

## Draft Guidance on Oxymorphone Hydrochloride

This draft guidance, when finalized, will represent the current thinking of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA, or the Agency) on this topic. It does not establish any rights for any person and is not binding on FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if it satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations. To discuss an alternative approach, contact the Office of Generic Drugs.

**Active Ingredient:** Oxymorphone hydrochloride

**Dosage Form; Route:** Extended release tablet; oral

**Recommended Studies:** Two studies

1. Type of study: Fasting  
Design: Single-dose, two-way crossover  
Strength: 40 mg  
Subjects: Normal healthy males and non-pregnant females, general population.  
Additional comments: A naltrexone blockade should be used to reduce the risk of any opioid-related adverse events. Naltrexone should be administered well in advance of dosing to achieve adequate blockade of opioid receptors. The most common approach is to administer 50 mg of naltrexone at the following times: (1) 12 hours prior to dosing; (2) at the time of study drug dosing; and (3) 12 hours after the last dose of study drug. Please consult with a physician who is an expert in the administration of opioids for an appropriate dose of narcotic antagonist.
2. Type of study: Fed  
Design: Single-dose, two-way crossover  
Strength: 40 mg  
Subjects: Normal healthy males and non-pregnant females, general population.  
Additional comments: Please see comments above.

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**Analytes to measure (in appropriate biological fluid):** Oxymorphone and its active metabolite, 6-hydroxy-oxymorphone, in plasma

Please submit the metabolite data as supportive evidence of comparable therapeutic outcome. For the metabolite, the following data should be submitted: individual and mean concentrations, individual and mean pharmacokinetic parameters, and geometric means and ratios of means for AUC and  $C_{max}$ .

**Bioequivalence based on (90% CI):** Oxymorphone

**Waiver request of in-vivo testing:** 5 mg, 7.5 mg, 10 mg, 15 mg, 20 mg and 30 mg based on (i) acceptable bioequivalence studies on the 40 mg strength, (ii) acceptable in-vitro dissolution testing of all strengths, (iii) proportional similarity of the tablets across all strengths.

**Dissolution test method and sampling times:** The dissolution information for this drug product can be found on the FDA-Recommended Dissolution Methods web site, available to the public at the following location: <http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/dissolution/>. 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 abbreviated new drug application (ANDA).

In addition to the method above, for modified release products, dissolution profiles on 12 dosage units each of test and reference products generated using USP Apparatus I at 100 rpm and/or Apparatus II at 50 rpm in at least three dissolution media (pH 1.2, 4.5 and 6.8 buffer) should be submitted in the application. Agitation speeds may have to be increased if appropriate. It is acceptable to add a small amount of surfactant, if necessary. Please include early sampling times of 1, 2, and 4 hours and continue every 2 hours until at least 80% of the drug is released, to provide assurance against premature release of drug (dose dumping) from the formulation. Specifications will be determined upon review of the data submitted in the application.

Due to concerns of dose dumping from this drug product when taken with alcohol, please conduct additional dissolution testing on all strengths using various concentrations of ethanol in the dissolution medium, as follows:

Testing Conditions: 900 mL, 0.1 N HCl, USP apparatus 2 (paddle) @50 rpm, with or without alcohol;

Test 1: 12 units tested according to the proposed method (with 0.1N HCl), with data collected every 15 minutes for a total of 2 hours

Test 2: 12 units analyzed by substituting 5% (v/v) of test medium with Alcohol USP and data collection every 15 minutes for a total of 2 hours

Test 3: 12 units analyzed by substituting 20% (v/v) of test medium with Alcohol USP and data collection every 15 minutes for a total of 2 hours

Test 4: 12 units analyzed by substituting 40% (v/v) of test medium with Alcohol USP and data collection every 15 minutes for a total of 2 hours

Both test and RLD products must be tested accordingly and data must be provided on individual unit, means, range and %CV on all strengths.