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ICH guideline for accelerated stability studies.

1. STABILITY STUDIES ICH Guidelines Q1A-Q1F Prepared By: Aman Dhamrait Pa 2. Objective of Stability testing Scope of Stability testing Rationale of stability studies Advantages of stability studies Variables affecting the stability Adverse effects of instability of drugs Stability Testing Terminologies ICH Q1A(R2) ICH Q1B ICH Q1C ICH Q1D ICH Q1E References 2.4.4 "A measure of how pharmaceutical products maintains its quality attribute over a time." 5. "..... to provide evidence on how the quality of a drug substance or drug product varies with time under the influence of a variety of environmental factors such as temperature, humidity & light, & enables recommended storage conditions, re-test periods & shelf lives to be established" (ICH) 5.6. • Provide evidence as to how the quality of the drug product varies with time. • Establish shelf life for the drug product. • Determine recommended storage conditions. • Determine container closure system suitability. 6.7. • Chemical degradation of the product leads to lowering of the concentration of the drug in the dosage form. • Toxic products may be formed, due to chemical degradation of the active ingredient. 7.8. • Assurance to the patient • Economic considerations • Legal requirement 8.9. Formulation Packaging Site and method of manufacture • API • Finished product Batch size Batch to batch variability • Process validation • Quality risk management Container labelling Changes to product 9.10. Loss of active drug (e.g. aspirin hydrolysis, oxidation of adrenaline) Loss of vehicle (e.g. evaporation of water from o/w creams, evaporation of alcohol from alcoholic mixtures) Loss of content uniformity (e.g. creaming of emulsions, impaction of suspensions) Loss of elegance (e.g. fading of tablets and colored solutions) Reduction in bioavailability (e.g. ageing of tablets resulting in a change in dissolution profile) Production of potential toxic materials (e.g. breakdown products from drug degradation) 10.12. • CHEMICAL: Each active ingredient retains its chemical integrity and labeled potency within the specified limit. • PHYSICAL: The physical stability properties includes appearance, palatability, uniformity, dissolution and suspend ability are retained. • MICROBIOLOGICAL: Sterility or resistance to microbial growth is retained according to specified requirement. • THERAPEUTIC: Therapeutic activity remains unchanged. • TOXICOLOGIC: No significant increase in toxicity occurs. 12.13. STAGE 1- Early stage stress and accelerated testing with drug substances. STAGE 2- Stability on pre-formulation batches. STAGE 3- Stress testing on scale-up batches. STAGE 4- Accelerated and long term testing for registration purposes. STAGE 5- On-going stability testing STAGE 6- Follow-up stabilities 13.14. Development studies • Characterise compatibility with common excipients. • Characterise stability profile of API (E.g. susceptibility to acid, base, light, oxygen etc) • Characterise stability profile of early formulations (Especially susceptibility to heat, humidity & light) Confirmatory studies • Long term & accelerated studies on the product as it is to be registered 14.15. The ICH has so far released six guidelines for stability studies as indicated in table : 15 ICH GUIDELINES TITLE Q 1 A Stability testing of new drug substances and products (second revision) Q1B Stability testing - photo stability testing of new drug substance and products. Q1C Stability testing for new dosage forms Q1D Bracketing and matrixing designs for stability testing of drug substances and products. Q1E Evaluation of stability data Q1F Stability data package for registration application in climatic zones III and IV 16. • Production batch • Pilot scale batch • Re-test period(API) • Accelerated testing • Intermediate testing • Stress testing • Bracketing • Matrixing 16.17. • Partition of the world into four temperature classes based on kinetic averaging of monthly temperatures. • Zones (Futscher & Schumacher 1972): I Temperate (21oC/45%RH) II Subtropical (25oC/60%RH with possibly high RH) III Hot & dry (30oC/35%RH) IV Hot & wet (30oC/70%RH) • The temperatures above are kinetic averages. 17.19. Region Zone I & II Countries Zone III & IV Countries Europe All Countries ---- America Argentina, Canada,Bolivia etc.

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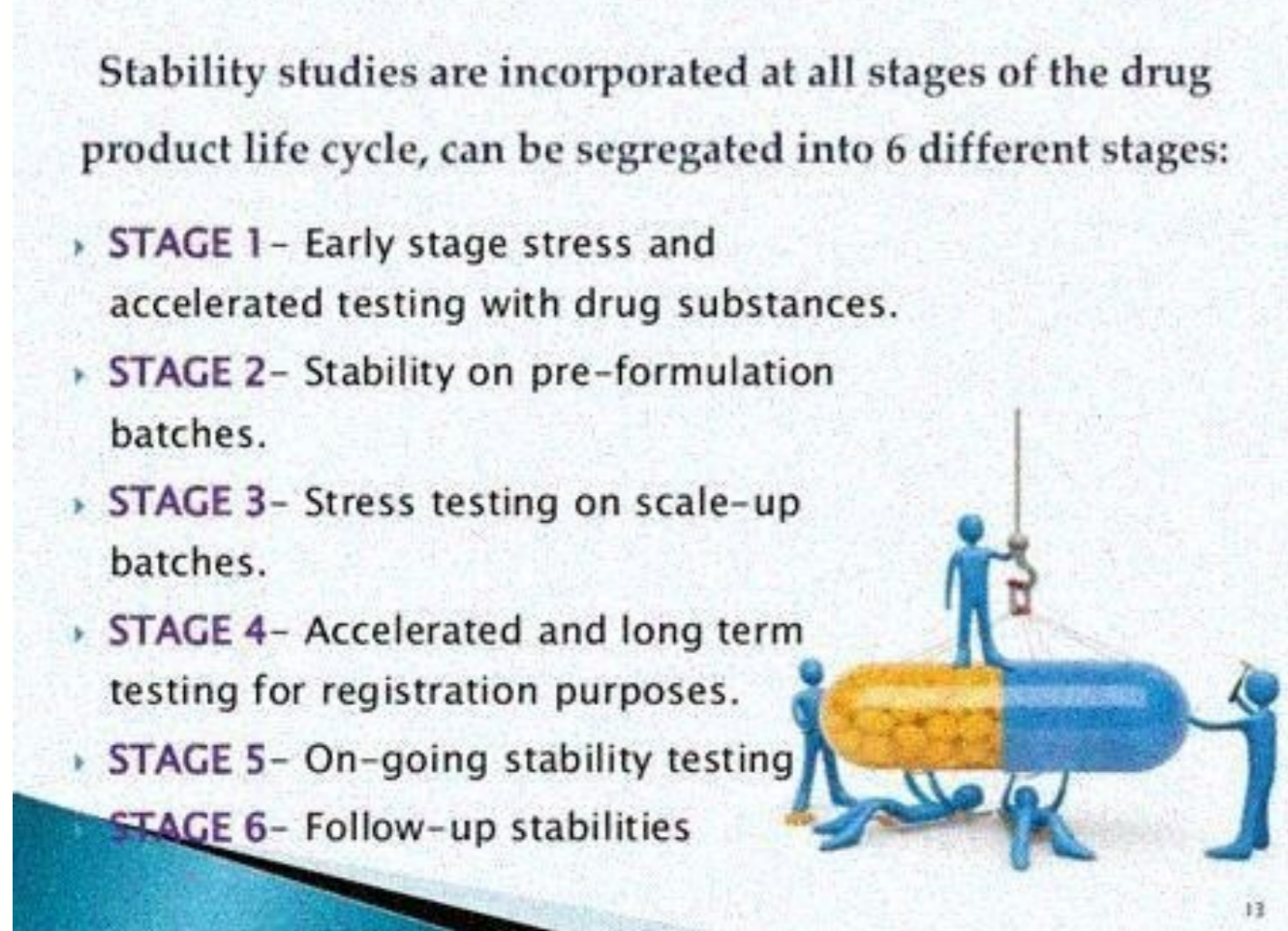
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Specification • Testing Frequency • Storage Conditions • Stability Commitment • Evaluation • Statements/Labeling 21.22. Information on the stability of the drug substance is an integral part of the systematic approach to stability evaluation. 22.23. Main tool that predict the stability problems. Foundation for developing and validating analytical methods. For an API the following approaches may be used: When available, it is acceptable to provide relevant data published in the scientific literature to support the identified degradation pathways and products. When no data is available, stress testing should be performed. The nature of the stress testing will depend on the individual active substance and the type of pharmaceutical product involved. 23.24. Stress testing of the active substance can help in Identification of degradants Identification of degradation pathways Determination of which type(s) of stress affect the molecule: • Photo-stability • High Temperature • Low Temperature • Oxidation • pH extremes • Water 24.25. Oxidation: Typically done by placing the drug substance in aqueous solution of hydrogen peroxide. Goal is significant degradation (typically 10-30% of API) • Can identify degradants • Determine whether protective packaging is required • Determine if an antioxidant should be considered for the drug product formulation. pH: Typically done by adding drug substance to buffered aqueous solutions at pH values from 1-10 • Decide if the molecule will survive passage through the stomach • Is enteric coating necessary? Should the drug be given by injection? 25.26. 26 Stress factor Conditions Heat 10°C increments Humidity 75%RH or greater Acid 0.1N HCl Base 0.1N NaOH Oxidative 3%H₂O₂ Photolytic Xenon,Metal halide lamp or Near UV,White florescent lamp 27. Data from formal stability studies should be provided on at least three primary batches of the active substance. The batches should be manufactured to a minimum of pilot scale by the same synthetic route as, and using a method of manufacture and procedure that simulates the final process to be used for, production batches. 27.28.

The stability studies should be conducted on the active substance packaged in a container closure system that is the same as or simulates the packaging proposed for storage and distribution. 28.29. • Stability studies should include testing of those attributes of the drug substance that are susceptible to change during storage and are likely to influence quality, safety, and/or efficacy. • The testing should cover, as appropriate, the physical, chemical, biological, and microbiological attributes. e.g. appearance, assay, degradation. 29.30. For long term studies: Year 1: every 3 months Year 2: every 6 months Subsequent years: as acceptable to address the effect of short term excursions outside the proposed label storage condition. e.g. 0 3 6 (initial) (final) At intermediate storage conditions: (12 month study) Four points including 10 and final. e.g. 0 6 9 12 (initial) (final) 30.31. A drug substance should be evaluated • To test its thermal stability • Its sensitivity to moisture(if applicable) • The long-term testing (minimum of 12 months) on at least 3 primary batches at the time of submission and • should be continued for a period of time sufficient to cover the proposed re-test period. 31.32. If long-term studies are conducted at 25°C ± 2°C/60% RH ± 5% RH and "significant change" occurs at any time during six months' testing at the accelerated storage condition, additional testing at the intermediate storage condition should be conducted and evaluated against significant change criteria. significant change - failure to meet its specification 32 Study Storage condition Minimum time period covered by data at submission Long Term* (Ambient) 25° C ± 2° C 60%RH ± 5% 12 months Intermediate** (controlled) 30° C ± 2° C 65%RH ± 5% 6 months Accelerated 40° C ± 2° C 75%RH ± 5% 6 months 33. If significant change occurs between 3 and 6 months testing at the accelerated storage condition, the proposed re-test period should be based on the real time data available at the long term storage condition.

33 Study Storage condition Minimum time period covered by data at submission Long Term 5° C ± 3° C 12 months Accelerated 25° C ± 2° C 60%RH ± 5% 6 months 34. In the absence of an accelerated storage condition for active substances intended to be stored in a freezer, testing on a single batch at an elevated temperature (e.g. 5°C ± 3°C or 25°C ± 2°C or 30°C ± 2°C) for an appropriate time period should be conducted to address the effect of short term excursions outside the proposed label storage condition. e.g., during shipping or handling 34 Study Storage condition Minimum time period covered by data at submission Long Term -20° C ± 5° C 12 months 35. • When available long-term stability data does not cover the proposed re-test period, a commitment should be made to continue stability studies in order to firmly establish the re-test period. • Where the data submitted is from fewer than 3 production batches, a commitment should be made to continue the long-term studies with additional production batches, to a total of at least 3. • If the submission does not include stability data on production batches, a commitment should be made to place the first 3 production batches on long-term studies through the proposed re- test period. 35.36.

Minimum of 3 batches of drug substance is tested. The degree of variability of individual batches affects the confidence that a future production batch will remain within specification throughout the assigned re-test period. The analyst must found the batch to batch variability & if it is small than only it is accepted & it can be done by different statistical test's (P value for level of significance for rejection). Where the data show so little degradation and so little variability then it is normally unnecessary to go through the statistical analysis; providing a justification for the omission should be sufficient. 36.37. A storage statement should be established for the labelling based on the stability evaluation of the active substance. Where applicable, specific instructions should be provided, particularly for active substances that cannot tolerate freezing. Terms such as "ambient conditions" or "room temperature" must be avoided. 37.38. • General • Selection of Batches • Container Closure System • Specification • Testing Frequency • Storage Conditions • Stability Commitment • Evaluation • Statements/Labeling 38.39. The design of the formal stability studies for the pharmaceutical product should be based on knowledge of the behavior and properties of the active substance, from stability studies on the active substance, and on experience gained from clinical formulation studies. 39.40. Data from stability studies should be provided on at least three primary batches of the pharmaceutical product. The primary batches should be of the same formulation and packaged in the same container closure system as proposed for marketing.



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