

**CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND
RESEARCH**

APPLICATION NUMBER:

215422Orig1s000

PRODUCT QUALITY REVIEW(S)

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

NDA 215422

Review # 1

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Drug Product Name | Baclofen |
| Dosage Form | Oral granules |
| Strength | 5 mg, 10 mg, 20 mg |
| Route of Administration | Oral |
| Rx/OTC Dispensed | Rx |
| Applicant | Saol Therapeutics |
| US agent, if applicable | N/A |

QUALITY TEAM

| Discipline | Primary Assessment | Secondary Assessment |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Drug Substance | Friedrich Burnett | Donna Christner |
| Drug Product | Andrei Ponta | Julia Pinto |
| Manufacturing | Vicky He | Yong Hu |
| Microbiology | N/A | N/A |
| Biopharmaceutics | Swapna Pamu | Ta-Chen Wu |
| Regulatory Business Process Manager | Erica Keafer | |
| Application Technical Lead | Martha Heimann | |
| Laboratory (OTR) | N/A | N/A |
| Environmental | N/A | N/A |

SUBMISSIONS REVIEWED

| Submission(s) | Document Date | Discipline(s) Affected |
|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Original NDA | 1/22/2021 | All |
| SD-002, Response to IR | 3/1/2021 | Manufacturing, |
| SD-005, Response to IR | 6/25/2021 | Drug product |
| SD-006, Response to IR | 7/12/2021 | Biopharmaceutics, manufacturing |

| Submission(s) | Document Date | Discipline(s) Affected |
|------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| SD-009, Response to IR | 9/1/2021 | Drug product |
| SD-010, Response to IR | 9/10/2021 | Manufacturing |
| SD-011, Response to IR | 9/10/2021 | Drug product |
| SD-12, Response to IR | 9/20/2021 | Drug product |

QUALITY ASSESSMENT DATA SHEET

1. RELATED/SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A. DMFs:

| DMF # | Type | Holder | Item Referenced | Status | Date Assessed | Comments |
|---------|------|---------|-----------------|----------|---------------|------------------------------|
| (b) (4) | II | (b) (4) | Baclofen USP | Adequate | 3/29/2021 | F. Burnett |
| | III | | (b) (4) | N/A | -- | Information in NDA adequate. |

B. Other Documents: IND, RLD, or sister applications

| Document | Application Number | Description |
|----------|--------------------|--|
| IND | 140719 | Development of granule formulation. |
| NDA | 17851 | Novartis NDA for Lioresal (baclofen tablets) is referenced under 505(b)(2) to support safety and efficacy of baclofen. |

2. CONSULTS

None.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION ON APPROVABILITY

The OPQ review team recommends **APPROVAL** of NDA 215422 for Baclofen Oral Granules. From a product quality perspective, the application provides for adequate assurance that the product will be suitable for use by the intended patient population.

II. SUMMARY OF QUALITY ASSESSMENTS

A. Product Overview

Baclofen is a structural analog of γ -aminobutyric acid (GABA) that was initially approved in 1971 (as Lioresal® tablets) for treatment of spasticity resulting from multiple sclerosis. Per labeling, baclofen may also be of some value in patients with spinal cord injuries and other spinal cord diseases. Other approved dosage forms include a parenteral formulation for IT infusion, ODT, and oral solution.

The proposed product is a “stick pack” containing granules, that may be taken directly with or without water, mixed with food, or mixed with liquids for administration via enteral feeding tubes. Three strengths are proposed, 5 mg, 10 mg, and 20 mg.

| | |
|---|---|
| Proposed indication(s) including intended patient population | Treatment of spasticity resulting from multiple sclerosis. Patients 12 years and older. |
| Duration of treatment | Chronic |
| Maximum daily dose | 80 mg |
| Alternative methods of administration | The product may be: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• swallowed with or without water,• mixed with soft food, or• mixed with liquid for oral or enteral administration. |

B. Quality Assessment Overview

Drug Substance: Adequate

Baclofen USP is manufactured by [REDACTED] (b) (4). [REDACTED]. Supporting information for manufacture and control of baclofen is incorporated by cross reference [REDACTED] (b) (4) DMF [REDACTED] (b) (4). The DMF was reviewed

and is deemed adequate. [REDACTED] (b) (4) assigns a [REDACTED] (b) (4) retest period when stored [REDACTED] (b) (4).

The NDA includes information on general properties of the drug substance, specifications, and analytical methods. The methods used by [REDACTED] (b) (4) and the drug product manufacturer [REDACTED] (b) (4) have been shown to be same by comparison.

Drug Product: Adequate

Baclofen Oral Granules consist of white to off white free flowing granules containing baclofen in a 5 mg, 10 mg, or 20 mg single dose packet. The drug product contains compendial excipients, including mannitol, xylitol, saccharin sodium, hypromellose, amino methacrylate copolymer, crospovidone, calcium stearate, colloidal silicon dioxide, and talc. The drug product also contains strawberry flavoring.

The proposed drug product specification includes typical test parameters for a solid oral dosage form. All analytical procedures are adequately described and validated. Related substances are monitored, with an unidentified individual impurity limit of [REDACTED] (b) (4) % and specified impurity limits for [REDACTED] (b) (4) of [REDACTED] (b) (4) %. The individual impurity limit is in line with ICH guidelines. The limit for Related Compound A is consistent with the USP monograph for Baclofen Tablets, oral suspension.

The drug product has been granted a 30-month expiry when stored at controlled room temperature (20°C – 25°C) based on the long-term stability data provided.

Labeling: Adequate

Minor deficiencies have been communicated and will be corrected during final labeling negotiations.

Manufacturing: Adequate

The proposed DP manufacturing process includes [REDACTED] (b) (4)

[REDACTED] The key risk is to content uniformity (CU), which was evaluated to be at medium risk.

Compared to the registration batches, the commercial process has the [REDACTED] (b) (4)

(b) (4). The (b) (4) will be used for commercial manufacture as for the registration batches, but the (b) (4). Registration batches were made at the commercial DP facility.

The applicant has developed adequate process controls for the (b) (4) (b) (4) Critical process parameters (CPPs) for (b) (4) (b) (4)

Consistent and acceptable granule uniformity has been demonstrated on the registration batches. CPPs for the commercia (b) (4)

Registration batch (b) (4) results are acceptable and suggested (b) (4). The commercial (b) (4) (b) (4) tests include (b) (4) (b) (4). The overall control strategy is acceptable for a medium risk CU product.

All facilities involved in manufacturing or testing of Baclofen USP and Baclofen Oral Granules are currently acceptable. Facility status should be verified prior to final action.

Biopharmaceutics: Adequate

The to-be-marketed formulation was used in the relative bioavailability (BA) study comparing to the LD under fasting condition and in food-effect BA studies. In the pivotal BA studies, test product 20 mg was administered with water, without water or with soft food demonstrated bioequivalence to the LD. Thus, formulation bridging is not needed. No biowaiver was requested because all three strengths were studied, and the applicant demonstrated in vivo dose proportionality.

The applicant adopted the dissolution method listed in USP monograph for Baclofen Tablets (500 mL of 0.01 N HCl using Apparatus 2 at 50 rpm). Based on the provided full profile dissolution data from the clinical and registration batches, the selection of the testing conditions and parameters are acceptable. The applicant investigated the discriminatory ability of the proposed dissolution method toward variations in drug substance particle size, excipient levels, and process parameters; however, the discriminatory ability could not be demonstrated. The dissolution method is deemed acceptable given the high solubility of the drug substance and rapid dissolution of the drug product. Based on dissolution profile data for the clinical and registration batches, the applicant's proposed dissolution acceptance criterion of "NLT (b) (4) % (Q) at 15 min" is deemed acceptable for quality control of the drug product at batch release and during stability testing.

FDA-approved dissolution method and acceptance criteria for batch release and stability testing of 5 mg, 10 mg and 20 mg of the proposed product:

| USP Apparatus | Speed (RPM) | Medium | Volume/Temp | Acceptance Criterion |
|---------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|---|
| II (Paddle) | 50 | 0.01N HCl | 500 mL/37°C | Q = ^(D) _(A) % at 15 minutes |

Environmental: Adequate

The applicant submitted a claim for categorical under 21 CFR Part 25.31(b). The expected introduction concentration (EIC) for baclofen is less than 1 part per billion and the applicant has included a statement of no extraordinary circumstances.

C. Risk Assessment

| From Initial Risk Identification | | | Review Assessment | | |
|----------------------------------|---|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Attribute/ CQA | Factors that can impact the CQA | Initial Risk Ranking | Risk Mitigation Approach | Final Risk Evaluation | Comments |
| Assay, Stability | Formulation, container closure, moisture, process parameters | Low | (b) (4) | Adequate | |
| Content Uniformity | API physical properties, formulation, process parameters, equipment, scale | Medium | | Adequate | |
| Physical Stability (solid state) | Formulation, raw materials, process parameters, scale, equipment | Low | | Adequate | |
| Particle Size | Formulation, raw materials, process parameters, scale, equipment | Low | | Adequate | |
| Dissolution BCS I/III | API properties, formulation, process parameters, granule size, equipment, scale | Low | | Adequate | |
| Microbial limits | Formulation, raw materials, moisture, container closure | Low | | Adequate | |
| Palatability | Formulation, excipient change, process parameters | Medium | | Adequate | |

D. List of Deficiencies for Complete Response

Not applicable.

Application Technical Lead Name and Date:

Martha R. Heimann, Ph.D.

Senior Product Quality Assessor, Neurology Products
Office of New Drug Products

10/15/2021



Martha
Heimann

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LABELING

(b) (4)



| Item | Information Provided in NDA |
|---|--|
| Product Title (Labeling Review Tool and 21 CFR 201.57(a)(2)) | |
| Proprietary name and established name | (b) (4) (baclofen) oral granules |
| Dosage form, route of administration | Oral |
| Controlled drug substance symbol | Not Applicable |
| Dosage Forms and Strengths (Labeling Review Tool and 21 CFR 201.57(a)(8)) | |
| Summary of the dosage form and strength | Oral granules: 5 mg, 10 mg, 20 mg baclofen |

Is the information accurate? Yes No

Revisions identified and will be communicated to the Applicant as part of labeling negotiations. The PI is adequate assuming Applicant accepts edits.

The Applicant will be asked to revise the established name and the summary of dosage forms and strengths.

2. Section 2 Dosage and Administration

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| Item | Information Provided in NDA |
|--|--|
| (Refer to Labeling Review Tool and 21 CFR 201.57(c)(12)) | |
| Special instructions for product preparation (e.g., reconstitution, mixing with food, diluting with compatible diluents) | (b) (4) (b) (4) The drug product can be administered orally as a mixture with liquids (b) (4) or soft foods, such as apple sauce, yogurt, or pudding. The drug product can also be administered via enteral feeding tubes, such as nasogastric (NG), gastronomy (G), percutaneous endoscopic gastronomy (PEG) and gastrojejunostomy (GJ) tubes. Apple juice or milk (b) (4). |

Is the information accurate? Yes No

Revisions identified (e.g., change stick pack to packet, addition of feeding tube size range) and will be communicated to the Applicant as part of labeling negotiations. The PI is adequate assuming Applicant accepts edits.

3. Section 3 Dosage Forms and Strengths

(b) (4)

| Item | Information Provided in NDA |
|--|-----------------------------|
| (Refer to Labeling Review Tool and 21 CFR 201.57(c)(4)) | |
| Available dosage forms | Oral Granules |
| Strengths: in metric system | 5 mg, 10 mg, 20 mg baclofen |
| Active moiety expression of strength with equivalence statement | NA |
| A description of the identifying characteristics of the dosage forms, including shape, color, coating, scoring, and imprinting, when applicable. | Present |

Is the information accurate? Yes No

Revisions identified (e.g., change stick pack to packet, including color of granules) and will be communicated to the Applicant as part of labeling negotiations. The PI is adequate assuming Applicant accepts edits.

4. Section 11 Description

(b) (4)

| Item | Information Provided in NDA |
|--|----------------------------------|
| (Refer to Labeling Review Tool and 21 CFR 201.57(c)(12), 21 CFR 201.100(b)(5)(iii), 21 CFR 314.94(a)(9)(iii), and 21 CFR 314.94(a)(9)(iv)) | |
| Proprietary name and established name | (b) (4) (baclofen) oral granules |
| Dosage form and route of administration | Oral |
| Active moiety expression of strength with equivalence statement (if applicable) | Not Applicable |
| For parenteral, otic, and ophthalmic dosage forms, include the quantities of all inactive ingredients [see 21 CFR 201.100(b)(5)(iii), 21 CFR 314.94(a)(9)(iii), and 21 CFR 314.94(a)(9)(iv)], listed by USP/NF names (if any) in alphabetical order (USP <1091>) | Present |
| Statement of being sterile (if applicable) | Present |
| Pharmacological/ therapeutic class | Present |
| Chemical name, structural formula, molecular weight | Present |
| If radioactive, statement of important nuclear characteristics. | Not Applicable |
| Other important chemical or physical properties (such as pKa or pH) | Not Applicable |

Is the information accurate? Yes No

Revisions identified and will be communicated to the Applicant as part of labeling

negotiations. The PI is adequate assuming Applicant accepts edits.

The Applicant will be asked to correct the structure, reorder the excipients alphabetically, and change stick pack to packet.

5. Section 16 How Supplied/Storage and Handling

(b) (4)

| Item | Information Provided in NDA |
|--|--|
| (Refer to Labeling Review Tool and 21 CFR 201.57(c)(17)) | |
| Strength of dosage form | Oral granules: 5 mg, 10 mg, 20 mg baclofen |
| Available units (e.g., bottles of 100 tablets) | Carton of 90 packets |
| Identification of dosage forms, e.g., shape, color, coating, scoring, imprinting, NDC number | White to off-white (b) (4) granules |
| Special handling (e.g., protect from light) | Not Applicable |
| Storage conditions | Controlled Room Temperature (b) (4) |
| Manufacturer/distributor name (21 CFR 201.1(h)(5)) | Saol Therapeutics |

Is the information accurate? Yes No

Revisions (removal of unnecessary information and reorganizing the how supplied section) identified and will be communicated to the Applicant as part of labeling negotiations. The PI is adequate assuming Applicant accepts edits.

Reviewer's Assessment of Package Insert: Inadequate, deficiencies communicated to OND PM

Prescribing Information complies with regulatory requirements from a CMC perspective; however, some information is absent. Revisions identified and will be communicated to the Applicant as part of labeling negotiations.

II. Labels:**1. Container Labels**

(b) (4)



| Item | Information provided in the container label | Information provided in the carton label(s) |
|---|---|---|
| Proprietary name, established name (font size | Present | Present |

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| and prominence (21 CFR 201.10(g)(2)) | | |
| Dosage strength | Present | Present |
| Net contents | Present | Present |
| “Rx only” displayed prominently on the main panel | Present | Present |
| NDC number (21 CFR 207.35(b)(3)(i)) | Present | Present |
| Lot number and expiration date (21 CFR 201.17) | Present | Present |
| Storage conditions | Present | Present |
| Bar code (21CFR 201.25) | Present | Present |
| Name of manufacturer/distributor | Present | Present |
| And others if space is available | NA | NA |

Reviewer's Assessment of Labels: *Adequate*

The carton/container label complies with regulatory requirements from a CMC perspective. This is acceptable.

Overall Assessment and Recommendation: Adequate pending corrections during labeling negotiations.



Andrei
Ponta

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Julia
Pinto

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CHAPTER VI: BIOPHARMACEUTICS

| | |
|---|--|
| NDA Number | NDA-215422-ORIG-1 |
| Drug Product Name | (b) (4) (baclofen granules) |
| Dosage Form/ Strength | Granules; 5 mg, 10 mg, 20 mg |
| Route of Administration | Oral |
| Applicant Name | Saol Therapeutics Research Limited |
| Therapeutic Classification/ OND Division | Division of Neurology |
| Proposed Indication | Treatment of spasticity resulting from multiple sclerosis, particularly for the relief of flexor spasms and concomitant pain, clonus, and muscular rigidity. |
| Submission Date | 01/22/2021 (Original) |
| Primary Reviewer | Swapna Pamu, M.S. |
| Secondary Reviewer | Ta-Chen Wu, Ph.D. |
| Recommendation | Adequate |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Applicant is seeking 505(b)(2) approval for the proposed (b) (4) (baclofen) granules (in stick packs); 5 mg, 10 mg, 20 mg. (b) (4) is indicated for the treatment of spasticity resulting from multiple sclerosis, particularly for the relief of flexor spasms and concomitant pain, clonus, and muscular rigidity. The Listed Drug (LD) is LIORESAL® (baclofen) tablets, approved under NDA 017851. The recommended maximum dosage is 80 mg daily (20 mg four times a day), administered orally with or without water. Stick pack contents can be mixed with soft foods for administration within 2 hours. It can also be administered via enteral feeding tubes.

REVIEW SUMMARY:

The Biopharmaceutics review is focused on evaluation of (1) the adequacy of the proposed dissolution method and acceptance criterion, (2) formulation bridging throughout product development, (3) Biowaiver, and (4) risk assessment. The Applicant did not request Biowaiver because all three strengths have been studied in Phase 1 studies.

(1) Dissolution Method and Acceptance Criterion:

The Applicant adopted the dissolution method listed in USP monograph for Baclofen Tablets (500 mL of 0.01 N HCl using Apparatus 2 at 50 rpm). Based on the provided full profile dissolution data from the clinical and registration batches, the selection of the testing conditions and parameters are acceptable. The Applicant investigated the discriminatory ability of the proposed dissolution method toward the parameters (b) (4)

(b) (4) Additional results were provided for studying drug release with changes in product formulation (b) (4)

(b) (4) composition, and process parameter variations (b) (4). Though the discriminatory ability could not be demonstrated, this Reviewer finds it acceptable considering the high solubility of the drug substance and rapid dissolution of the drug product.

Based on the provided full profile dissolution data from the clinical and registration batches, the Applicant's proposed dissolution acceptance criteria of "NLT (b) (4) % (Q) at 15 min" is deemed acceptable for QC testing of the proposed drug product at batch release and during stability testing.

(2) Formulation Bridging:

It is noted that formulation/product bridging is not needed because to-be-marketed formulation/product was used in the relative bioavailability (BA) study comparing to the LD under fasting condition and in food-effect BA studies. In the pivotal BA studies, test product 20 mg was administered with water, without water or with soft food demonstrated bioequivalence to the LD. Formulation composition is proportional between all strengths of the test product and the Applicant demonstrated in-vivo dose proportionality.

(3) Biowaiver:

All three strengths were studied in bioavailability studies. Biowaiver request is not needed or submitted.

(4) Risk Assessment:

Considering the immediate release nature of the drug product and BCS Class III characteristics of baclofen in 0.01N HCl dissolution medium, risk associated with dissolution is low from a Biopharmaceutics standpoint. In addition, time to peak drug concentration (Tmax) of the active moiety is not considered critical regarding treatment effect or safety for the proposed indication.

RECOMMENDATION:

From a Biopharmaceutics perspective, NDA-215422-ORIG-1 for (b) (4) (baclofen granules), 5 mg, 10 mg and 20 mg, is Adequate.

FDA-approved dissolution method and acceptance criteria for batch release and stability testing of 5 mg, 10 mg and 20 mg of the proposed product:

| USP Apparatus | Speed (RPM) | Medium | Volume/Temp | Acceptance Criterion |
|---------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| II (Paddle) | 50 | 0.01N HCl | 500 mL/37°C | Q = (b) (4) % at 15 minutes |

BIOPHARMACEUTICS ASSESSMENT

List Submissions being assessed:

0001, 01/22/2021, Original Submission

0006, 07/12/2021, Response to FDA Information Request

Drug substance & Drug product:

Baclofen granules is a gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA-ergic) agonist indicated for the treatment of spasticity resulting from multiple sclerosis, particularly for the relief of flexor spasms and concomitant pain, clonus, and muscular rigidity. Baclofen granules is provided as a white to off white free flowing granule containing baclofen with a strawberry flavor provided in a stick pack for oral administration. Baclofen drug substance is slightly soluble in water, very slightly soluble in methanol and 96% ethanol, practically insoluble in acetone and insoluble in chloroform. It dissolves in dilute mineral acids and dilute solutions of alkali hydroxides.

BCS DESIGNATION: *A BCS designation is not requested.*

Solubility:

The Applicant claimed that the proposed drug product belongs to the Biopharmaceutics Classification System (BCS) Class III. The provided solubility study results across the physiological pH range (pH 1.2 to 7.4) are summarized below in Table 1, which confirms that baclofen is a highly soluble drug substance, per the BCS criteria. The highest single oral dose 20 mg can be dissolved in 250 ml of medium across physiologic pH range, exhibiting pH dependent solubility (solubility decreased with increasing pH).

Table 1. Baclofen Solubility as a Function of pH

| Medium | Solubility [mg/ml] | Dose / Solubility Ratio [ml] for 5 mg | Dose / Solubility Ratio [ml] for 20 mg |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| pH 1.2 ^a | 22.3 | 0.22 | 0.90 |
| pH 2.0 ^b | 7.6 | 0.66 | 2.63 |
| pH 3.9 ^c | 9.1 | 0.55 | 2.20 |
| pH 4.5 ^d | 6.1 | 0.82 | 3.27 |
| pH 6.8 ^e | 4.8 | 1.04 | 4.17 |
| pH 7.4 ^f | 4.9 | 1.02 | 4.08 |

^a0.1 M HCl; ^b0.01 M HCl; ^cphthalate buffer; ^dUSP Acetate buffer; ^eUSP Phosphate buffer

Permeability:

The Applicant stated in the submission that baclofen is a BCS Class III drug but provided no permeability information of the drug substance. However, the available permeability data in Caco-2 cell monolayers for baclofen in the approved N208193 (for Baclofen Oral Solution, 1 mg/mL), i.e., apparent permeability coefficient (Papp) value of 0.876×10^{-7} cm/s, suggest that baclofen belongs to low permeability class.

Dissolution:

The proposed Baclofen granules, 5 mg, 10 mg, 20 mg are very rapidly dissolving (refer to Section 2 below for dissolution profile data and specifications).

DISSOLUTION METHOD AND ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA:

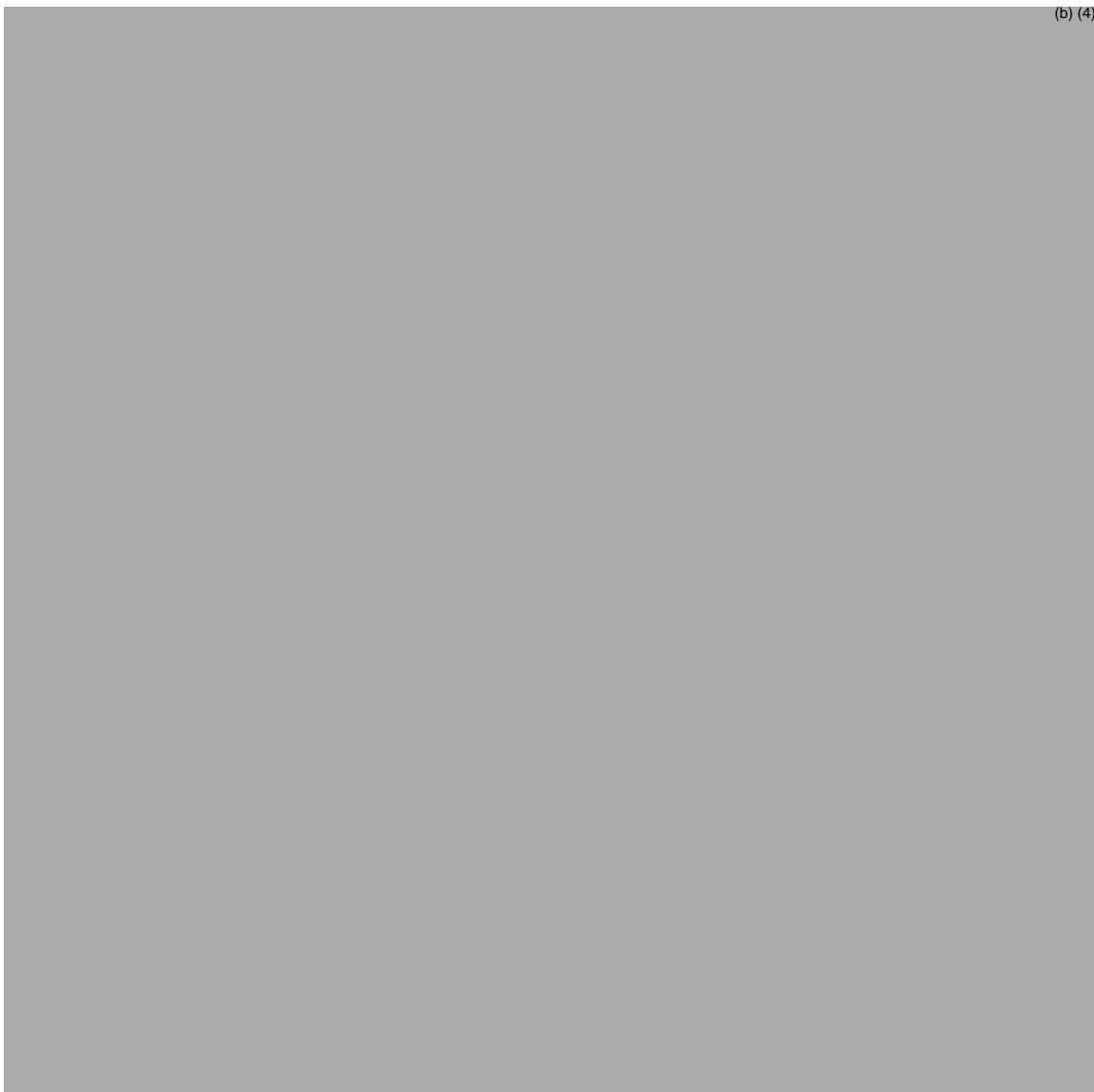
Assessment: *Adequate*

Dissolution Method Development

The proposed dissolution conditions including Apparatus 2, 50 rpm, and 500 mL of 0.01N HCl as dissolution medium are considered acceptable by this Reviewer as the quality control testing for the proposed drug product at batch release and on stability.

The dissolution method development carried out by the Applicant and justifications for using differing dissolution conditions are summarized below¹.

(b) (4)



(b) (4)



(b) (4)



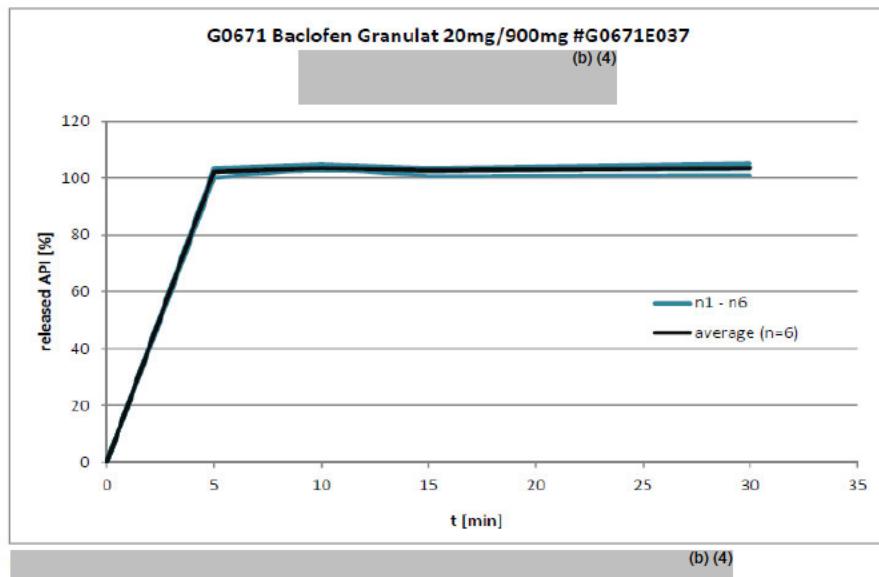
Discriminating Ability of Dissolution Method:

The Applicant investigated the discriminating ability of the proposed dissolution method toward process parameter and API characteristics but not critical quality attributes of the proposed drug product. The performed discriminating ability studies and the results are summarized below.



Table 4. Dissolution of Baclofen from aberrant batch (b) (4)

| Time [min] | Amount of Baclofen released from particular stick pack [%] | | | | | | Mean RSD |
|---------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
| 5 | (b) (4) | | | | | | 102.3 1.13 |
| 10 | | | | | | | 103.5 0.74 |
| 15 | | | | | | | 102.7 1.06 |
| 30 | | | | | | | 103.5 1.30 |

Figure 5. Dissolution of baclofen granules from the aberrant batches, 20 mg

Note that the dissolution test condition used by the Applicant to conduct this study (b) (4) is different from the proposed method (Apparatus 2, 50 rpm, 500 mL of 0.01 N HCl pH 2.0) (see **Appendix 2** for additional information). In response to Reviewer's information request, the Applicant provided results of studying discriminating ability of the method with changes in product formulation (b) (4)

(b) (4), and process parameter variations (b) (4). The resulting dissolution profiles of these intentionally altered batches (i.e., $\pm 10\text{-}20\%$ change to the specification-ranges of these variables; single and multiple changes), though slowed the drug release at early timepoints, are considered similar to target batch and conform to the proposed dissolution acceptance criterion (note that no similarity factor (f2) calculation is necessary because of the very rapid dissolution). Although the method is not found to be discriminatory for the tested

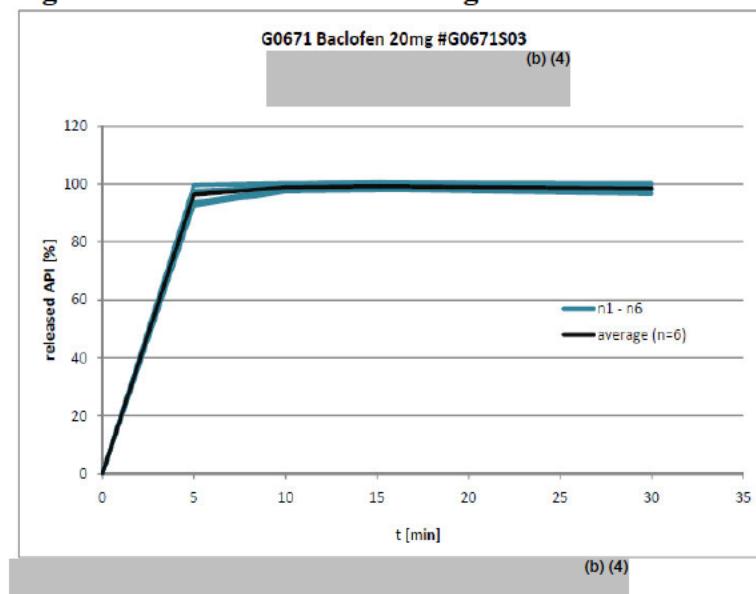
parameter, this Reviewer finds the investigation and findings acceptable due to high solubility of the drug substance and very rapid dissolution of the drug product. Applicant's response is deemed adequate.

(b) (4)
Baclofen 5 mg oral granules were prepared with (b) (4)
The dissolution method that was used by the Applicant to conduct this study (b) (4) is different from the method that is being proposed for the test product for quality control and stability (Apparatus 2, 50 rpm, 500 mL of 0.01 N HCl pH 2.0) (see **Appendix 2** for Information Request).

Table 5. Dissolution of Baclofen from aberrant batch (b) (4)

| Time [min] | Amount of Baclofen released from particular stick pack [%] | | | | | | Mean RSD |
|---------------|--|---|---|---|------|------|----------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
| 5 | (b) (4) | | | | 96.4 | 2.78 | |
| 10 | | | | | 98.9 | 1.12 | |
| 15 | | | | | 99.3 | 1.17 | |
| 30 | | | | | 98.5 | 1.27 | |

Figure 6. Dissolution of baclofen granules from the aberrant batches, 20 mg



Results of the study (b) (4) showed that the testing condition is not discriminating (b) (4). Although additional data using 50 rpm agitation speed were not provided, this Reviewer finds it acceptable considering the high solubility of

the drug substance and very rapid dissolution of the drug product (completion by 5 min) and does not anticipate improved discriminating ability [REDACTED] (b) (4)

Dissolution Acceptance Criterion

Information pertaining to dissolution profiles of the registration or exhibit batches, as well as Information Request for additional data in support of the application (n=12), are provided in **Appendix 1** and **Appendix 2**. Based on the results obtained from dissolution method development studies and dissolution profile data from the biobatch/registration batches (i.e., very rapidly dissolution with near complete drug release of baclofen at the first sampling point, 5 min), the Applicant proposed the acceptance criterion of NLT (b) (4) % (Q) dissolved at 15 minutes for the proposed product. In addition, this Reviewer noted that the drug releases data from all 3 registration batches during the stability testing conform to the proposed acceptance criterion. Therefore, the proposed acceptance criterion of "Q = (b) (4) % in 15 min" is deemed acceptable.

FORMULATION BRIDGING

Assessment: Adequate

Formulation compositions are the same for all strengths, [REDACTED] (b) (4) (See Table 8 below). All excipients are within [REDACTED] (b) (4) of the total weight of the strengths. Xylitol is included [REDACTED] (b) (4) in the formulation [REDACTED] (b) (4). The Applicant demonstrated in vivo dose-proportionality among strengths in human subjects, suggesting insignificant impact in absorption/bioavailability by slight differences in formulation composition. In addition, all 3 strengths were shown to have very rapid dissolution, hence additional bridging is not needed.

Table 6. Formulation compositions of 5, 10 and 20 mg

| Dose | 5 mg | | 10 mg | | 20 mg | |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Material | [mg/SD] | [%/SD] | [mg/SD] | [%/SD] | [mg/SD] | [%/SD] |
| Baclofen | 5.00 | (b) (4) | 10.00 | (b) (4) | 20.00 | (b) (4) |
| Mannitol | | | | | | (b) (4) |
| Xylitol | | | | | | |
| Saccharin sodium | | | | | | |
| Hypromellose | | | | | | |
| Amino Methacrylate Copolymer | | | | | | |
| Crospovidone | | | | | | |
| Calcium stearate | | | | | | |
| Colloidal silicon dioxide | | | | | | |
| Flavour strawberry | | | | | | |
| Talc | | | | | | |
| sum | | | | | | |

BIOWAIVER

All three strengths were studied during clinical development (Table 9) - Registration batches 190006609, 190006610 and 190006611 were used in bioavailability studies. Applicant stated that these batches were clinically labelled and assigned the following batch numbers G0671Z001, G0671Z002 and G0671Z003. Registration batches (5 mg & 20 mg) were used in dissolution method development studies. Therefore, biowaiver request is not needed or submitted.

Table 7. Registration batch information

| | |
|-------|--|
| 5 mg | Exhibit batch #G0671S036, Registration batch #190006609, 190012688 |
| 10 mg | Exhibit batch #G0671S037, Registration batch #190006610, 190012689 |
| 20 mg | Exhibit batch #G0671S038, Registration batch #190006611, 190012690 |

BIOPHARMACEUTICS RISK ASSESSMENT

The Applicant claimed that the proposed drug product belongs to the Biopharmaceutics Classification System (BCS) Class III (high solubility and low permeability). Based on the submitted solubility study results and permeability data from another approved application, this reviewer considers baclofen belongs to BCS Class III. Also considering the immediate release nature of the drug product and high solubility of baclofen in 0.01N HCl dissolution medium, risk in dissolution is low from a Biopharmaceutics standpoint. In addition, time to peak drug concentration (Tmax) of the active ingredients is not considered critical regarding treatment effect or disease control for the proposed indication.

Concise Description of Outstanding Issues (List bullet points with key information and update as needed):

None.

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