



UPDATE OF GUIDANCE ON THERAPEUTIC PRODUCT REGISTRATION (1 APRIL 2018)

Dear Industry Stakeholders,

We are pleased to inform you of the updates to the Guidance on Therapeutic Product Registration, effective 1 April 2018. Following consultations with industry stakeholders, we are introducing new initiatives on process enhancements for better predictability and transparency, as well as reduced regulatory burden for industry.

We are happy to share with you the key changes, as below.

Highlights of Changes

1. Overall Screening Turn-Around Time (TAT)

A screening TAT of 50 working days is introduced for the following application types submitted in PRISM on and after 1 April 2018:

- New drug applications (NDA)
- Generic drug applications (GDA)
- Major variation applications (MAV)

The TAT starts from the date of receipt of the application dossier and ends on the date of acceptance or non-acceptance/ withdrawal of the application, excluding stop-clock (i.e. time taken by applicants to respond to Input Request (IR) from HSA).

Applicants should refer to Chapter B and Chapter F of the main guidance, and Appendix 5 for more information. The Target Processing Timelines website have also been updated to reflect the new TAT. Please [click here](#) for more information.

With the implementation of the new screening TAT, HSA will also be publishing an aggregated stop-clock time taken by companies for the different application types on a half-yearly basis. All data will be anonymised to ensure that information on individual applications are not disclosed. The first set of data will be published on the HSA Website in October 2018.

2. MIV-1 Verification Route

With the implementation of the Minor Variation-1 (MIV-1) verification route on 1 December 2017, we have updated the guidance to reflect the changes related to submission of MIV-1 via the verification route. The verification route will have a shorter TAT of 90 working days, compared to the standard route.

Please refer to Chapter H of the main guidance, and Appendix 17 for more information.

3. Updated Application Checklists

The Application Checklists for NDA, GDA and MAV have been enhanced to include specifics of documentation requirements to ensure clarity to applicants. Applicants are required to complete the checklist for each application submission and attached in PRISM.

Please refer to Appendix 2A, 2B, 3A and 3B for more information.

4. Confirmation of Reference Agency's Approval of Chemistry & Manufacturing Control (CMC) Aspects

A new Dossier Clarification Supplement for NDA and GDA is introduced to enable applicants to provide supplementary information and confirm if the quality aspects of a therapeutic product proposed in Singapore are the same as those approved by a reference agency. This will allow HSA to better leverage on the assessment done by our reference agencies and optimises the efficiency of the abridged route.

Applicants are required to complete the form for each application submission and attached in PRISM.

Please refer to Appendix 18 and 18A for more information.

5. Updates to Submission of Drug Master File and Plasma Master File

The guidance on Drug Master File (DMF) or Plasma Master File (PMF) has been updated and a sample for the Letter of Access (LoA) is provided for applicants' reference. This aims to enhance clarity in the submission requirements so as to minimise the need for HSA to raise deficiency query/Input Request (IR) arising from the omission of information by applicants and DMF/PMF holders.

Please refer to Appendix 8, 11 and 11B for more information.

6. Comparative Dissolution Profile Testing and BCS Class III Biowaiver

The requirement for comparative dissolution profile (CDP) testing for GDA is further stratified according to a risk-based approach. Generic products in immediate-release solid oral dosage form that are to be registered as Pharmacy-Only Medicine (P) or General Sale List medicine (GSL) are eligible for reduced requirements if they demonstrate compliance to compendial standards.

The requirement for bioequivalence (BE) data for GDA is further streamlined with the extension of eligibility for biowaiver to Biopharmaceutics Classification System (BCS) Class III compounds.

The above will enhance the eligibility for GDA filing with reduced requirements where scientifically justified.

Please refer to Chapter D of the main guidance, and Appendix 10 for more information.

The updated guidance documents are accessible at the Guidance document page on the TPB website ([click here](#)).

Please contact us at HSA_TP_Enquiry@hsa.gov.sg if you have any enquiries.

For any enquiries related to these new initiatives, please [click here](#) to submit an enquiry.

Thank you.

**Therapeutic Products Branch
Medicinal Products Pre-Market Cluster
Health Products Regulation Group
Health Sciences Authority**

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