Draft Guidance on Balsalazide Disodium

Active ingredient: Balsalazide Disodium
Form/Route: Tablets/Oral
Recommended studies: 2 studies

1. Type of study: Fasting
   Design: Single-dose, two-treatment, two-period crossover in-vivo
   Strength: 1.1 g (dose = 3×1.1 g)
   Subjects: Healthy males and nonpregnant females, general population.
   Additional comments: Applicants may consider using a reference-scaled average bioequivalence approach for this drug product. If using this approach, the applicant should provide evidence of high variability in the bioequivalence parameters (i.e., within-subject variability ≥ 30%) for the reference product. For general information on this approach refer to the Progesterone Capsule Guidance for additional information regarding highly variable drugs.

2. Type of study: Fed
   Design: Single-dose, two-treatment, two-period crossover in-vivo
   Strength: 1.1 g (dose = 3×1.1 g)
   Subjects: Healthy males and nonpregnant females, general population.
   Additional comments: see above

Analytes to measure (in appropriate biological fluid): Balsalazide and Mesalamine in plasma
Bioequivalence based on (90% CI): Balsalazide and Mesalamine
Waiver request of in vivo testing: Not Applicable
In vitro dissolution testing under the following conditions should be submitted to support documentation of bioequivalence:
   Strength: 1.1 g
   Apparatus: USP Apparatus 2 (paddle)
   Medium: 0.1N HCl at 50 rpm and 100 rpm
            pH 4.5 buffer at 50 rpm and 100 rpm
            pH 6.8 buffer at 50 rpm and 100 rpm
            pH 7.4 buffer at 50 rpm and 100 rpm

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Volume: 1000 mL
Temperature: 37°C
Additional comments: The applicant should use at least 12 tablets per test. The $f_2$ metric will be used to compare dissolution profiles.

**Dissolution test method and sampling times:**
Please note that a **Dissolution Methods Database** is available to the public at the OGD website at [http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/dissolution/](http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/dissolution/). Please find the dissolution information for this product at this website. Please conduct comparative dissolution testing on 12 dosage units each of all strengths of the test and reference products. Specifications will be determined upon review of the application.