

# Complex Drug Products Containing Nanomaterials

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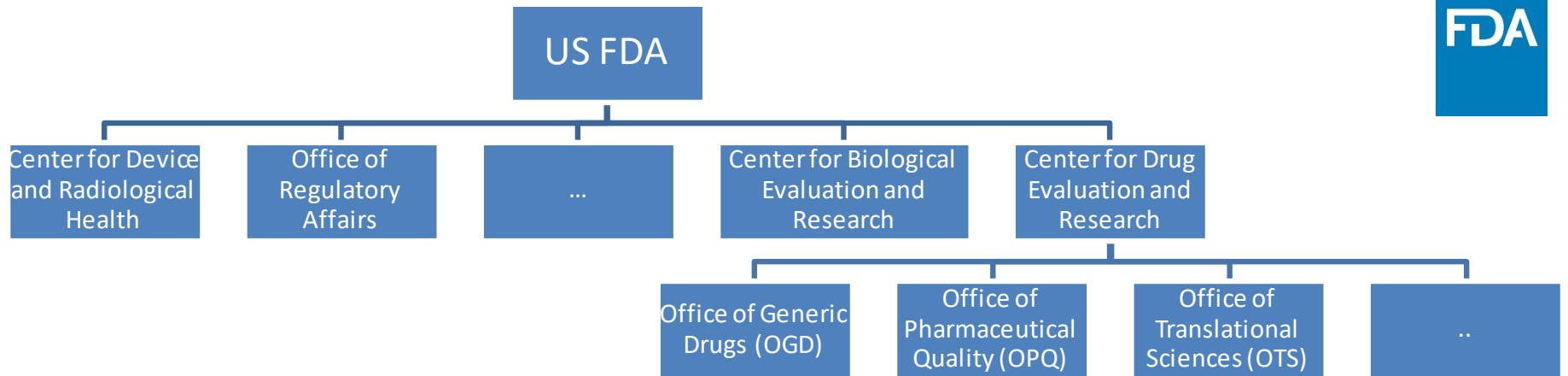
**October 27, 2020**

12<sup>th</sup> European Foundation for Clinical Nanomedicine Annual Summit  
Basel, Switzerland (via webex)

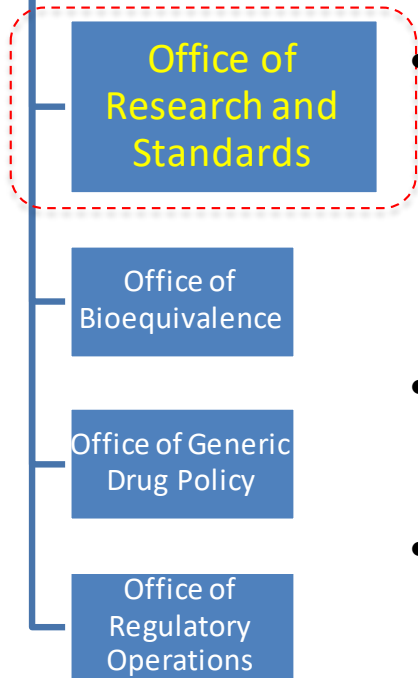
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**Office of Research and Standards (ORS)** is committed to **making safe and effective generic drugs available to the American public by ensuring that OGD standards** (as reflected in reviews, guidance, and communications to applicants and the public) **continue to be based on the best currently available science and the results of the regulatory science research.**



- Implements FDA's GDUFA regulatory science and research program (<https://www.fda.gov/drugs/generic-drugs/science-research>)
- Provides pre-submission scientific advice on equivalence standards
- Provides consults and reviews of complex scientific issues
- Ensures therapeutic equivalence of approved generic drugs

GDUFA: Generic Drug User Fee Amendments

[www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov)

# Complex Products



According to the **GDUFA II commitment letter**, complex products generally include products with

- 1) complex active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs);
- 2) complex formulations;
- 3) complex routes of delivery;
- 4) complex dosage forms;
- 5) complex drug-device combination;
- 6) other products where there is complexity or uncertainty concerning the approval pathway or possible alternative approach would benefit from early scientific engagement.

<https://www.fda.gov/downloads/forindustry/userfees/genericdruguserfees/ucm525234.pdf>

*Complex active pharmaceutical ingredient (API)*

- Any drug product containing a complex API, regardless of administration routes and dosage forms.  
e.g., [Conjugated Estrogen Tablet](#), [Glatiramer Acetate Injection](#)

*Complex routes of delivery*

- Any non-solution drug product with a non-systemic site of action (e.g., topical, ophthalmic, local gastrointestinal (GI) action)  
e.g., [Cyclosporine Emulsion](#), [Acyclovir Cream](#)

*Complex dosage forms/formulations*

- Any non-oral complex formulation/dosage form product where there are often two or more discrete states of matter within the formulation  
e.g., [Doxorubicin HCl Liposomes](#), [Leuprolide Acetate for Depot Suspension](#)

*Complex drug-device combinations*

- Where the drug constituent part is pre-loaded in a product-specific device constituent part or is specifically cross-labeled for use with a specific device, in which the device design affects drug delivery to the site of action and/or absorption  
e.g., [Epinephrine Injection \(autoinjector\)](#)

*Other products*

- Any solid oral opioid drug products with FDA approved labeling for that show properties (and thus gaining their labeling) to meaningfully deter drug abuse  
e.g., [Hydrocodone Bitartrate ER Tablet](#)

# Nanomaterials (U.S. FDA)



- Whether a material or end product **is engineered** to have at least one external dimension, or an internal or surface structure, in the nanoscale range (**approximately 1–100 nm**), and
- Whether a material or end product is engineered to exhibit properties or phenomena, including physical or chemical properties or biological effects, that are **attributable to its dimension(s)**, even if these dimensions fall outside the nanoscale range, **up to one micrometer**

[Guidance for Industry: Considering Whether an FDA-Regulated Product Involves the Application of Nanotechnology](#)

## Semisolid Dosage Forms

- Creams, lotions, gels, ointment, and foams

## Non-oral Nanotechnology Products

- Nano size liposome formulations (e.g., doxorubicin)
- Iron complex formulations (e.g., sodium ferric gluconate)
- Nano-suspension (e.g., paclitaxel)
- Self-assembling nanotubes (e.g., lanreotide acetate)
- Nano-emulsions (e.g., cyclosporine, difluprednate)
- Lipid complex drugs (e.g., amphotericin B lipid complex)

Complex Products  
Containing  
Nanomaterials

## Long-Acting Injectable (LAI) Products

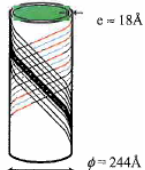
- Suspensions (e.g., aripiprazole LAI suspension)
- Multivesicular liposomes (e.g., bupivacaine liposomes)
- Biodegradable implants/inserts (e.g., leuprolide acetate)
- Microspheres (e.g., risperidone)

# Limited Generics Available for Complex Products Containing Nanomaterials

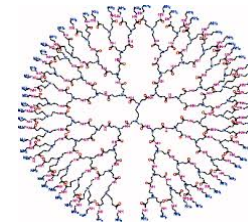
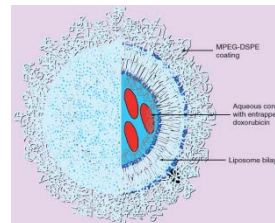


| Platform                      | Examples   |                                     |                             |  |
|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
|                               | Name   | New Drug Application (NDA) Approval | Indication                  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Abbreviated New Drug Application (ANDA) Approval |
| <i>Liposome</i>               | DOXIL <sup>®</sup> (Doxorubicin)                         | 1995                                | Cancer                      | 2013, 3 generics approved  |
| <i>Inorganic nanoparticle</i> | FERRLECIT <sup>®</sup> (Sodium ferric gluconate complex) | 1999                                | Anemia                      | 2011, 1 generics approved  |
| <i>Protein nanoparticle</i>   | ABRAXANE <sup>®</sup> (Paclitaxel)                       | 2005                                | Cancer                      | None   |
| <i>Emulsion</i>               | RESTASIS <sup>®</sup> (Cyclosporine)                     | 2002                                | To increase tear production | None   |
| <i>Lipid complex</i>          | AMPHOTEC <sup>®</sup> (Amphotericin B)                   | 1996                                | Invasive aspergillosis      | None   |
| <i>Nanotube</i>               | SOMATULINE DEPOT <sup>®</sup> (Lanreotide acetate)       | 2007                                | Acromegaly                  | None   |
| <i>Micelle</i>                | TAXOTERE <sup>®</sup> (Docetaxel)                        | 1996                                | Cancer                      | None   |

(Not a complete list)



[www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov)





# U.S. FDA Guidance Related to Nanotechnology Products

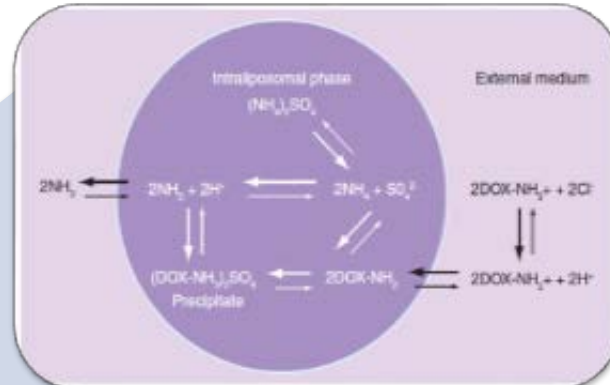
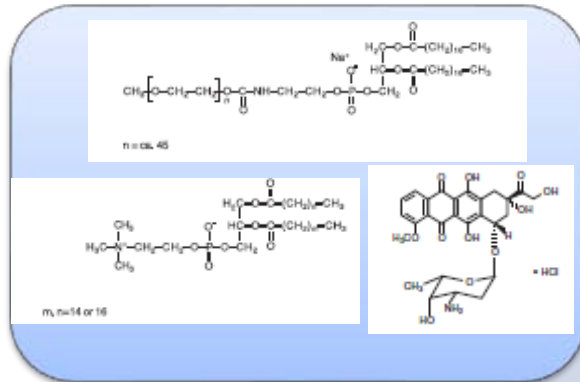


Vlieger, J, et al. Report of the AAPS Guidance Forum on the FDA Draft Guidance for Industry: Drug Products, Including Biological Products, that Contain Nanomaterials. The AAPS Journal (2019) 21: 56

# U.S. FDA Product-Specific Guidance for Doxorubicin HCl Liposomes



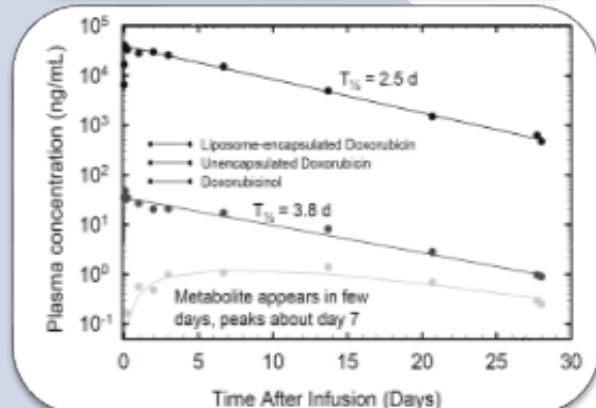
Qualitative (Q1) and Quantitative (Q2) sameness



Same remote loading manufacturing process

Equivalent physico-chemical characteristics

| Characteristics  | Analytical methods          |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Lipid composition (e.g., lipid quantities, free and encapsulated drug, internal and total sulfate conc., histidine and sucrose conc., drug to lipid ratio) | HPLC                        |
| State of encapsulated drug   | Cryo TEM, XRD               |
| Internal environment (e.g., pH, volume)  | NMR, ESR, and others        |
| Liposome morphology & number of lamella  | TEM, Cryo-TEM, AFM          |
| Lipid bilayer phase transition   | DSC                         |
| Liposome size distribution   | DLS, EM                     |
| Grafted PEG at the liposome surface  | NMR                         |
| Surface charge   | Zeta potential measurement  |
| In vitro drug leakage  | Multiple release conditions |



Equivalent free and liposome associated drug exposure

<https://www.fda.gov/drugs/guidances-drugs/product-specific-guidances-generic-drug-development>

Jiang W, Lionberger R, Yu L, In vitro and in vivo characterizations of PEGylated liposome doxorubicin. *Bioanalysis*. 2011 Feb;3(3):333-44  
<https://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM199635.pdf>

# Continued Development of Product-Specific Guidances



FDA published product-specific guidances for nanotechnology drug products

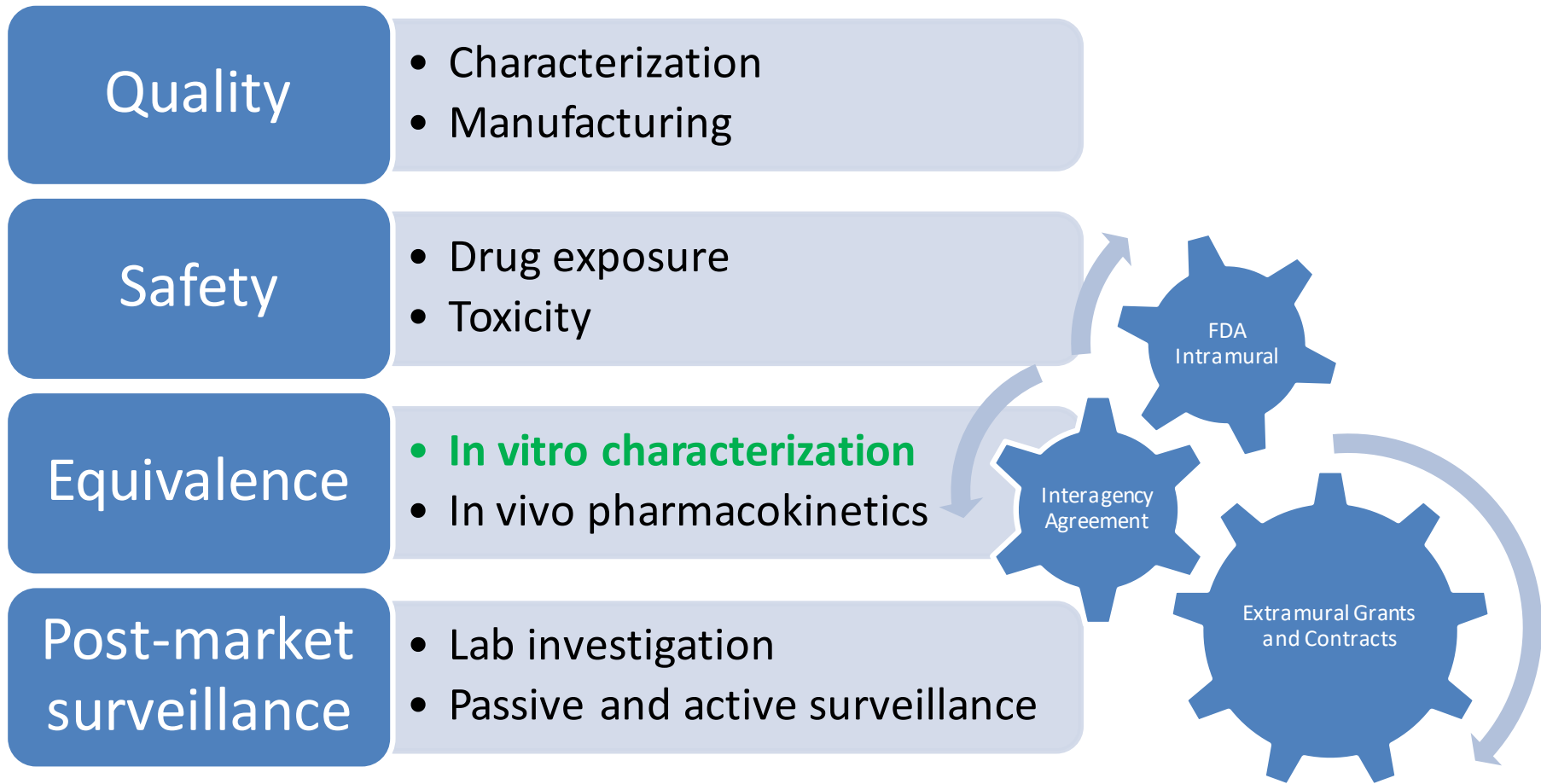
doxorubicin HCl liposome injection  
verteporfin liposome injection  
amphotericin B liposome injection  
daunorubicin liposome injection  
sodium ferric gluconate injection  
ferumoxytol injection  
iron sucrose injection  
cyclosporine emulsion  
lanreotide acetate injection  
paclitaxel albumin-bound particles for injectable suspension

....

(Not a complete list)

<https://www.fda.gov/drugs/guidances-drugs/product-specific-guidances-generic-drug-development>

# CDER Nanotechnology Research Focus



# Direct Quantification of Unencapsulated Doxorubicin (Dox) Using Capillary Electrophoresis



OGD - Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA) Collaboration

Separation of unencapsulated and nanomaterials associated drug may induce drug leakage

Separation process is lengthy



Simultaneous separation and quantification of unencapsulated and liposome encapsulated drugs

International Journal of Pharmaceutics 549 (2018) 109–114



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

International Journal of Pharmaceutics

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ijpharm](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ijpharm)



Direct quantification of unencapsulated doxorubicin in liposomal doxorubicin formulations using capillary electrophoresis

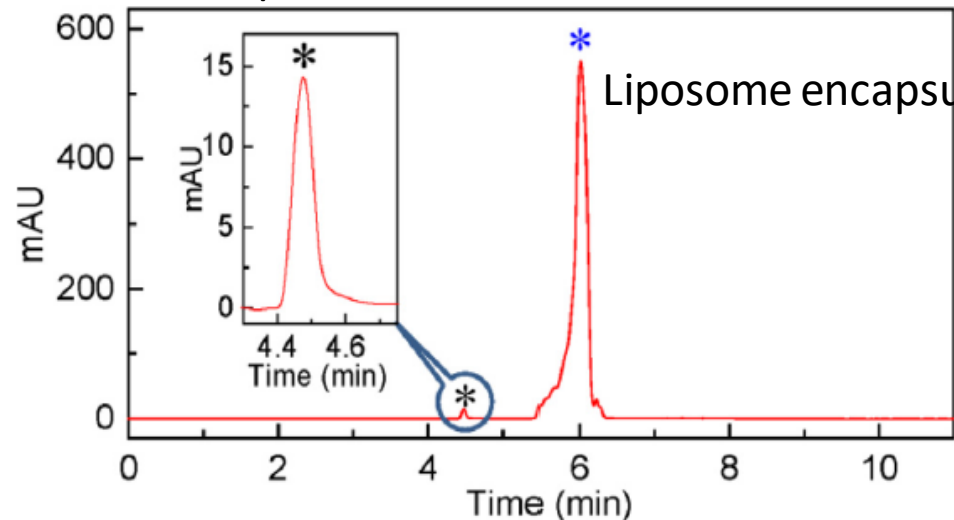


Siyam M. Ansar<sup>a</sup>, Wenlei Jiang<sup>b,\*</sup>, Thilak Mudalige<sup>a,\*</sup>

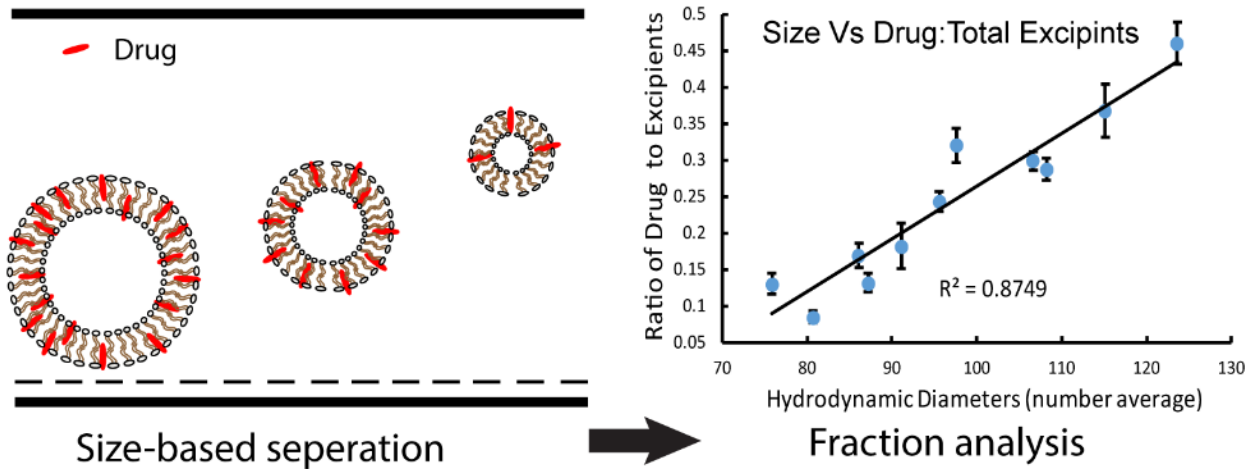
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## Unencapsulated Dox



# Quantification of Lipid Excipients and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) in Liposomes



International Journal of Pharmaceutics 569 (2019) 118603



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)

International Journal of Pharmaceutics

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ijpharm](https://www.elsevier.com/locate/ijpharm)



## Evaluation of size-based distribution of drug and excipient in amphotericin B liposomal formulation



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# CDER Nanotechnology Research Resources



## CDER Nanotechnology Program

<https://www.fda.gov/science-research/nanotechnology-programs-fda/center-drug-evaluation-and-research-nanotechnology-programs>

## GDUFA Regulatory Science Report and Guidance

<https://www.fda.gov/drugs/generic-drugs/generic-drug-research-related-guidances-reports>

# Continued Efforts to Promote Harmonization on Nanomedicine Evaluation Criteria



U.S. FDA Doxorubicin HCl liposomes Product-Specific Guidance (Recommended 2010, most recent revision 2018)

<https://www.fda.gov/drugs/guidances-drugs/product-specific-guidances-generic-drug-development>



European Medicines Agency (EMA) Doxorubicin HCl liposomes Product-Specific Guideline (Recommended 2018)

[http://www.ema.europa.eu/docs/en\\_GB/document\\_library/Scientific\\_guideline/2018/06/WC500251058.pdf](http://www.ema.europa.eu/docs/en_GB/document_library/Scientific_guideline/2018/06/WC500251058.pdf)

International Pharmaceutical Regulators Programme (IPRP) Nanomedicine Working Group

<http://www.iprp.global/working-group/nanomedicines>

- Non-confidential information sharing, regulatory harmonization or convergence
- Regulatory cooperation
- Collaboration of training organization between international regulators
- Promotion of potential consensus on standards



# IPRP Nanomedicine Working Group

## Liposome Survey

- Survey Objectives
  - Capture the regulatory progress for liposome products from the expanded International Pharmaceutical Regulator Programme (IPRP) members
  - Identify the needs of both research and standard development
  - Enhance the potential for harmonization of regulatory requirements
- Survey for both regulatory agencies and non-regulatory stakeholders
- Survey out on 07/02/20 and response due 09/01/20
- Analysis ongoing

<http://www.iprp.global/working-group/nanomedicines>

# Summary



- Non-oral nanomaterials are considered complex drug products, and there are limited number of generics available for these products.
- U.S. FDA publishes guidances and conducts regulatory research to support nanotechnology drug product development.
- International collaborations are needed to facilitate research and standards development, as well as harmonization of regulatory recommendations, for nanotechnology drug products.

# Acknowledgements



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- Office of Generic Drugs
- Office of Pharmaceutical Quality
- Office of Regulatory Affairs