Contains Nonbinding Recommendations

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Draft Guidance on Cobicistat; Darunavir Ethanolate

February 2026

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In general, FDA's guidance documents do not establish legally enforceable responsibilities. Instead, guidances describe the Agency's current thinking on a topic and should be viewed only as recommendations, unless specific regulatory or statutory requirements are cited. The use of the word *should* in Agency guidances means that something is suggested or recommended, but not required.

Active Ingredients: Cobicistat; Darunavir ethanolate

Dosage Form: Tablet

Route: Oral

Strengths: 150 mg; EQ 675 mg Base, 150 mg; EQ 800 mg Base

Recommended Studies: Two in vivo bioequivalence studies with pharmacokinetic endpoints

1. Type of study: Fed
   Design: Single-dose, two-treatment, two-period crossover in vivo
   Strength: 150 mg; EQ 800 mg Base
   Subjects: Healthy males and non-pregnant, non-lactating females
   Additional comments: Applicants may consider using a reference-scaled average bioequivalence approach for darunavir. If using this approach, provide evidence of high variability in the pharmacokinetic parameters (i.e., within-subject variability ≥30%) for the reference listed product. For detailed information on this approach, refer to the most recent version of the guidance for industry *Bioequivalence Studies With Pharmacokinetic Endpoints for Drugs Submitted Under an ANDA*.[a]

2. Type of study: Fed
   Design: Single-dose, two-treatment, two-period crossover in vivo
   Strength: 150 mg; EQ 675 mg Base
   Subjects: Healthy males and non-pregnant, non-lactating females
   Additional comments: See comments above.

Analytes to measure: Cobicistat and darunavir in plasma

Bioequivalence based on (90% CI): Cobicistat and darunavir

Waiver request of in vivo testing additional strength: Not applicable

Dissolution test method and sampling times: Dissolution test(s) should be included for quality control. Provide a dissolution method development report for the test product containing information and data that demonstrate appropriateness of the selected dissolution method[1] and sampling times, such as the discriminating ability to detect changes in critical quality attributes that could potentially impact drug product performance.

If the strength of the tablet product has a functional score, additional dissolution profile testing should be conducted for each segment of the split tablet after manual and mechanical splitting as per the most recent version of the guidance for industry *Tablet Scoring: Nomenclature, Labeling, and Data for Evaluation.*[a]

Document History: Recommended April 2016; Revised December 2016, February 2026

Unique Agency Identifier: PSG_205395

[a] For the most recent version of a guidance, refer to the FDA guidance website at https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents.

[1] Applicant-developed, United States Pharmacopeia drug product monograph or Dissolution Methods database, https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/dissolution/index.cfm.