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*Draft – Not for Implementation*

## **Draft Guidance on Obeticholic Acid**

**October 2024**

This draft guidance, when finalized, will represent the current thinking of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA, or the Agency) on this topic.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

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|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Active Ingredient:</b> | Obeticholic acid  |
| <b>Dosage Form:</b>       | Tablet  |
| <b>Route:</b>             | Oral  |
| <b>Strengths:</b>         | 5 mg, 10 mg   |
| <b>Recommended Study:</b> | One in vivo bioequivalence study with pharmacokinetic endpoints |

1. Type of study: Fasting  
Design: Single-dose, two-treatment, two-period crossover in vivo  
Strength: 10 mg  
Subjects: Healthy males and non-pregnant, non-lactating females  
Additional comments: None

**Analytes to measure:** Obeticholic acid (OCA) and the pharmacologically active metabolites Glyco-OCA and Tauro-OCA in plasma

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<sub>max</sub>.

**Bioequivalence based on (90% CI):** Obeticholic acid

**Waiver request of in-vivo testing:** 5 mg strength based on (i) acceptable bioequivalence study on the 10 mg strength, (ii) acceptable in vitro dissolution testing of both strengths, and (iii) proportional similarity of the formulations between both 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 both strengths of the test product and reference listed drug (RLD).<sup>1</sup> Specifications will be determined upon review of the abbreviated new drug application.

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**Document History:** Recommended July 2017; Revised October 2024

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