

# Advantages and Challenges in Implementing New Analytical Methods that Arise from Regulatory Science Initiatives

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# Outline

- GDUFA research science initiatives on new analytical methods:
  - A.1: Characterization of complex active and inactive ingredients
  - A.2: Characterization of complex particulate systems
- Examples of new analytical methods and impact on generic drug development and review
  - $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR to characterize polymer structure
  - MDRS and Raman Microscopy to characterize particle formulations
  - Capillary electrophoresis and isotope to characterize free and encapsulated drug
- Routes to engage FDA on new analytical methods



# FY2019 GDUFA Science Initiatives

15 research priorities to accelerate access to generic drug products were identified at the May 24, 2018 GDUFA Public Workshop.

Two were on new analytical methods:

**A.1.** Improve advanced analytics for characterization of chemical compositions, molecular structures and distributions in complex active ingredients

**A.2.** Improve particle size, shape, and surface characterization to support demonstration of therapeutic equivalence of suspended and colloidal drug products

# A.1. Characterizing Complex Active and Inactive Ingredients

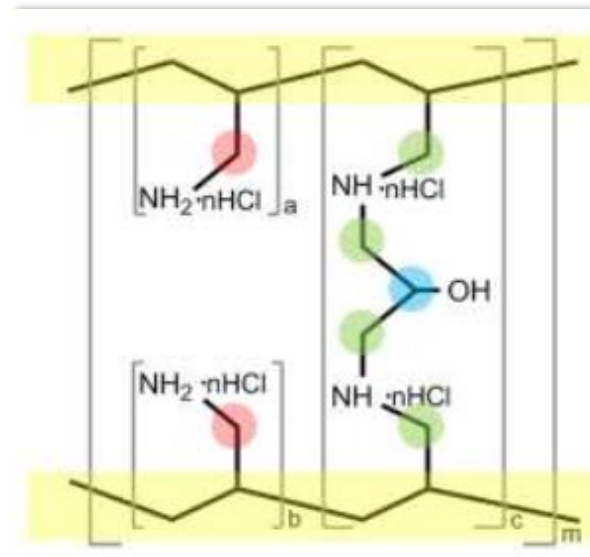


- A generic drug product needs to contain identical amounts of the identical active ingredient(s) as the reference listed drug (RLD).
- New analytical methods may be used to characterize and compare sameness of complex ingredients such as,
  - heterogenous mixture of moieties:
    - e.g., conjugated estrogen, pentosan polysulfate, glatiramer acetate
  - heterogenous chemical structures:
    - e.g., sevelamer carbonate, patiromer, poly(lactide-co-glycolide)

# A.1. Case Study: $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR of Sevelamer Carbonate



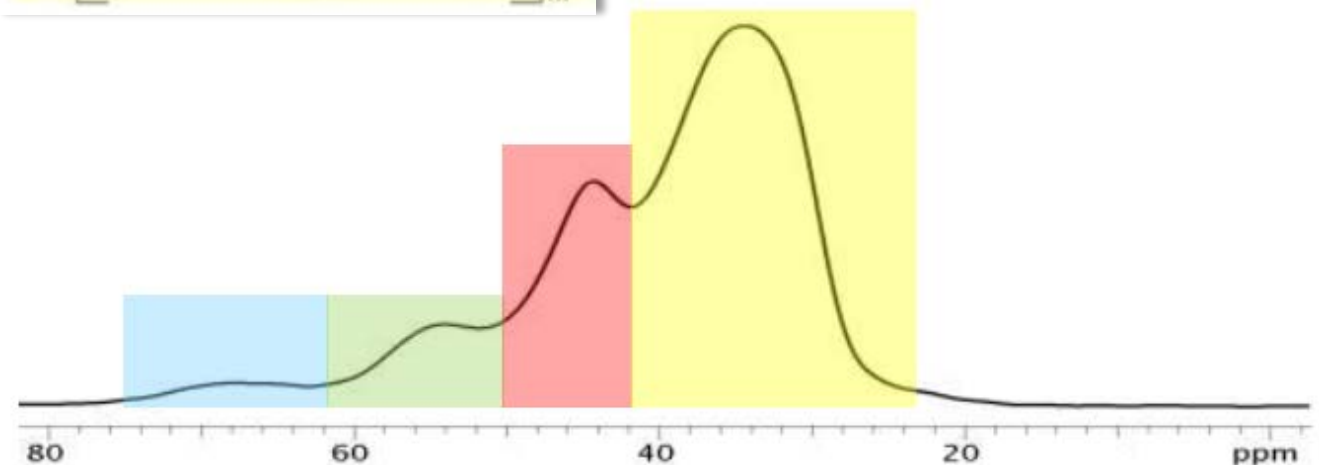
- Renvela<sup>®</sup> approved 2007
- Polyallylamine cross-linked with epichlorohydrin
- Phosphate binder indicated to control serum phosphorus in patients with chronic kidney disease on dialysis
- Regulatory Timeline:
  - 2008: Initial PSG (BE)
  - 2009, 2010, 2011: PSG revisions (BE)
  - 2012 – 2014: FDA internal studies
  - 2015, 2016: PSG revision (API + BE)
  - 2017: 1<sup>st</sup> sevelamer carbonate powder approval
  - 2017: 1<sup>st</sup> sevelamer carbonate tablets approval
  - 2019: Nine approved ANDAs



## $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR

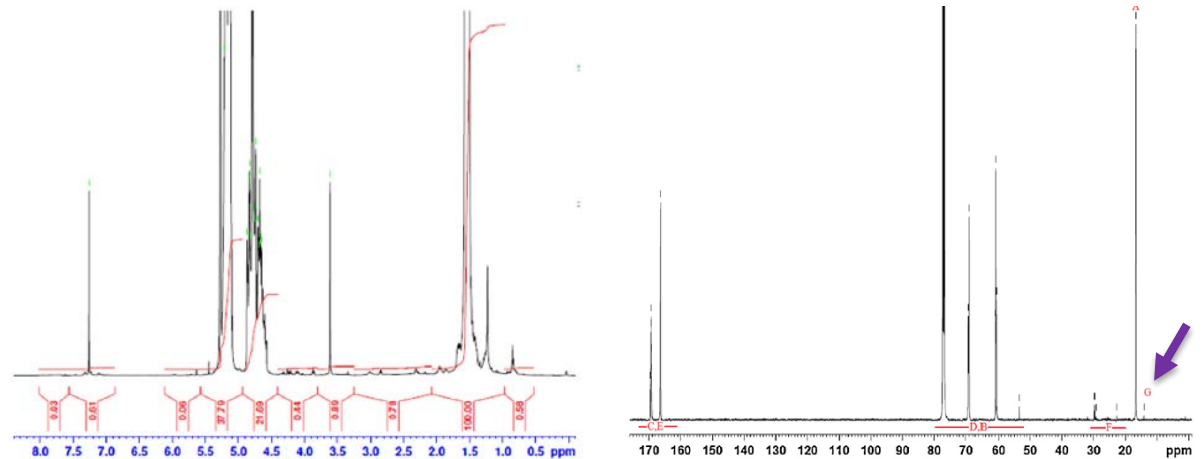
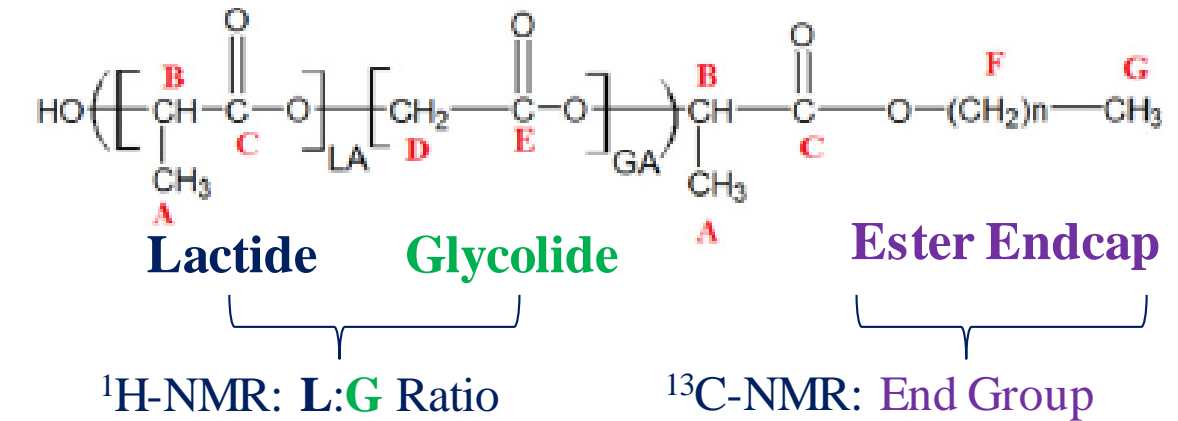
### Characterization of Polymer Structure

Relative peak areas are proportional to the number of carbon atoms in each electronic environment



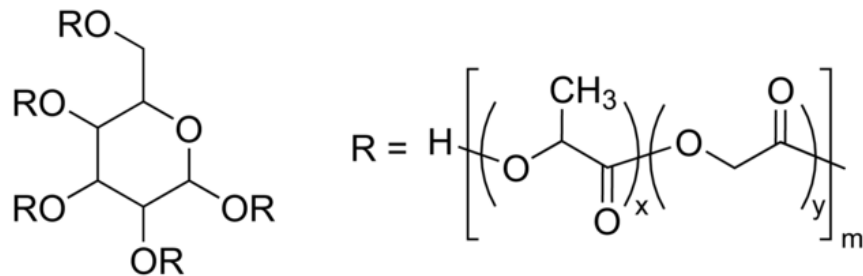
# A.1. Case Study: $^1\text{H}$ and $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR of Poly(lactide-co-glycolide) (PLGA)

- PLGA is a biodegradable copolymer excipient used to enhance drug release.
- Ratio of lactide to glycolide monomer units, polymer molecular weight, and end group chemistry can affect polymer degradation rate.
- ~19 approved products contain PLGA:
  - Lupron Depot, Zoladex Depot, Sandostatin LAR, Atridox, Nutropin Depot, Trelstar, Somatuline Depot, Arestin, Eligard, Risperidal Consta, Vivitrol, Ozurdex, Propel, Bydureon, Lupaneta Pack, Signifor LAR, Zilretta, Sublocade, Perseris



# A.1. Case Study: Triple Detection SEC/GPC of Linear and Star PLGAs

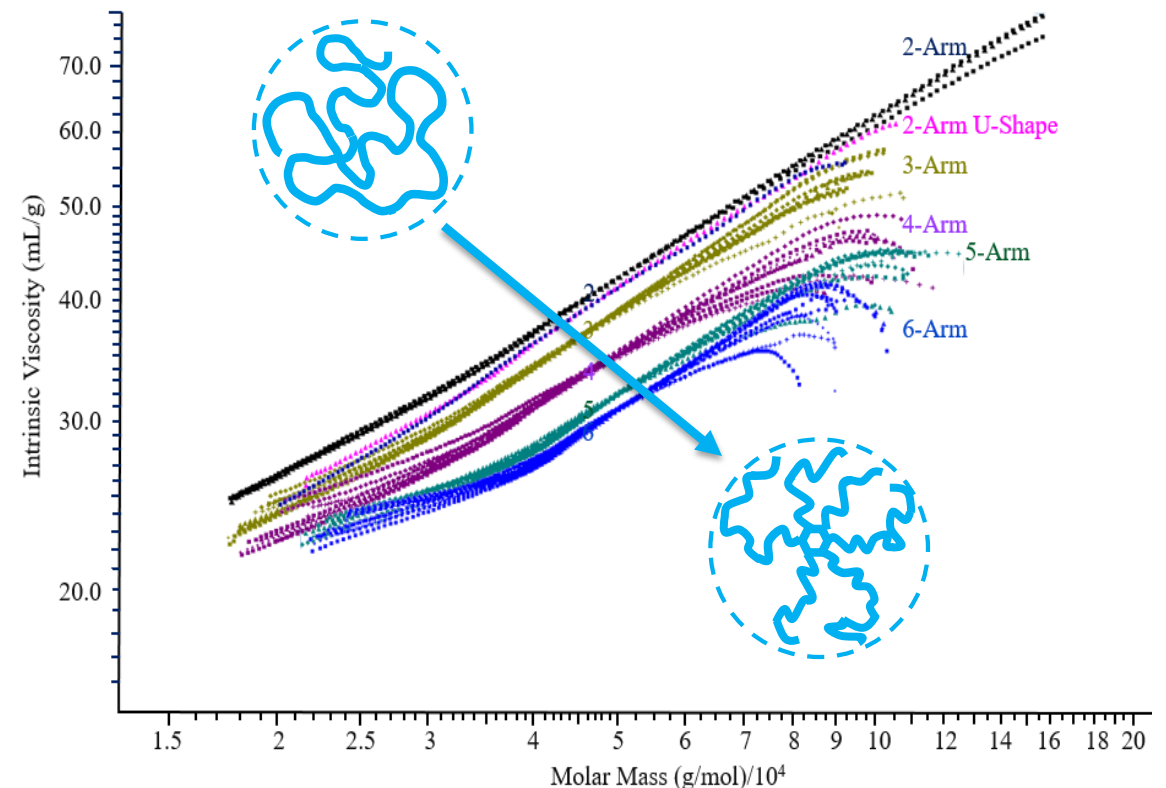
- Glucose-star-PLGA is a biodegradable copolymer excipient



- Number and size of polymer ‘arms’ can affect polymer properties including viscosity and degradation rate.
- Approved products containing non-linear PLGA:
  - Sandostatin LAR

## Triple Detection SEC/GPC

Combines light scattering, viscometer, and refractive index (RI) detectors to characterize polymer size and structure

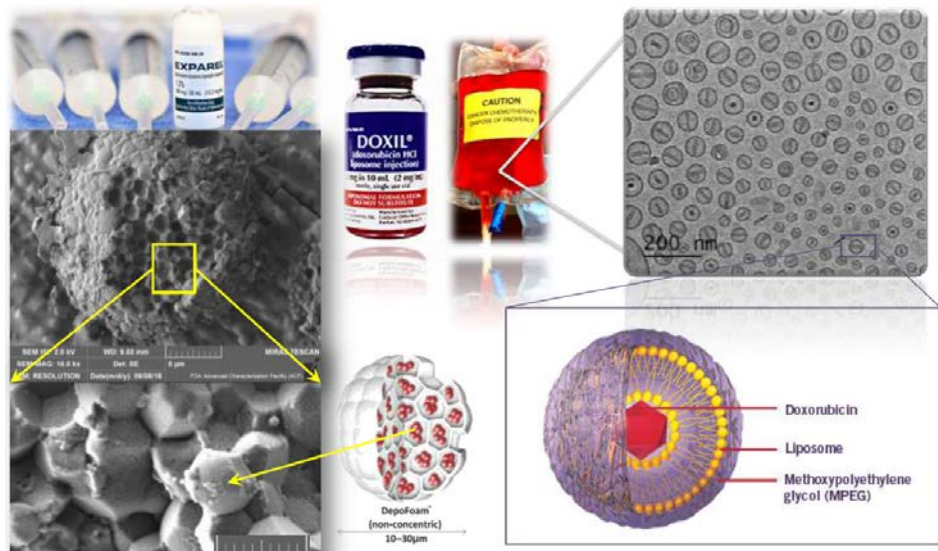


# A.2. Characterizing Particle Size, Shape, and Surface

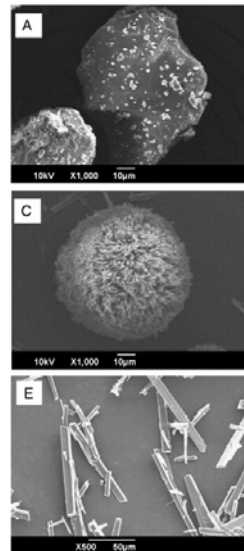


- Performance and quality of drug products can depend on the properties of particles in the formulation.
- New methods may provide a more accurate characterization of complex particles and particle mixtures, which can support equivalence determination.

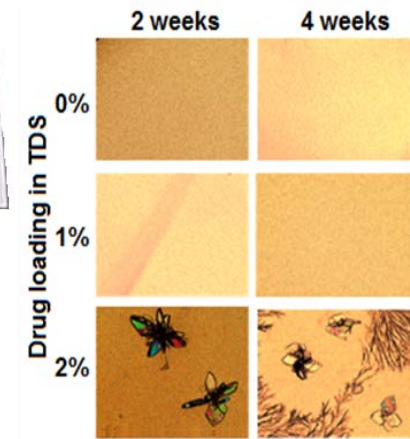
## Liposome Structures



## Non-spherical & Mixed Particles

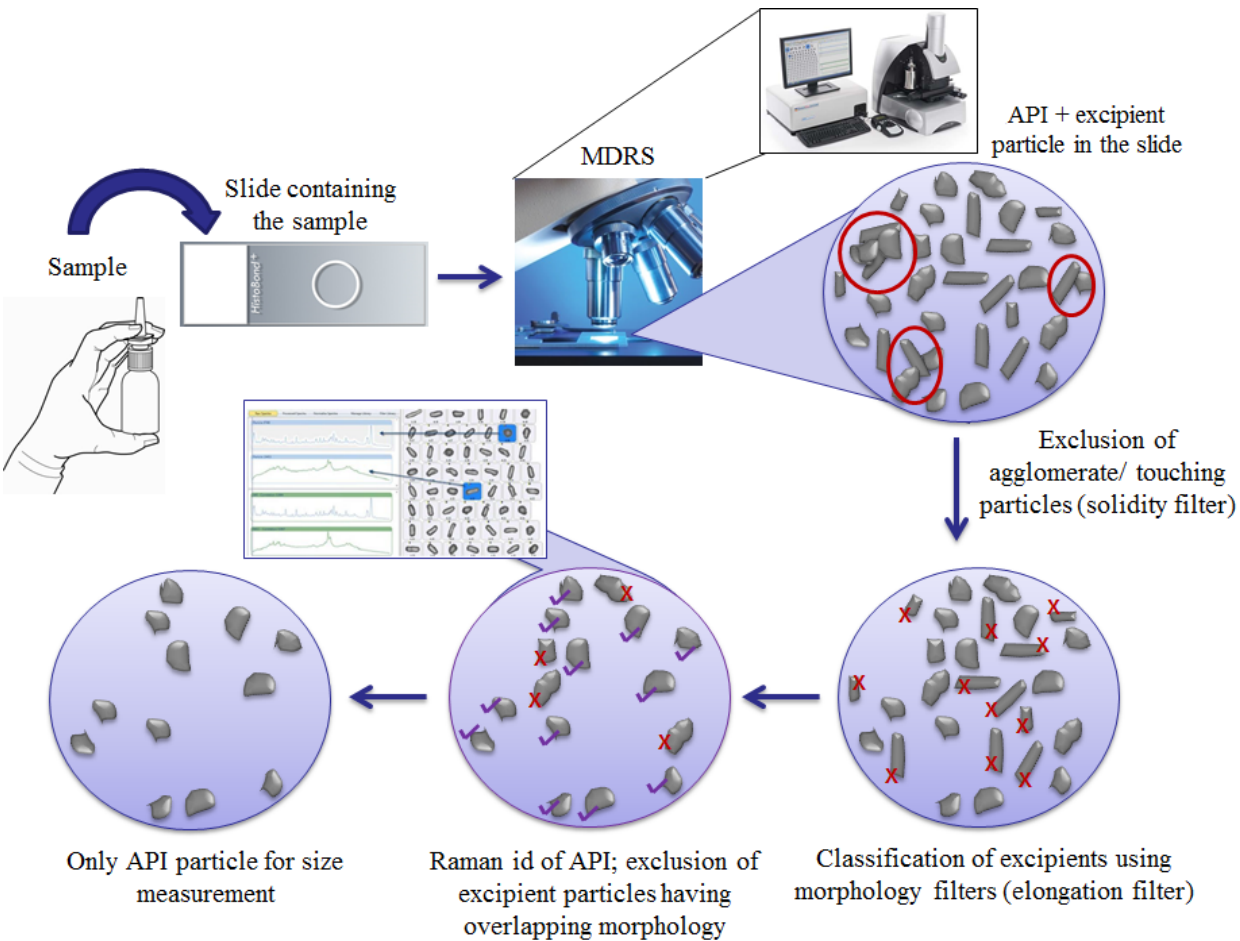


## Drug Crystal Formation





# A.2. Case Study: MDRS of Mixed API and Excipient Particulates

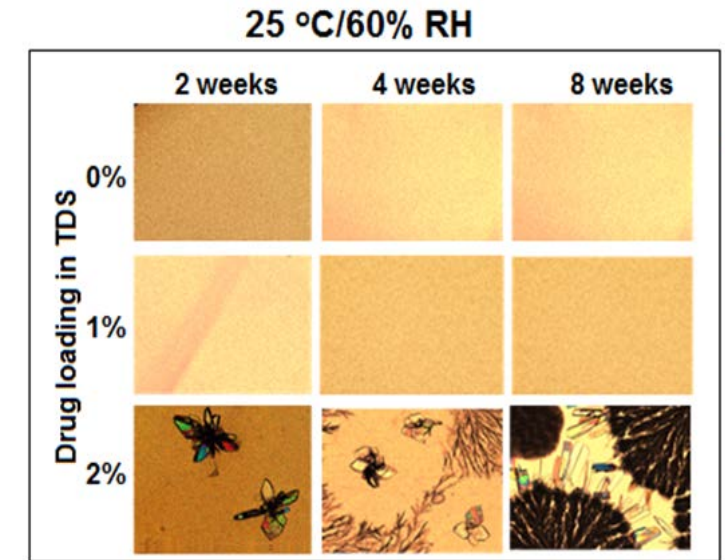
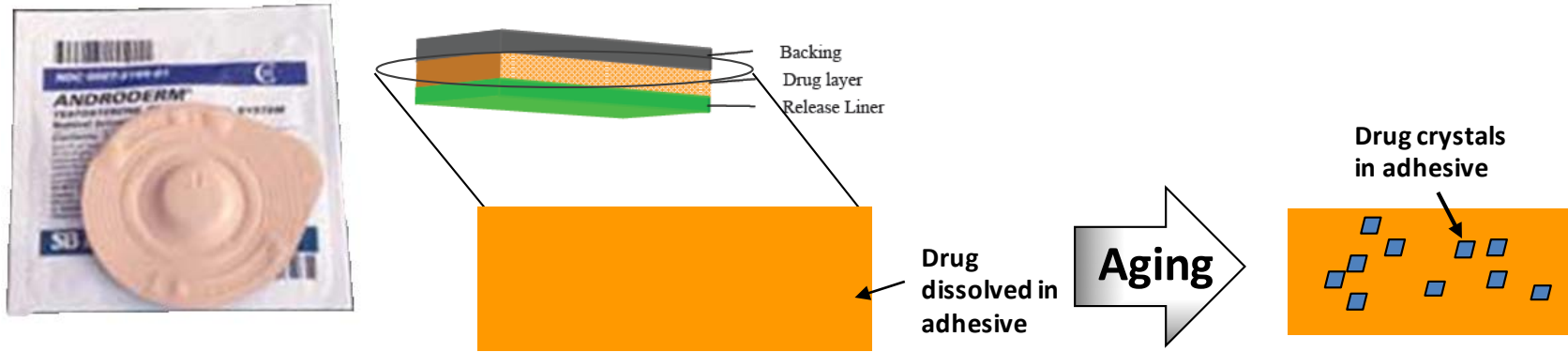


**MDRS:** Morphologically-Directed Raman Spectroscopy:

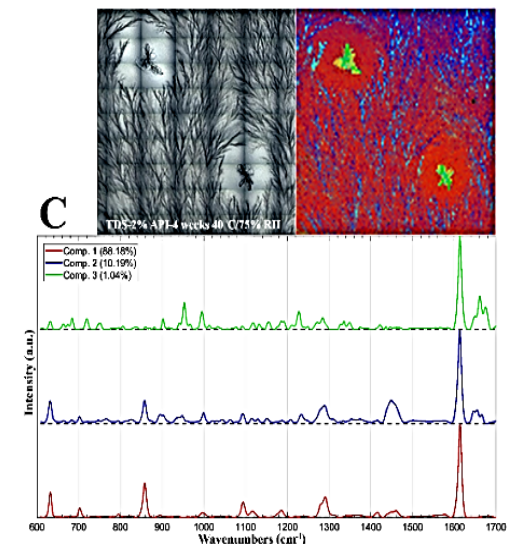
Distinguish chemically different particles and measure size and morphology information.

MDRS data supported first generic approval for mometasone furoate nasal suspension

# A.2. Case Study: Raman Microscopy of Drug Crystallization in Transdermal Systems



- Drug crystals can form in TDS products affecting drug release, peel adhesion, and cohesive strength.
- Optical and Raman imaging can monitor drug crystal formation to help guide drug product development, manufacturing process conditions, and assessment of appropriate product shelf-life.

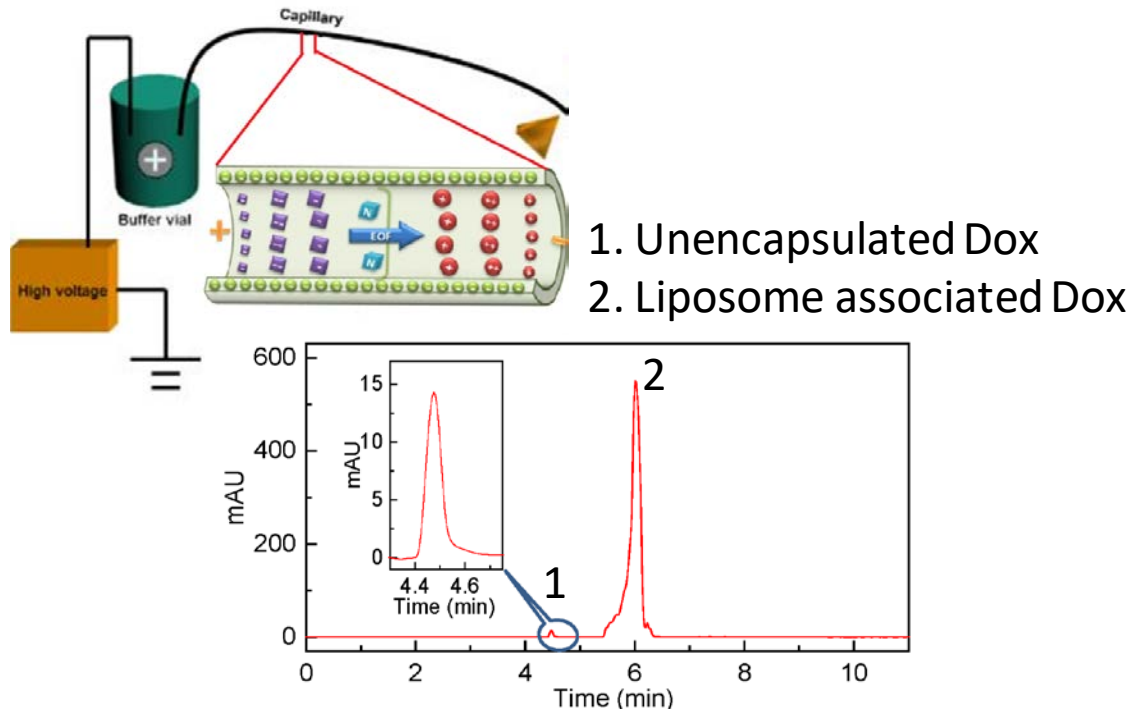


# New Methods to Improve Quantification of Encapsulated and Unencapsulated Drug



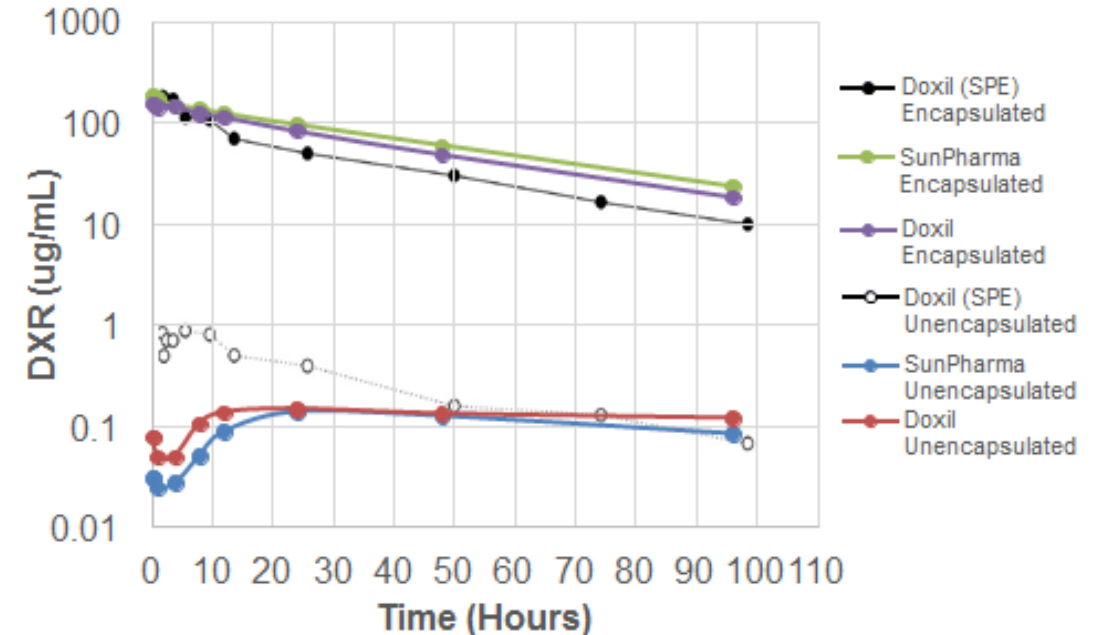
- **Capillary Electrophoresis**

- Rapid separation (10min) and direct quantification of both unencapsulated drug in liposome formulations.



- **Doped Stable Isotope Drug**

- Isotopically labeled drug (D\*) method indicated that unencapsulated liposomal doxorubicin is lower than measured by solid phase extraction.





# Engaging with FDA

FDA is committed to supporting the latest scientific methods and tools to evaluate generic drug equivalence and for industry to efficiently develop new generic products.

## Utilizing a New Method in an ANDA

Discuss new method with FDA via:

- **Pre-ANDA product development meeting**
  - Discuss technical aspects of the method and study design proposed/preliminary data to support generic product development
- **Pre-ANDA pre-submission meeting**
  - Discuss technical aspects of data generated on ANDA batches and rationale/justification how the data supports ANDA approval.
  - [Guidance for Industry: Formal Meetings Between FDA and ANDA Applicants of Complex Products Under GDUFA](#)

# Engaging with FDA



## Developing a New Method

Propose research initiative or project on a new analytical method and/or approach to solve a complex generic drug issue:

- **GDUFA Public Workshop (here / now)**
  - Propose research initiative for OGD to undertake in FY20
  - [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov), [Open Docket FDA-2017-N-6644-0010](https://www.fda.gov/oc/open-docket/FDA-2017-N-6644-0010)
- **Broad Agency Agreement (BAA) applications**
  - Propose a research project to undertake that you believe will provide FDA with new tools / understanding to of generic drug development and/or approval.
  - [FedBizOpps.gov](https://www.fda.gov/oc/broad-agency-agreements), [Solicitation FDABAA-19-00123](https://www.fda.gov/oc/broad-agency-agreements)
- **Grant Opportunities**
  - Respond to FDA's request for application (RFA) to develop and conduct a specific research project.
  - [RFAs posted on NIH Grants & Funding](https://www.nih.gov/grants) and [Generic Drugs Collaboration Opportunities websites](https://www.fda.gov/oc/broad-agency-agreements)

# Conclusions

- FDA is committed to supporting the latest scientific methods and tools to evaluate generic drug equivalence and for industry to efficiently develop new generic products.
- FY19 GDUFA research has focused on developing and evaluating new methods for characterizing
  - A.1. Complex ingredients
  - A.2. Complex particle formulations
- Public and industry input directs GDUFA research
- Public, industry, and prospective ANDA sponsors using a new analytical method can engage FDA via research project proposals and pre-ANDA meetings.



# Acknowledgements

## OGD

- Rob Lionberger
- Lei Zhang
- Markham Luke
- Jeff Jiang
- Kim Witzmann
- Wenlei Jiang
- Sam G. Raney
- Yan Wang
- Deyi Zhang
- Denise Conti

## OPQ

- Loqman A. Mohamed
- Nahid Kamal
- Khaled H. Elfakhri
- Daniel Willett
- Anna Wokovich
- Caroline Strasinger
- Celia N. Cruz
- Muhammad Ashraf
- Ahmed S. Zidan
- Bing Cai
- Katherine Tyner
- Xiaoming Xu
- Kang Chen

## CDRH, ORA, & External

- Jiwen Zheng (CDRH)
- Thilak Mudalige (ORA)
- Siyam M. Ansar (ORA)
- Stephane Stern (NCL)



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