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GLP Perspectives of Bioequivalence Studies

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Bioequivalence is a term in pharmacokinetics used to assess the expected in vivo biological equivalence of two proprietary preparations of a drug. Bioequivalence studies are usually performed for generic drugs. Two pharmaceutical products are bioequivalent if they are pharmaceutically equivalent and their bioavailabilities after administration in the same molar dose are similar. Bioequivalence is usually assessed by single dose in vivo studies in healthy volunteers and the reference product is usually the innovator product that is marketed. Regulatory definition of bioequivalence is based on the statistical analysis of the bioavailability of the reference and test product. In general, two products are evaluated as bioequivalent if the 90% confidence interval of the relative mean C_{max} and AUC of the test to reference product are within 80.00% to 125.00% in the fasting state. Key process in bioequivalence study is development and validation of bioanalytical method, determination of the drug concentration in the biosamples (usually plasma or serum) obtained from volunteers, calculation of the pharmacokinetic parameters and statistical analysis of the pharmacokinetic parameters. Although current guidelines and regulations do not require the bioequivalence studies to be done under good laboratory practice (GLP), the issues to perform the bioequivalence studies under GLP environment is emerged both from the regulatory and industry side. GLP perspectives of bioequivalence studies are needed to be discussed in respect to achieve quality assurance in bioequivalence studies.

GLP Perspectives of Bioequivalence Studies

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Introduction of Bioequivalence (BE) Study

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의약품 허가절차



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Bioequivalence (BE)

- **Bioequivalence** is a term in pharmacokinetics used to assess the expected *in vivo* biological equivalence of two proprietary preparations of a drug.
- Bioequivalence studies are usually performed for **Generic Drugs**.

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What are Generic Drugs?

- A common use of the term "**generic drug**" is for a pharmaceutical product that is:
 - intended to be interchangeable with the innovator product in an individual patient
 - usually manufactured without a license from the innovator company
 - marketed after expiry of patent or other exclusivity rights
- The WHO refers to these products as '**multisource pharmaceutical products**'.
- To be interchangeable such products must be **bioequivalent**.

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Bioequivalence (BE)

□ Two pharmaceutical products are **bioequivalent** if they are

- **pharmaceutically equivalent**
- **and their bioavailabilities after administration in the same molar dose are similar.**

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Pharmaceutical Equivalence

□ Pharmaceutical equivalence implies

- **the same amount of the same active substance(s)**
- **in the same dosage form (or pharmaceutical alternatives)**
- **for the same route of administration**
- **and meeting the same or comparable standards.**

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Similar Bioavailability

□ Similar bioavailability implies

The **bioavailabilities (rate and extent of availability)** after administration in the **same molar dose** of the reference and test drug are **similar to such a degree that their effects, with respect to both efficacy and safety, can be expected to be essentially the same.**

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Generic versus Pioneer Product Equivalence Concepts (CFR 320)

□ **Pharmaceutical Equivalence**

- Same active ingredient
- Same strength
- Same dosage form and route of administration
- Comparable labeling
- Meet compendial or other standards of identity, strength, quality, purity and potency

□ **Bioequivalence**

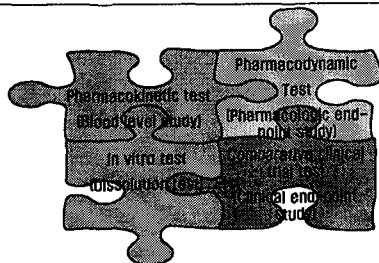
- In vivo measurement of active moiety (moieties) in biologic fluid (blood/urine)
- In vivo pharmacodynamic comparison
- In vivo clinical comparison
- In vitro comparison
- Other

□ **THEN: THERAPEUTIC EQUIVALENCE**

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Assessing BE



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Bioavailability (BA)

□ Bioavailability is a measurement of the **RATE** and **EXTENT** of a therapeutically active drug that reaches the systemic circulation and is available at the site of action.

□ It is expressed as the letter **F**.

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Guidelines and Regulation on BE Studies

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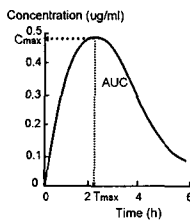
Regulatory Definition (Foreign Countries)

- **US:** two products are bioequivalent
 - if the 90% CI of the relative mean C_{max} , $AUC(0-t)$ and $AUC(0-\infty)$ of the test (e.g. generic formulation) to reference (e.g. innovator brand formulation) are within 80.00% to 125.00% in the fasting state.
- **EU:** two medicinal products are bioequivalent
 - if they are pharmaceutically equivalent or pharmaceutical alternatives
 - and if their bioavailabilities after administration in the same molar dose are similar to such a degree that their effects, with respect to both efficacy and safety, will be essentially the same.
- **Australia:** two products are bioequivalent
 - if the 90% confidence intervals (90% CI) of the transformed natural log ratios, between the two preparations, of C_{max} and AUC lie in the range 0.80-1.25.
 - T_{max} should also be similar between the products.

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Regulatory Definition (Korea)



▷ 비교평가항목 : AUC, C_{max}
▷ 참고평가항목 : T_{max} .

비교용출시험

▷ 대조약에 대한 시험약의 비교평가항목이 80 ~ 125% 이내일 때, 생물학적으로 동등하다고 판정!

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Guidelines and Regulation (Korea)

- 생물학적동등성시험기준. 식품의약품안전청고시 제 2005-31호, 2005. 6. 7
 - 생체시료분석법 Validation. 국립독성연구원, 2003. 5
- → GLP is not required.

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Guidelines and Regulation (Foreign)

- **US FDA:**
 - Code of Federal Regulation, Title 21, Part 320 - Bioavailability and bioequivalence requirements, FDA
 - Guidance for Industry-Bioavailability and Bioequivalence Studies for Orally Administered Drug Products -General Considerations
 - Guidance for Industry-Bioanalytical Method Validation
 - **EMA:** Note for Guidance on the Investigation of Bioavailability and bioequivalence. CPMP/EWP/QWP/1401/98. Japan: Guideline for Bioequivalence studies of Generic Products
 - **Canada:** Drug Directorate guideline. Conduct and Analysis of Bioavailability and Bioequivalence Studies.
- → GLP is not required.

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Flow of Bioequivalence Studies

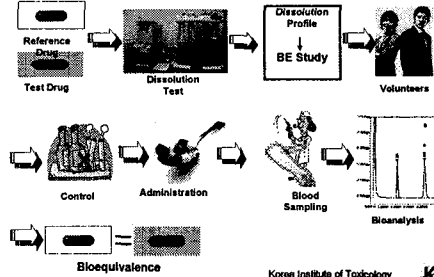
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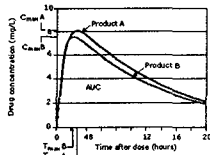
Assessing Bioequivalence

- Bioequivalence is usually assessed by single dose *in vivo* studies in healthy volunteers.
- The reference product is usually the innovator product that is marketed.

BE study in healthy human volunteers

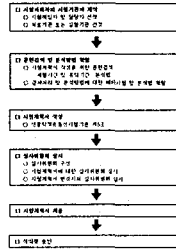


Assessing BE

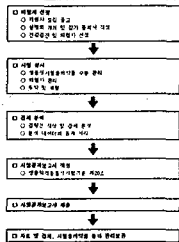


Drug A (reference drug): $C_{max}=8.1$ mg/L; $T_{max}=2.6$ h; $AUC=124.9$ mg·h/L
 Drug B (generic drug): $C_{max}=8.1$ mg/L; $T_{max}=2.6$ h; $AUC=124.9$ mg·h/L
 The ratio of areas (generic:reference) = 0.9
 To be accepted as bioequivalent, the 90% intervals for the area ratios would need to fall within the range 0.8-1.25

Flow of BE Study (Protocol)



Flow of BE Study (Report)



BE Study (KFDA)

생물학적동등성시험기준

■ 심사위원회

- 시험책임자 및 시험담당자 신원의 타당성 검토
- 시험계획서의 타당성 검토 및 승인
- 시험계획서의 중요사항 변경에 대한 승인
- 피험자의 안전보호 및 보상 등 피험자 권익에 대한 타당성 검토
- 피험자 선정 및 동의방법의 타당성 검토
- 시험진행상황의 점검 및 시험 운영에 대한 의견 진술
- 시험결과보고서 및 시험기초자료의 심사와 평가

BE Study (KFDA)

- 시험절차요약서
 - 1. 시험목적, 시험목적 및 시험절차의 요약
 - 2. 각요약 및 시험목적 설명 및 방법, 계획, 제조일자, 제조번호, 품질관리시험결과서
 - 3. 시험일자, 시험에 사용된 용액의 제조자, 제조지, 공급자, 배치번호, 참조시험결과서 및 수입 용액의 경우 용액
정량
 - 4. 시험일자, 참조시험일자
 - 5. 시험목적의 방법 및 수속기법
 - 6. 시험기법의 명칭, 출처, 시험기간, 방법
 - 7. 시험제안 및 승인사항, 방법, 수속 및 방법
 - 8. 시험기간
 - 9. 시험결과서 설명 용어(예: 50% 황산으로 10% 규액에 적당하는 용액은 제조하지 아니할 수 있다.)
 - 10. 예비시험 결과(시험을 대상으로 한 경우 시험자료의 건강관리서, 용액서 등 시험자료 관리내역 포함)
 - 11. 시험의 중립성 및 방법, 시험자 선정 및 재가공, 시험자 모집금, 생물학적동등성시험 불합격, 시험
지 포함
 - 12. 제조기관에서 발행한 건강관리서(원상복합시험결과 및 건강관리서 포함)
 - 13. 용액제조일자 표시
 - 14. 용액기법서(대외시험용 포함)
 - 15. 시험제안, 용액정량, 유량정량, 무균시험, 부적합시험, 화학성, 화학분석 및 시간, 용액제조방법,
수용액
 - 16. 시험일자 및 시험일자
 - 17. 검체처리 및 분석방법 (Analysis) 방법: 특이성, 직관성, 정확성, 정밀성, 간섭 등)
 - 18. 시험결과서 시험결과 및 시험기간의 생물학적동등성시험 결과(시험결과서) 및 표준편차, 분포를
표시 용액제조일자 (Year/Date) 포함
 - 19. 평가기준 및 시험결과에 대한 시험목적의 설명
 - 20. 시험결과서 시험 목적, 용액, 수, 용액, 용액, 용액, 용액, 용액 및 시험결과서
 - 21. 시험결과서 기법서
 - 22. 생물학적동등성 시험을 위한 용액 수속서
 - 23. 원시시험결과서 포함 승인된 생물학적동등성시험 계획서

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GLP Perspectives in Bioequivalence Studies

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GLP in Nonclinical Studies

- **Good Laboratory Practice (GLP):** 의약품등의 안전성을
확인하기 위하여 이루어지는 비임상시험의 신뢰성을 확보
하기 위한 기준으로, 시험기관의 조직, 시설 및 장비, 시험계
획서 및 시험의 실시, 시험결과 및 대조물질, 시험의 운영,
보고 및 기록, 적격 시험기관 지정 및 감독 등 시험과정에 관
련되는 모든 사항을 조직적으로 체계있게 관리할 수 있는
규정을 말함
- **GLP 규제의 발단:** 신약허가 검토를 받기 위하여 제약기업이
규제당국에 제출하는 각종 시험자료는 정말로 적절하게 시
험이 실시되었는지 또한 충분한 신빙성을 가지고 있는지를
알기 위해서 출발함
- **GLP 규제의 목적:** 의약품, 의외품, 화장품등의 비임상적 안
전성시험에 대한 제반 준수사항을 규정함으로써 시험과정
및 결과에 대한 신뢰성 확보를 목적으로 함

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GLP in Nonclinical Studies

- **GLP Guideline (KFDA, OECD, FDA, EPA)**
 - Scope and Authority
 - Definitions
 - Organization and Personnel
 - Facilities
 - Equipment
 - Facility Operation
 - Articles
 - Protocol and Conduct
 - Records and Reports
 - Disqualification

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GLP Perspective of BE Study (Protocol)

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GLP Perspective BE Study (Report)

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Good Documentation Practice

- ❑ All data generated will be recorded directly, promptly, accurately, legibly and indelibly in permanent black ink.
- ❑ Error corrections
- ❑ Notebook: Include data expected to be recorded: title, purpose, materials, method, results, conclusion
- ❑ Supplemental binder: Include raw data and supporting data e.g., correspondence, sample tracking, deviation memos, QA statement etc.

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Discussion

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To Achieve Quality Assurance in BE Studies

- ❑ BE Study under GLP Environment
 - Bioanalytical Method Validation
 - Protocol → Dosing → Sampling → Report
 - Sample Analysis
- ❑ QAU Involvement ?
 - Study-based inspections
 - Facility-based inspections
 - Process-based inspections
- ❑ Good Documentation Practice
- ❑ ???

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