

Role of Regulatory Science Research Topical Product Development

Innovations in Dermatological Sciences Conference

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Office of Research and Standards (ORS), Office of Generic Drugs (OGD)

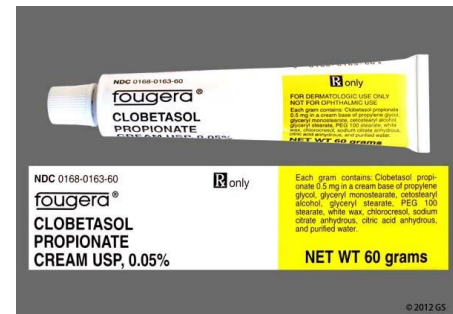
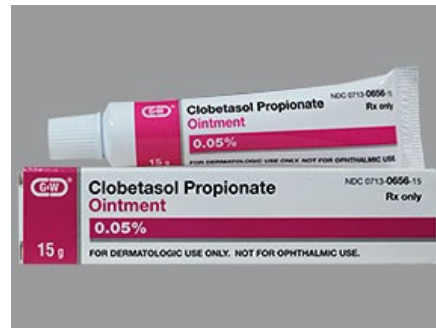
CDER | U.S. FDA

28 September 2023



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Topical Drug Products (Skin)

Understanding the Influence of Formulation



Components and Composition

“No Significant Difference” in Formulation (Characterization Based Approach)

- *Characterization of the Physicochemical and Structural Properties (Q3)*
- *IVRT (In Vitro Release Test)*
- *IVPT (In Vitro Permeation Test)*
- *In vivo systemic pharmacokinetic (PK) studies*
- *In **silico**-based tools (Modeling and Simulation)*

“Differences” in Formulation (Currently Under Development)

- *Impact of Formulation Differences on **Thermodynamic** Potential*
- ***Cutaneous PK** Approaches*
 - Dermal Microdialysis*
 - Dermal Open Flow Microperfusion*
 - Raman Spectroscopy-based Tools*
- *Comparative Clinical Endpoint Studies*

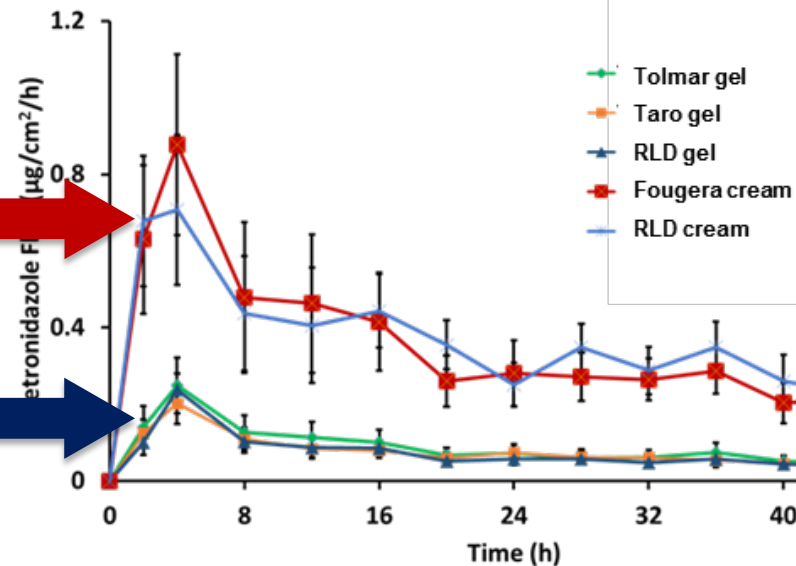
Characterization Based Approach



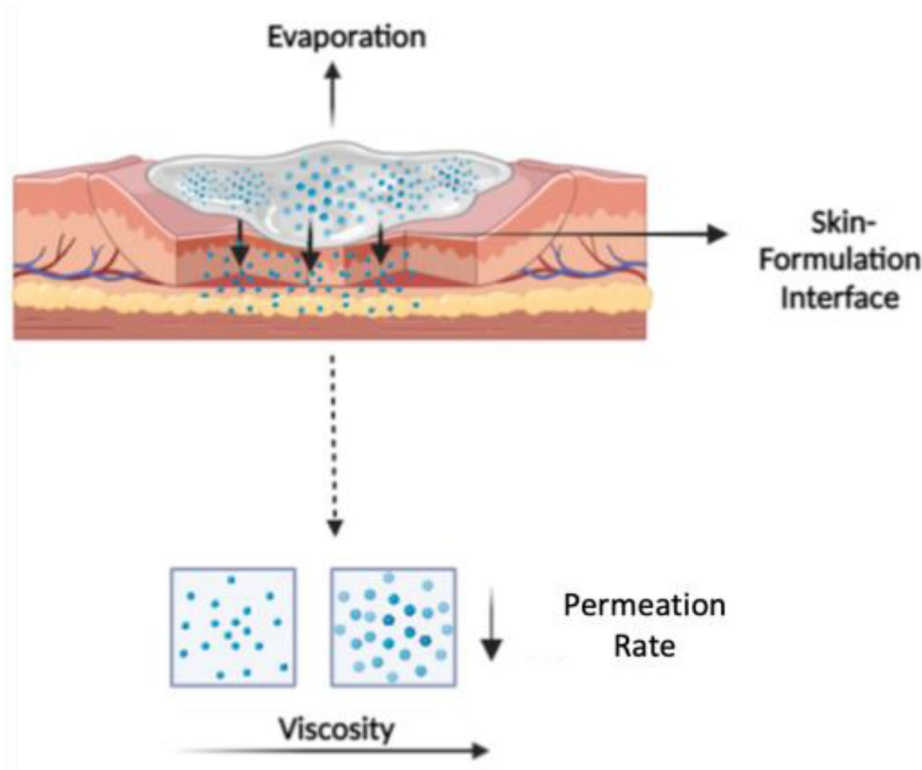
Quality Attribute	MetroCream® (RLD Cream)	Generic Cream (Fougera)	Metrogel® (RLD Gel)	Generic Gel (Tolmar)	Generic Gel (Taro)
pH	4.8	5.1	5.2	5.0	5.4
Density (g/cc)	1.02	1.02	1.01	1.02	1.02
WOA (g.sec)	57.6	63.9	39.4	43.9	42.0
Particle size (µm)	Active ingredient				
Drug in Aq (mg/g)	4.20	2.92	---	---	---
Drug in Oil (mg/g)	2.58	3.94	---	---	---
Solvent Activity	0.977	0.974	0.992	0.994	1.002
Globule size, d ₅₀ (µm)	2.8	2.2	---	---	---
Drying, T ₃₀ (min)	17	11.4	5.5	4.7	6.5

In Vitro Permeation Test

RLD = Reference Listed Drug



Influence of Metamorphosis on Bioavailability



Understanding the Influence of Formulation



Components and Composition

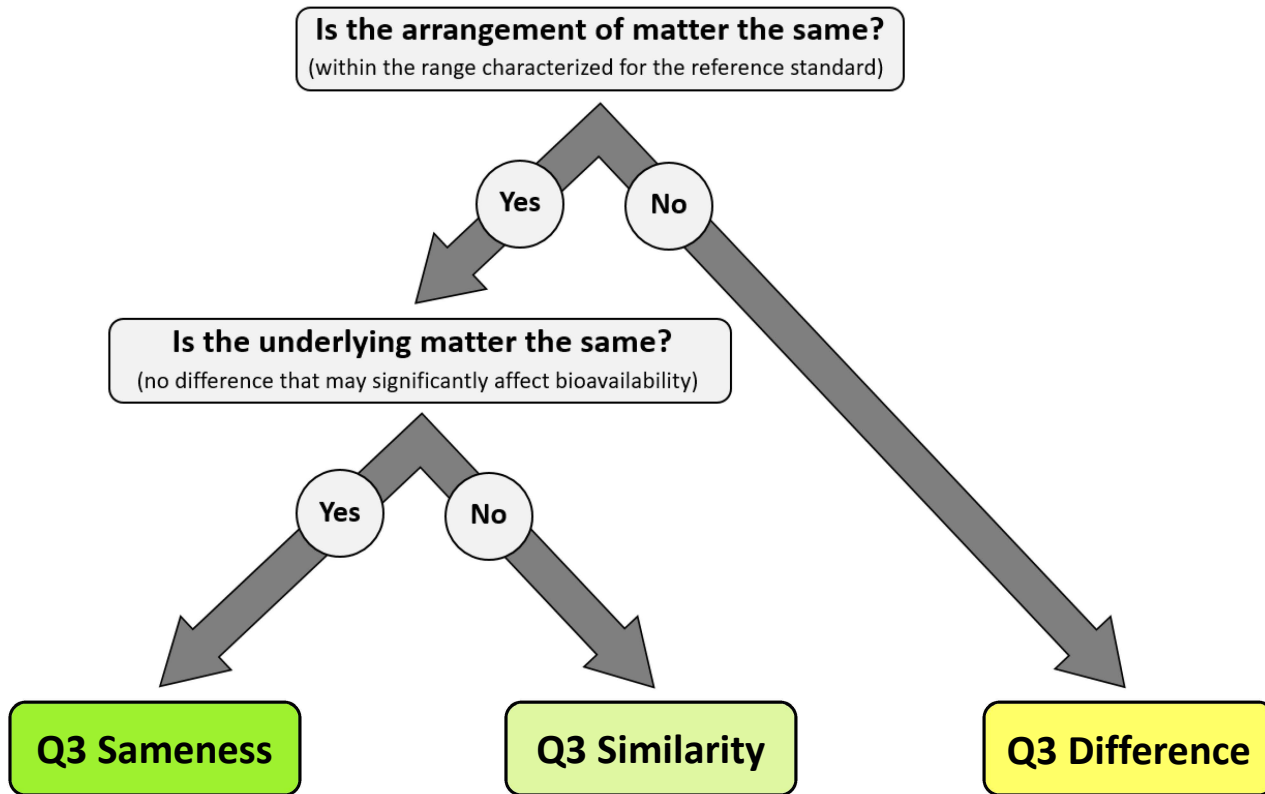
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Concepts of Q3



Understanding the Influence of Formulation



Components and Composition

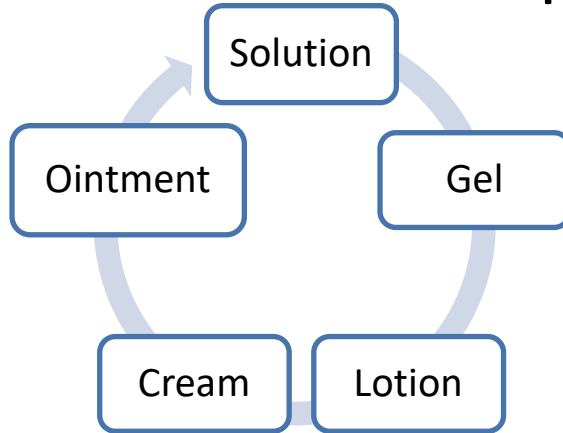
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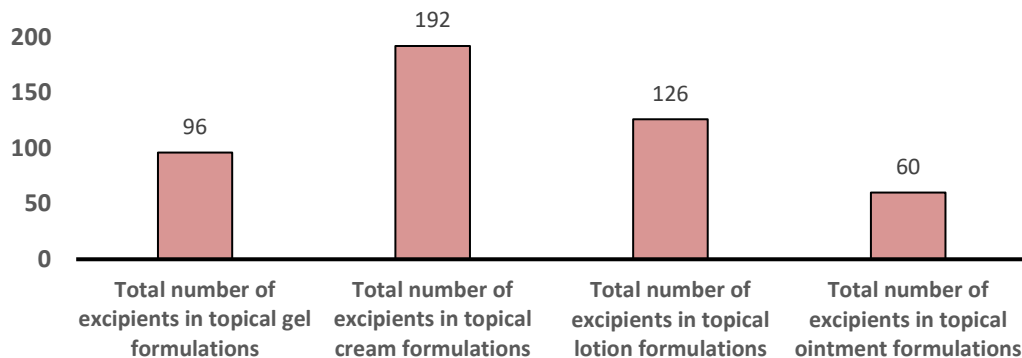
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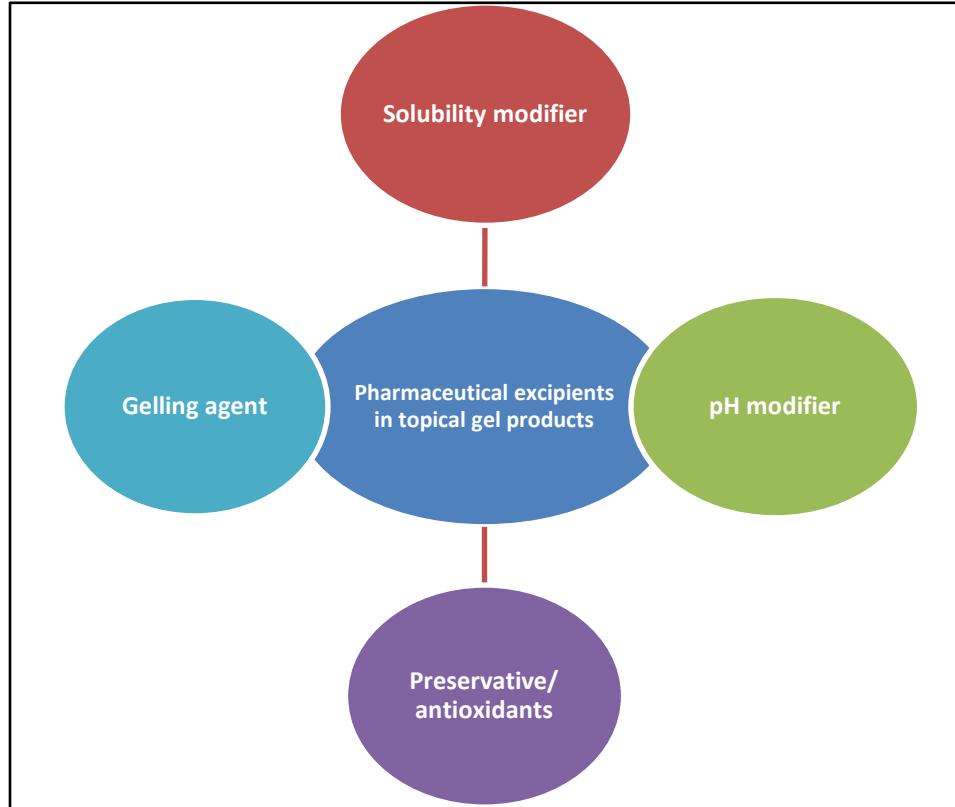
Topical Product Complexity



Total number of excipients in topical products



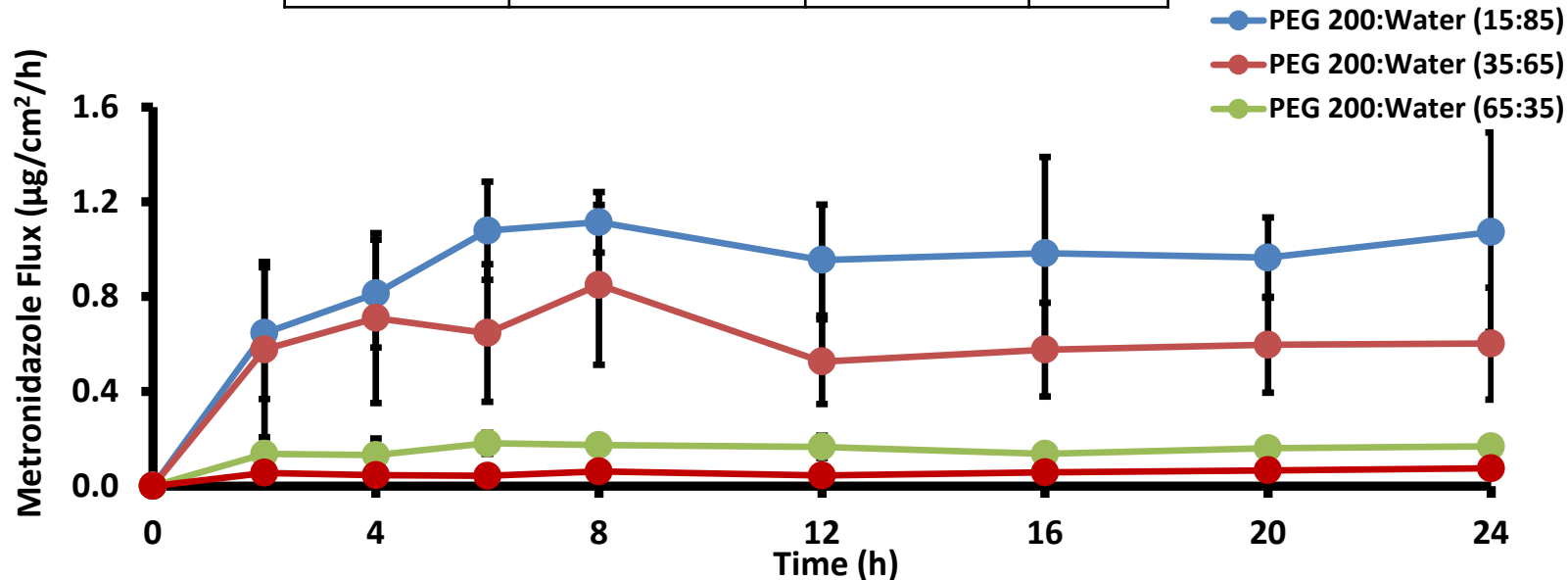
Topical Product Complexity- Gels



Impact on Bioavailability
Impact on Patient Perception

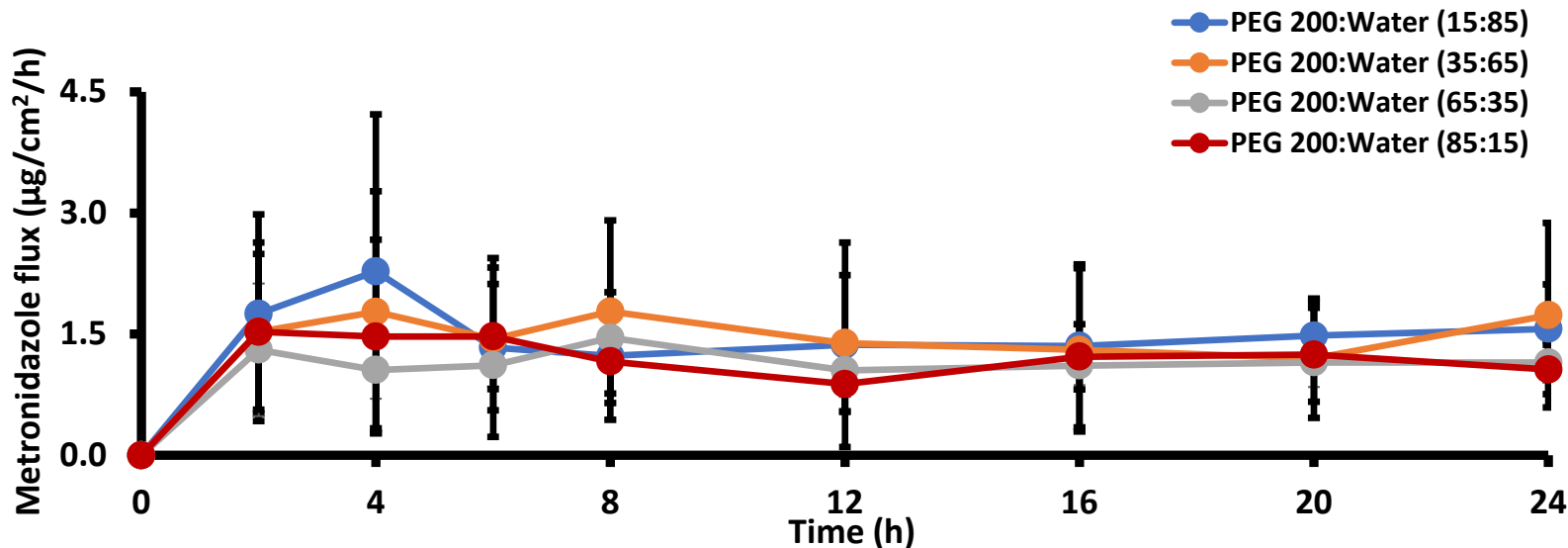
Influence of Formulation on Bioavailability

PEG 200:Water	Saturation Solubility (mg/ml)	Concentration (mg/ml)	α
15:85	10.15	7.5	0.74
35:65	11.62	7.5	0.65
65:35	14.27	7.5	0.53
85:15	22.99	7.5	0.33



Influence of Formulation on Bioavailability

PEG 200:Water	Saturation Solubility (mg/ml)	Concentration (mg/ml)	α
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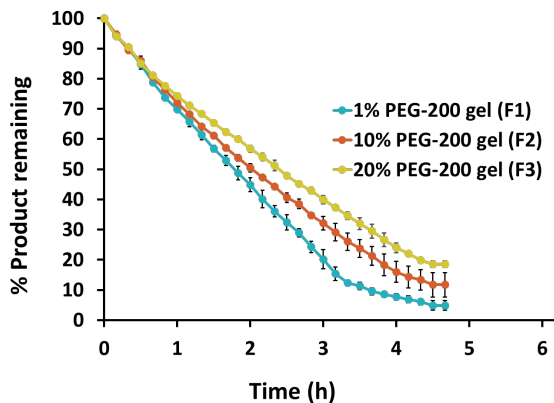


Influence of Formulation on Bioavailability

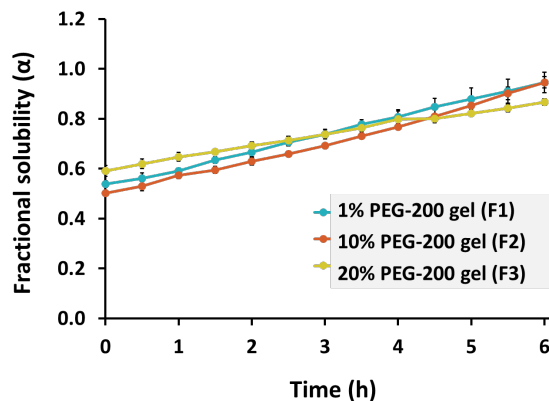
Composition (%w/w)	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5
Metronidazole	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.25	0.75
PEG 200	1	10	20	1	1
EDTA	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Sodium benzoate	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Hydroxy ethyl cellulose	5	5	5	5	5
Water qs	100	100	100	100	100

Influence of Formulation on Bioavailability

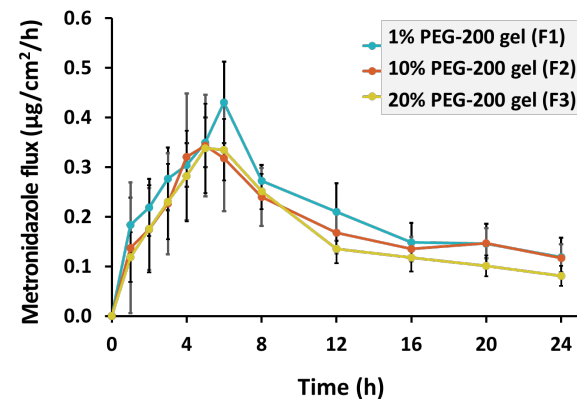
Gravimetric Drying Study



In Situ Drying Study



IVPT-Semi-Infinite Dose

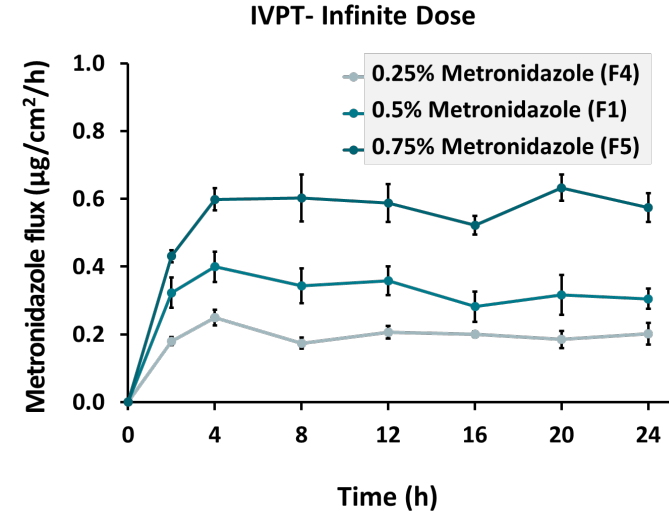


$$\alpha = \frac{\text{Concentration of metronidazole}}{\text{Saturation solubility of metronidazole in a given solvent}}$$

Influence of Formulation on Bioavailability



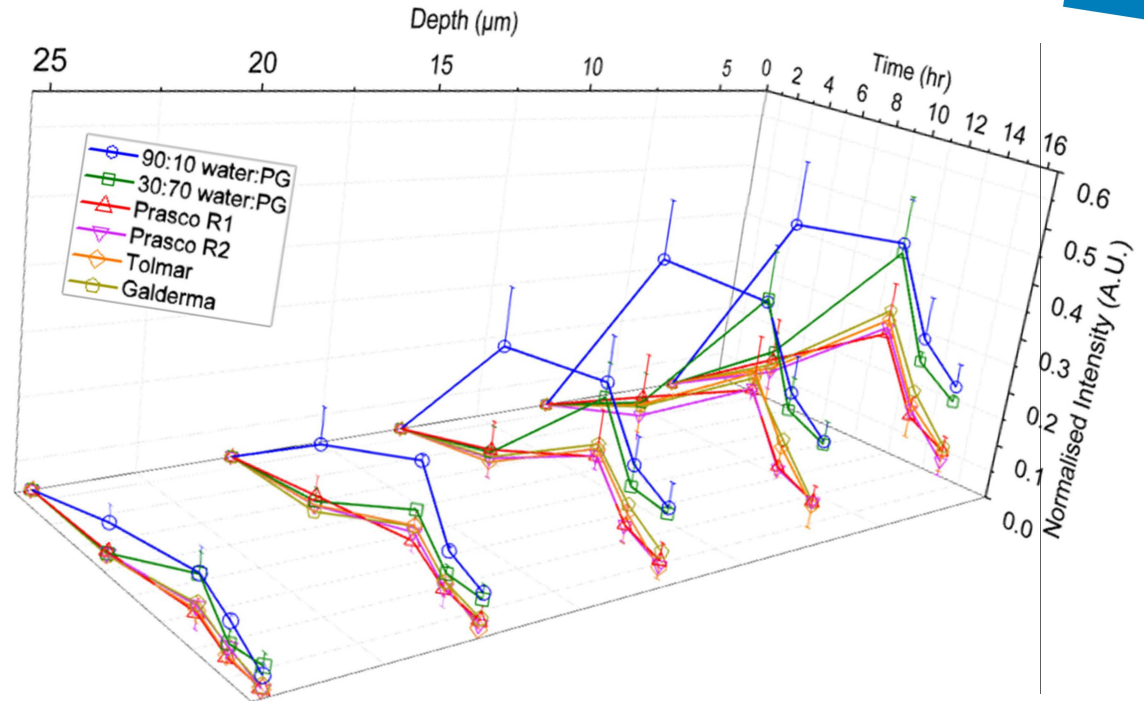
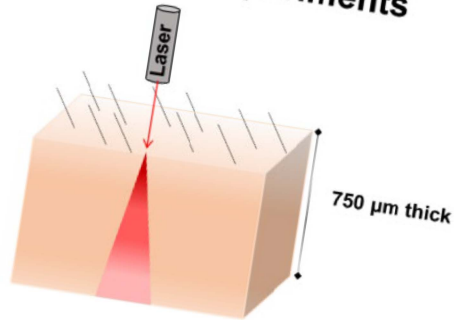
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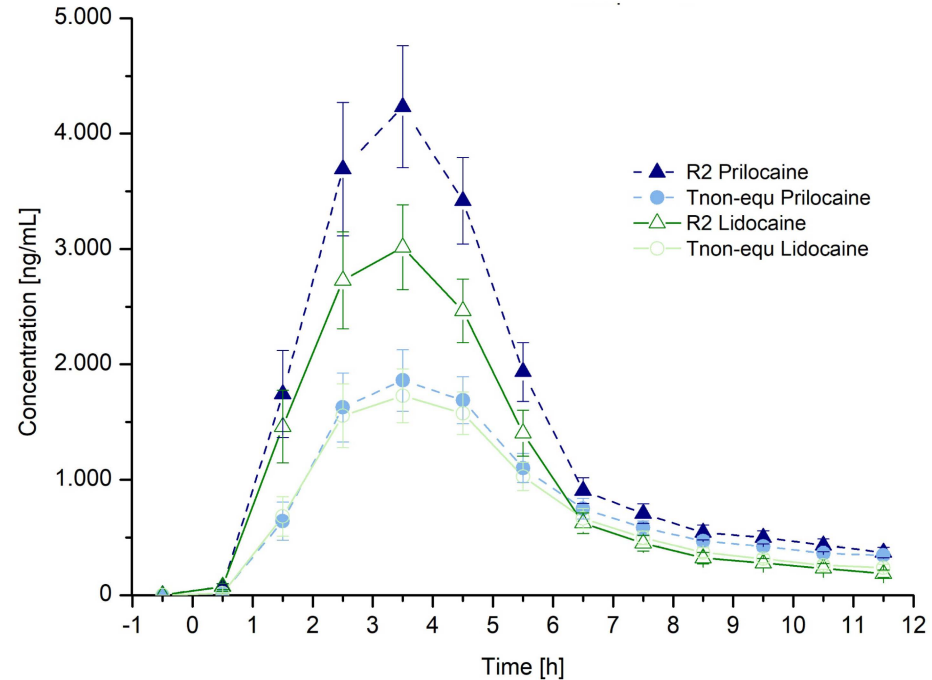
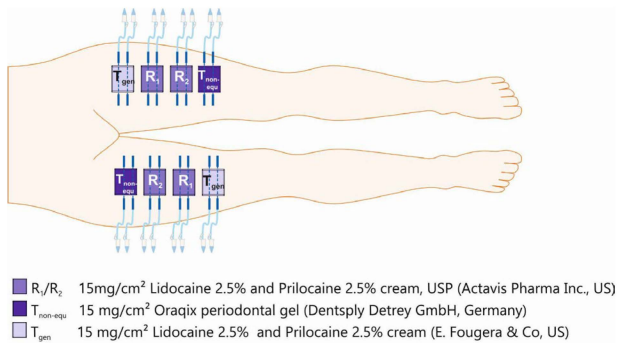
Influence of Formulation on Bioavailability



“Top-down” experiments



Influence of Formulation on Bioavailability



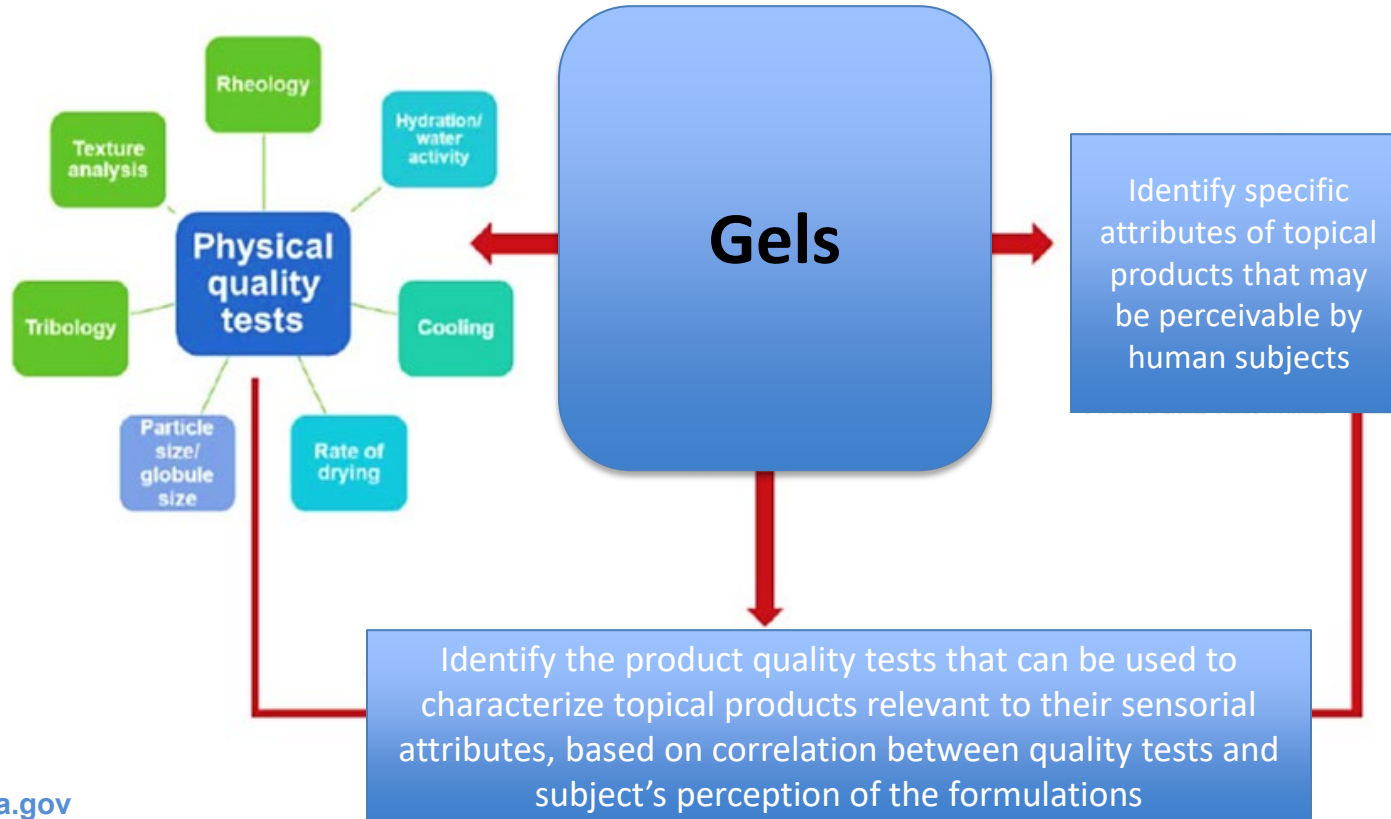
Influence of Formulation on Patient Perception



Composition (%w/w)	HEC-01	HEC-02	HEC-03	HEC-04	HEC-05	HEC-06	HEC-07	HEC-08	HEC-09	HEC-10	HEC-11	HEC-12
Hydroxyethyl cellulose	1	2.2	3	5	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
Ethanol	20	20	20	20	25	30	45	50	20	20	20	20
Propylene glycol	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	20	30	40	50
2-Phenoxyethanol	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Water	63.2	62.0	61.2	59.2	57.0	52.0	37.0	32.0	57.0	47.0	37.0	27.0

Composition (%w/w)	CBP-01	CBP-02	CBP-03	CBP-04	CBP-05	CBP-06	CBP-07	CBP-08	CBP-09	CBP-10	CBP-11	CBP-12	CBP-13	CBP-14
Carbopol 980	0.5	0.25	0.65	0.25	0.25	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.1	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Ethanol	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	35	50	10	-
Propylene glycol	15	15	15	25	35	35	15	50	15	15	15	15	15	25
Methyl paraben	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Propyl paraben	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
Triethanolamine	q.s.	q.s.	q.s.	q.s.	q.s.	q.s.	q.s.	q.s.	q.s.	q.s.	q.s.	q.s.	q.s.	q.s.
Water	84.4	84.6	84.2	74.6	64.6	64.4	64.4	49.4	84.7	82.5	49.2	34.4	74.3	74.2

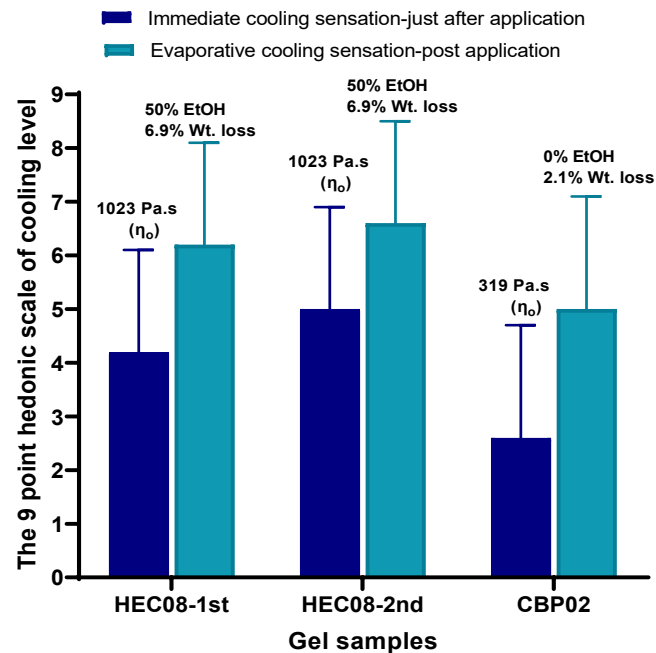
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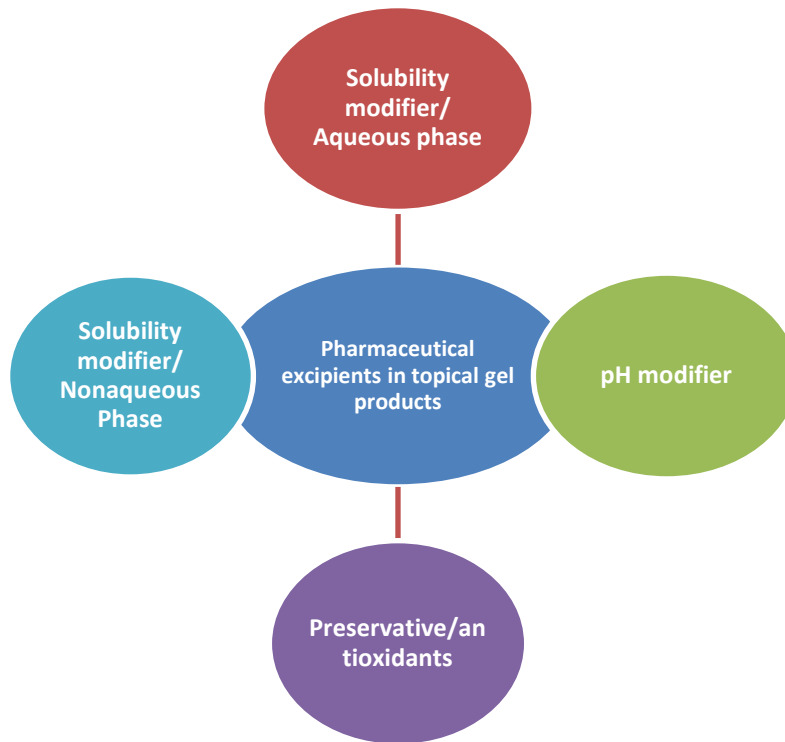
Influence of Formulation on Patient Perception



No.	Formulation	Polymer, %	Propylene glycol, %	Ethanol/iso-propanol, %	Mean temp. difference (°C)
1	CBP12 (C12)	0.5	15	50	25.23
2	HEC01 (H1)	1	15	20	14.34
3	HEC08 (H8)	2.2	15	50	13.28
4	HEC07 (H7)	2.2	15	45	12.99
5	HEC05 (H5)	2.2	15	25	12.18
6	HEC06 (H6)	2.2	15	30	11.43
7	CBP11 (C11)	0.5	15	35	10.69
8	HEC03 (H3)	3	15	20	9.96
9	HEC02 (H2)	2.2	15	20	9.31
10	CBP09 (C9)	0.1	15	--	9.08
11	HEC09 (H9)	2.2	20	20	8.77
12	CBP07 (C7)	0.5	15	20	8.51
13	HEC04 (H4)	5	15	20	8.42
14	HEC10 (H10)	2.2	30	20	8.12
15	HEC11 (H11)	2.2	40	20	6.87
16	CBP10 (C10)	1	15	--	6.78
17	CBP13 (C13)	0.5	15	10	6.75
18	CBP06 (C6)	0.5	35	--	6.34
19	CBP01 (C1)	0.5	15	--	5.88
20	CBP02 (C2)	0.25	15	--	5.65
21	HEC12 (H12)	2.2	50	20	5.47
22	CBP04 (C4)	0.25	25	--	5.30
23	CBP03 (C3)	0.65	15	--	4.86
24	CBP14 (C14)	0.5	25	--	4.65
25	CBP05 (C5)	0.25	35	--	4.48
26	CBP08 (C8)	0.5	50	--	3.03



Topical Product Complexity- Creams/Lotions



Summary



- Topical drug products applied to the skin are generally complex dosage forms
- Understanding the behavior of a given formulation during evaporation is critical to be able to assess the bioavailability, and evaluate bioequivalence (BE), of the active ingredient from the drug product
- Differences in formulation can potentially impact both bioavailability and patient perception
- Goal of the GDUFA regulatory science and research program is to facilitate the development of tools that can enhance our understanding of how formulation may influence product performance, and thereby can be utilized to facilitate drug development/establish BE and enhance the availability of generic topical drug products

Summary

- The GDUFA regulatory science and research program is a model for research programs at the FDA
- We would love to collaborate with you
 - FDA welcomes research proposals for Grants/ Contracts/ Etc.
 - Postdoctoral Fellowship Opportunities- <https://orise.orau.gov/fda/>



Quick References

- Generic Drug Research Priorities & Projects
 - <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/generic-drugs/generic-drug-research-priorities-projects>
- Generic Drug Research Publications & Resources
 - <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/generic-drugs/generic-drug-research-publications-resources>
- Generic Drug Research Collaboration Opportunities
 - <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/generic-drugs/generic-drug-research-collaboration-opportunities>

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- Tannaz Ramezanli, PharmD, PhD
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- Lei Zhang, PhD
- Robert Lionberger, PhD

Research Collaborators

Collaborations within FDA

*All of our collaborators within the
GDUFA Regulatory Science and Research
Program*

Thank You

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