

Draft Guidance on Baricitinib

December 2025

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Active Ingredient: Baricitinib

Dosage Form: Tablet

Route: Oral

Strengths: 1 mg, 2 mg, 4 mg

Recommended Study: One in vivo bioequivalence study with pharmacokinetic endpoints

1. Type of study: Fasting
Design: Single-dose, two-treatment, two-period crossover in vivo
Strength: 4 mg
Subjects: Healthy males and non-pregnant, non-lactating females
Additional comments: Exclude subjects with latent tuberculosis, abnormal liver function tests or blood counts, or at an increased risk for thrombosis. Do not use live attenuated vaccines immediately prior to or during the study.

Analyte to measure: Baricitinib in plasma

Bioequivalence based on (90% CI): Baricitinib

Waiver request of in vivo testing: 1 mg and 2 mg strengths based on (i) an acceptable bioequivalence study on the 4 mg strength, (ii) acceptable in vitro dissolution testing of all strengths, and (iii) proportional similarity of the formulations across all strengths

Dissolution test method and sampling times: The dissolution information for this drug product can be found in the FDA’s Dissolution Methods database, <http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/dissolution>. Conduct comparative dissolution testing on 12 dosage units for each of all strengths of the test product and reference listed drug (RLD).¹ Specifications will be determined upon review of the abbreviated new drug application.

Product-specific testing conditions for in vitro feeding tube studies: Since the approved labeling for the RLD states that the product may be administered via a feeding tube, in vitro nasogastric (NG) tube/orogastric (OG) tube and gastrostomy (G) tube studies are recommended which include comparative recovery, sedimentation volume, and re- dispersibility.

Testing tubes: NG/OG tube (8 French) and G tube (12 French), each including at least three different tube materials (e.g., polyvinyl chloride, silicone, polyurethane) and/or designs (e.g., various numbers of ports and/or eyes, retention balloons, open or closed distal end). At least one G tube should be tested with an inflated balloon design.

Testing strength: 4 mg

Dispersion and rinse medium: Dispersed a tablet with 30 mL of water for NG/OG tube or 15 mL of water for G tube. Flush remaining contents from NG/OG or G tubes with 15 mL of water. Report the pH value of the water.

Holding times: 0 and 15 minutes

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¹ If the RLD is not available, refer to the most recent version of the guidance for industry *Referencing Approved Drug Products in ANDA Submissions*.