Challenges of Regulating Combination Products

Consensus Summit:
Combination Product Regulatory Issues
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Mark D. Kramer

Director, Office of Combination Products

Combination Products Are Diverse

All combine different types of products:

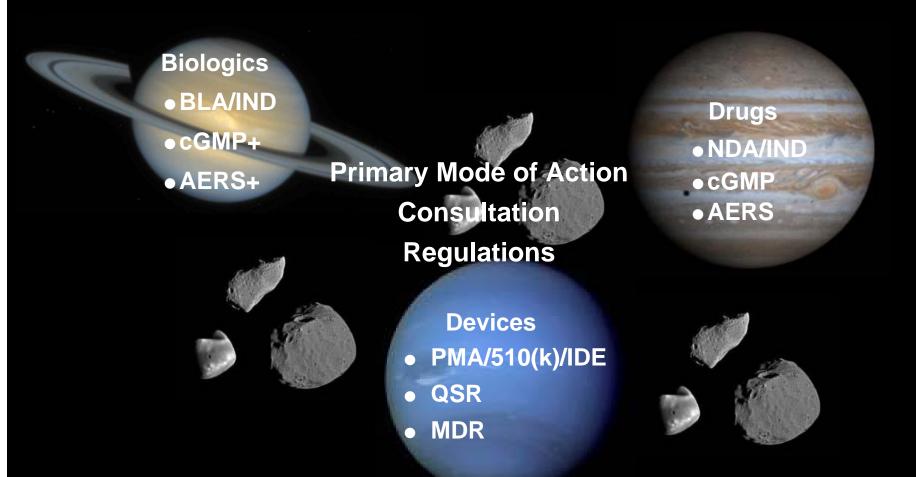
- Drug-device
- Device-biologic
- Drug-biologic
- Drug-device-biologic

Combination Products Are Diverse

They can be:

- Physically or chemically combined
- Co-packaged in a kit
- Separate, cross-labeled products

Regulatory Approaches Are Diverse



Challenges: Overall Regulation

No regulatory scheme designed specifically for combination products....

No marketing application designed for combination products.....

.....We work within existing statutory framework.

Challenges: Overall Regulation

FDA regulations/practices differ for drugs and devices

- GMP's vs. QSR's
- adverse event reporting
- labeling
- premarket applications
- promotion and advertising
- user fees

Industries differ

different experience and preferences

The Ultimate Regulatory Challenge

Making regulation

- clear
- consistent
- predictable
- appropriate

without raising the bar.....

Define primary mode of action....

And then apply it....

....Some products don't have a clearly identifiable PMOA

60-day RFD clock sometimes tight

- complex issues
- binding decisions



RFD's are voluntary ...
we don't see all products for assignment

Transparency ...
more difficult to achieve than we'd like

Sponsors' preferences don't always square with what the law requires



Challenges: Review

No application specifically for combination products ...

standard submission format and content must be tailored

Regulatory pathways sometimes not evident... e.g., need for cross labeling

Challenges: Review

Two centers involved – they have different:

- review time frames
- clinical trial perspectives
- user fees
- submission tracking systems
- locations
- cultures

Challenges: Review

The volume!

Over 200 cross center collaborations for combination products in FY 2004.

Other Challenges

- OCP budget and staff size
- Ongoing education and outreach to sponsors and review staff
- Combination product issues over complete regulatory life cycle
- One size doesn't fit all

The Future is Bright!



- Numbers and types of combination products continue to grow
- Consultation process more systematized
- Clearer, more predictable process for assignment, premarket review and postmarket regulation
- Continued opportunities for stakeholder input at meetings like this!