*Contains Nonbinding Recommendations*

*Draft – Not for Implementation*

# Draft Guidance on Cocaine Hydrochloride

**May 2022**

This draft guidance, when finalized, will represent the current thinking of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA, or the Agency) on this topic.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.

This guidance, which interprets the Agency's regulations on bioequivalence at 21 CFR part 320, provides product-specific recommendations on, among other things, the design of bioequivalence studies to support abbreviated new drug applications (ANDAs) for the referenced drug product. FDA is publishing this guidance to further facilitate generic drug product availability and to assist the generic pharmaceutical industry with identifying the most appropriate methodology for developing drugs and generating evidence needed to support ANDA approval for generic versions of this product.

The contents of this document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way, unless specifically incorporated into a contract. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law. FDA guidance documents, including this guidance, should be viewed only as recommendations, unless specific regulatory or statutory requirements are cited. The use of the word should in FDA guidances means that something is suggested or recommended, but not required.

This is a new draft product-specific guidance for industry on generic cocaine hydrochloride.

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**Active Ingredient:** Cocaine hydrochloride

**Dosage Form; Route:** Solution; nasal

**Strength:** 4%

**Recommended Study:** Request for waiver of in vivo bioequivalence study requirement

1. To qualify for a waiver of evidence of in vivo bioavailability or bioequivalence study requirement under 21 CFR 320.22(b)(3), generic versions of cocaine hydrochloride topical nasal solution 4% should contain the same active drug ingredient in the same concentration and dosage form as the Reference Listed Drug (RLD) product and contain no inactive ingredient or other change in formulation from the RLD that may significantly affect systemic or local availability.

2. For a topical nasal solution drug product that differs from the RLD in inactive ingredients [as permitted by the chemistry, manufacturing, and controls regulations for Abbreviated New Drug Applications (ANDAs), 21 CFR 314.94(a)(9)(v)], the regulation specifies that

the applicant must identify and characterize the differences and provide information demonstrating that the differences do not affect the safety or efficacy of the proposed drug product.

**Additional comments**:

In general, evidence to demonstrate that the formulation of the test product should not alter the systemic or local availability of cocaine hydrochloride, compared to that of the RLD product, may be based upon a comparison of the formulation composition as well as relevant quality and performance attributes of the test and RLD products.

If the test and RLD products are not qualitatively (Q1) and quantitatively (Q2) the same as defined in the most recent version of the FDA guidance for industry on *ANDA Submissions – Refuse-to-Receive Standards*[a], relevant quality and performance attributes should include appearance, pH, osmolality, and any other potentially relevant physical and chemical properties, characterized for a minimum of three batches of the test and three batches (as available) of the RLD product.

**Analyte to measure:** Not applicable

**Bioequivalence based on (90% CI):** Not applicable

**Waiver request of in vivo testing:** Not applicable

**Dissolution test method and sampling times:** Not applicable

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**Unique Agency Identifier**: PSG_209575

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