ISO-10993-1, depends on the intended use of the device, including the intended anatomical location, as well as frequency and duration of exposure [35,36]. For example, an infusion line for repeated intravascular administration of drugs may have no intended direct contact with blood. Such a device would be categorized as an external communicating device, indirect blood path and prolonged duration (>24 h to 30 d) as shown in Table 3. In this particular example, biological compatibility would be evaluated for the following endpoints: cytotoxicity, sensitization, irritation, acute systemic toxicity and hemocompatibility. This evaluation could be done by conducting biocompatibility testing and/or an assessment of existing knowledge and available literature.

In contrast, the same infusion line intended for administration to brain tissue would require additional testing including: subcutaneous/ subchronic toxicity, genotoxicity and implantation, as shown in Table 3.

Since there are no infusion lines actually cleared in the US with intended use for administration of drugs to the brain, the onus of bridging these gaps in biocompatibility testing rests with the manufacturer seeking to develop a drug intended for brain delivery. Similar conclusions can be drawn for administration sets, syringes, needles, filters or other devices cleared only for intravascular use or not evaluated for all biocompatibility endpoints.

Some of these gaps in biocompatibility evaluations may be bridged

			Biological effect												
Nature of B Category	ody Contact Contact	Contact Duration A – limited (≤ 24 h) B – prolonged (>24 h to 30 d) C - permanent (> 30 d)	Cytotoxicity	Sensitization	Irritation or Intracutaneous Reactivity	Acute Systemic Toxicity	Material -Mediate Pyrogenecity	Subcutaneous/Subchronic Toxicity	Genotoxicity	Implantation	Hemocompatibility	Chronic Toxicity	Carcinogenicity	Reproductive/Developmental Toxicity#	Degradation@
Surface device	Intact skin	A	X X	X X	X X										
		C	X	X	X										
	Mucosal membrane	Α	х	x	x										
		В	Х	X	x	0	0	0		0					
		С	Х	X	X	0	0	Х	х	0		0			
	Breached or compromised surface	Α	Х	X	X	0	0								
		В	Х	X	x	0	0	0		0					
		C	Х	X	x	0	0	X	Х	0		0	0		
	Blood path, indirect**	Α	Х	X	X	X	0				Х				
		В	Х	х	х	Х	0	0			Х				
		C	Х	X	0	X	0	X	Х	0	X	0	0		
External	Tissue+/bone/ dentin##	Α	X	X	0	0	0								
communicating		В	Х	X	X	X	0	X	Х	Х					
device		С	X	X	X	X	0	X	Х	X		0	0		
	Circulating blood	Α	Х	X	X	X	0		0^		X				
		В	Х	X	X	X	0	Х	Х	X	X				
		C	X	X	X	X	0	X	X	X	X	0	0		
Implant device	Tissue+/bone	Α	Х	X	0	0	0								
		В	Х	X	X	X	0	Х	Х	X					
		С	X	X	X	X	0	X	X	X		0	0		
		Α	X	X	X	X	0		0	X	X				
	Blood	В	X	X	X	X	0	X	Х	X	X				
		С	X	X	X	X	0	Х	х	X	X	0	0		

X = ISO 10993-1:2009 recommended endpoints for consideration*

O = Additional FDA recommended endpoints for consideration*

Note * All X's and O's should be addressed in the biological safety evaluation, either through the use of existing data, additional endpoint-specific testing, or a rationale for why the endpoint does not require additional assessment.

Note + Tissue includes tissue fluids and subcutaneous spaces

Note ^ For all devices used in extracorporeal circuits

Note # Reproductive and developmental toxicity should be addressed for novel materials, materials with a known reproductive or developmental toxicity, devices with relevant target populations (e.g., pregnant women), and/or devices where there is the probability for local presence of device materials in the reproductive organs. Note @ Degradation information should be provided for any devices, device components, or materials remaining in contact with tissue that are intended to degrade.

**: example of an infusion line for intravascular administration of drugs with no direct contact with blood.

##: example of an infusion line intended for administration of a prolonged therapy to the brain tissue.

Table 3: Biocompatibility Evaluation Endpoints Table Adapted from FDA Guidance for Industry.

by existing chemical characterization data, clinical data, marketing experience, or a risk assessment to justify appropriate testing [35]. Experience from medical devices that have been on the market for extended periods, or evaluation of materials of construction that are commonly used in medical devices can be leveraged in lieu of testing, as described in ISO 10993.

Leachables and extractables: Compatibility, suitability, leachables and extractables testing for the container closure of a drug product is a requirement for any new drug approvals in the US [37-42]. However, testing of the medical devices used for administration of the drug has not historically been required. Recently, the FDA has become increasingly concerned with leachables associated with devices used for drug administration, such as infusion bags, tubing, filters, syringes, etc. This is evidenced by FDA warnings issued regarding drug-device incompatibilities. In 2002, FDA posted a Public Health Notification warning against the use of di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP)-containing devices for certain patient populations [43] and published a Safety Assessment Report on the subject in 2014 [44]. In 2015, FDA warned against using the chemotherapeutic drug Treanda* with administration devices containing polycarbonate or acrylonitrilebutadiene-styrene [45].

Concerns over drug-device compatibility are only enhanced in the case of drugs delivered directly to the brain or CSF. Indeed, levels of leachables and extractables for medical devices intended to be used for oral or vascular delivery may not necessarily be considered safe levels for intraventricular delivery. A toxicological risk assessment of leachables and extractables for intraventricular administration can be challenging. Often, there is no toxicology data available in the public domain for neuraxial routes of administration, and using oral toxicology data to extrapolate acceptable daily exposure limits for the intraventricular route can under-predict toxicities which could otherwise be a concern.

Going forward, sponsors developing drugs for intrathecal or intraventricular administration will likely be required to conduct an assessment of leachables and extractables from medical devices used in the administration of the drug. There are no FDA guidance documents on acceptable levels of leachables for drugs administered via the intraventricular route. However, USP Chapter <661> has recently been updated, and new chapters are being proposed for future revisions, including USP <661.4> Plastic Medical Devices Used to Deliver or Administer Pharmaceutical Products [38]. This new chapter will provide a framework for the design and implementation of leachable assessments for delivery systems.

Brineura® Case Study

Brineura is the first drug approved specifically for intraventricular administration in the US. It is an enzyme replacement therapy indicated for the treatment of CLN2 disease, a form of Batten disease, or neuronal ceroid lipofuscinosis type 2 (CLN2). The administration is by intraventricular infusion and requires pre-implantation of a ventricular reservoir and catheter. Every two weeks, the product is administered into the implanted reservoir through a port needle connected to a syringe via a series of infusion lines and an in-line filter. The syringe containing the drug is placed in a syringe pump to ensure slow and continuous delivery of the therapy over a period of approximately four hours. Brineura is supplied as a solution for intraventricular injection with an electrolyte flushing solution, and a separately packaged Administration Kit. The Administration Kit is approved under the Brineura product license, and cross-labelled for use with Brineura. The Administration Kit contains marketed devices in their original packaging, including: two syringes, two syringe needles, an infusion line with 0.2 μ m in-line filter, an extension line and a port needle.

Brineura was originally developed as a drug, not a combination product as defined in 21 CFR 3.2(e). It was not designed as a copackaged or cross-labelled biologic-device product, nor was it designed as a convenience kit. Brineura became a combination product because there are no commercially available infusion components specifically cleared for intraventricular drug administration. Indeed, common administration components are cleared under the "intravascular" or "intrathecal" or "general hospital" umbrellas, and according to FDA classification are not intended for the intraventricular route of administration. As a result, Brineura was classified as a combination product, per 21 CFR 3.2(e)(3). Being regulated as a combination product meant that the drug developer, BioMarin Pharmaceutical Inc. had to provide the necessary devices in an Administration Kit, register as a device manufacturing facility, in addition to a drug manufacturing facility, and also comply with Quality System Regulations, 21 CFR 820 as shown in Table 4 [27,46-48]. Devices included in the Administration Kit were required to meet the additional testing criteria, as described in the previous sections. FDA also required letters of authorization to access the device manufacturers' files (e.g. 510(k) Premarket Notification).

Discussion

The challenges encountered for Brineura are interesting from a regulatory perspective: despite a plethora of devices intended for the intrathecal delivery of drugs, none are specifically cleared for the intraventricular route. And although the CSF is contiguous between the intrathecal and intraventricular space, these are separate routes of administration from a U.S. regulatory perspective.

Perhaps changes to the regulatory framework are warranted in the US for medical devices intended for intraventricular delivery or other neuraxial applications (e.g. intrathecal, subarachnoid, epi-, extra-, or peri-dural spaces, intratumoral, intraparenchymal). Similarly, international standards are needed to bridge the gap between intravascular and neuraxial applications. Recent updates to ISO 80369-6:2016 - Connectors for neuraxial applications, are an attempt to start bridging this gap. ISO 80369-6 is being implemented to prevent inadvertent misconnections between incompatible systems. Medical devices intended for neuraxial applications will have unique connector design and performance standards (NRFit) [49]. NRFit devices will start making their way to the marketplace in 2018 and California is the first state requiring facilities to make the switch [50,51]. And while implementation may be a slow process, guidelines have been drafted, and medical device companies have started developing products with neuraxial connectors [51-55]. This is a step in the right direction and will hopefully provide drug developers more options for devices intended for intraventricular administration.

Increasingly, innovative treatment and delivery approaches are being investigated to tackle the daunting needs of patients with gliomas and other brain cancers, Parkinson's, Huntington's and other neurodegenerative diseases. Updates to the regulatory framework are needed to keep pace with innovation for treating CNS diseases. As described in the preceding sections, sponsors wishing to develop drugs for intraventricular administration must consider challenges associated with combination products. The paucity of appropriately cleared devices for CNS delivery, the additional testing requirements and heightened regulatory scrutiny contribute to the challenges in gaining marketing approval in the U.S.

Proper planning prior to the initiation of clinical studies is critical to identify adequate solutions for administration of the drug. A

Key Provisions of Quality System Regulation to be Implemented if Following 21 CFR 210/211 (Current Good Manufacturing Processes For Pharmaceuticals)	Key Provisions of Drug GMPs to be implemented if Following 21 CFR 820 (Quality System Regulation for Medical Devices)
 820.20 Management responsibility 820.30 Design controls 820.50 Purchasing controls 820.100 Corrective and preventive action 820.170 Installation 820.200 Servicing 	 211.84 Testing and approval/rejection of components, drug product containers & closures 211.103 Calculation of yield 211.132 Tamper-evident packaging for over-the-counter (OTC) human drug products 211.137 Expiration dating 211.165 Testing and release for distribution 211.166 Stability testing 211.167 Special testing requirements 211.170 Reserve samples

 Table 4: Regulatory Requirements for Combination Product Manufacturers.

proactive approach to development and design verification can help mitigate some of the additional requirements. Early and frequent interactions with the FDA prior to initiation of clinical studies and prior to submission of marketing applications can be helpful and are strongly recommended.

Disclosures

The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the FDA or any agency of the US government. Examples provided, and analysis performed within this article are for illustration purposes only and not reflective of the position of any US government entity.

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