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**Clinical Development, US** 

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#### Virtual Bioequivalence: Model development, Verification and Applications $Y \land \land Y Y \land \land Y Y \land$ XYXXXYXXXXY

Amitava Mitra, PhD **Clinical Development, US** Sandoz Inc. (A Novartis Division)

24-September-2019

Current State and Future Expectations of Translational Modeling Strategies to

Support Drug Product Development, Manufacturing Changes and Controls



#### Disclaimer

# This presentation and the information herein are the opinions of the presenter, and not of the presenter's current and past employers.



### Outline

- Introduction
  - Bioequivalence study
  - Virtual Bioequivalence (VBE)
- Model development & verification using a case study
- 2 examples
- Conclusion



## Bioequivalence (BE) Study

- BE study compares the systemic exposure profile of a test drug product to that of a reference drug product
- For two orally administered drug products to be bioequivalent, the active drug ingredient in the test product must exhibit the same rate  $(C_{max})$  and extent of absorption (AUC) as the reference drug product
- Cross-over PK study, typically in healthy subjects
  - 90% CI of GMR between 80-125% for AUC and  $\rm C_{max}$



## Virtual Bioequivalence (VBE)

- Use of physiological models to predict the outcome of a BE study comparing test and reference formulations
  - Conduct "x" number of virtual trials in a model generated population in crossover manner to assess the outcome of a BE study
- Applications -
  - Predict outcome to support
    - Formulation changes in late stage clinical development
    - Generic product development
    - Dissolution specification setting
    - Manufacturing site change
    - Waiver of Fed BE study
  - Minimize the number of "pilot" PK studies
  - Provide more confidence in the outcome of a "pivotal" BE study







#### Virtual BE for Controlled Release Formulation

- BCS 1 compound
- Controlled Release formulation





#### Intra-Subject CV and Study Power – Fasted State



 Study in 24 subjects (to achieve >80% probability of passing, using true GMR = 0.95 & ISCV = 33%)
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#### Intra-Subject CV and Study Power – Fed State





 Study in 58 subjects (to achieve >80% probability of passing, using true GMR = 0.87 & ISCV = 29.5%)
SANDOZ

a Novartis company

#### Effect of Lower Gut Transit Time on PK





#### Effect of Lower Gut Absorption on PK





#### Single Simulations to Assess Model Performance





#### Population Simulations to Assess Fasted BE

- 10 population simulations were conducted in a cross-over manner with 24 subjects in each study
- CV for physiological parameters were constrained at 10%
- The GMR & 90%CI were calculated in Bioequivalence package in Phoenix



	AUC <sub>0-t</sub> GMR (90% CI)	C <sub>max</sub> GMR (90% CI)	AUC <sub>0-t</sub> GMR (90% CI)	C <sub>max</sub> GMR (90% CI)		
	Obs	erved	Predicted			
Fast vs. R	1.11 (0.99-1.23)	1.83 (1.67-1.98)	1.09 (0.91-1.18)	1.54 (1.23-1.77)		
Medium vs. R	0.86 (0.74-0.98)	1.02 (0.87-1.17)	0.95 (0.89-1.01)	1.10 (0.88-1.02)		
Slow vs. R	0.75 (0.63-0.87)	0.75 (0.59-0.91)	0.84 (0.77-0.99)	0.84 (0.70-0.95)		



#### **Population Simulations and Regional Absorption Predictions**



#### Population Simulations to Assess Fed BE

 10 population simulations were conducted in a cross-over manner with 58 subjects in each study



	AUC <sub>0-t</sub> GMR (90% CI)	C <sub>max</sub> GMR (90% CI)	AUC <sub>0-t</sub> GMR (90% CI)	C <sub>max</sub> GMR (90% CI)		
	Obse	erved	Predicted			
Fast vs. R	1.29 (1.18-1.39)	2.07 (1.88-2.27)	1.20 (1.01-1.27)	1.85 (1.71-2.01)		
Medium vs. R	1.06 (0.95-1.17)	1.15 (0.96-1.35)	0.95 (0.89-1.19)	1.21 (1.05-1.41)		
Slow vs. R	0.82 (0.70-0.92)	0.72 (0.52-0.91)	0.88 (0.71-1.01)	0.92 (0.81-1.05)		



#### Projection of Pivotal BE Study in Fasted and Fed States



	AUC <sub>0-t</sub> GMR (90% CI)	Cmax GMR (90% CI)
T/R (fasted)	0.89 (0.85-0.99)	0.90 (0.86-0.95
T/R (fed)	1.00 (0.94-1.07)	0.99 (0.93-1.08)

#### USP-2, pH 6.8

#### Outcome of 10 Virtual Trials for Each Formulation in Fasted State

		Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Trial 4	Trial 5	Trial 6	Trial 7	Trial 8	Trial 9	Trial 10
T/R -	AUC										
	C <sub>max</sub>										



## **Example 1:** Dissolution Specification Justification



Mitra, Clin Pharmacol Ther. 105, 307-309 (2019)



## Effect of Dissolution on Bioequivalence to Clinical Batch





#### **Example 2:** Manufacturing Site Change

#### BCS class 2 weak base







#### **Example 2:** Effect of dissolution differences on BE





### Conclusion

- Current experiences highlight the increasing value of VBE applications in drug development
- Challenges remain -
  - Better estimation & incorporation of ISCV of physiological parameters
  - Regulatory acceptance of VBE e.g. in study waiver



#### FDA

## Future Use of Virtual BE

- Expand BCS class waivers
- Do we do too many fed BE studies?
- Describe what happens in steady state BE study
- Describe what would happen in a steady state BE study in patients
- Conclude risk in patient population that are not studied

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#### Slide courtesy of Rob Lionberger (FDA/CDER/OGD)

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