

## Draft Guidance on Metformin Hydrochloride

This draft guidance, once finalized, will represent the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) current thinking on this topic. It does not create or confer any rights for or on any person and does not operate to bind FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if the approach satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations. If you want to discuss an alternative approach, contact the Office of Generic Drugs.

**Active ingredient:** Metformin Hydrochloride

**Form/Route:** Extended Release Tablets/Oral

**Recommended studies:** 2 studies

1. Type of study: Fasting  
Design: Single-dose, two-way, crossover *in-vivo*  
Strength: 1000 mg  
Subjects: Healthy males and nonpregnant females, general population  
Additional Comments: Subjects should receive 60 mL of a solution of 20 percent glucose in water immediately following each dose and subsequently at 15 minute intervals for 4 hours during fasting and fed bioequivalence studies.

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2. Type of study: Fed  
Design: Single-dose, two-way, crossover *in-vivo*  
Strength: 1000 mg  
Subjects: Healthy males and nonpregnant females, general population  
Additional comments: See comment above.

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**Analytes to measure:** Metformin in plasma

**Bioequivalence based on (90% CI):** Metformin

**Waiver request of in-vivo testing:** 500 mg based on (i) acceptable bioequivalence studies on the 1000 mg strength, (ii) acceptable dissolution testing across all strengths, and (iii) proportional similarity in the formulations across all strengths.

**Dissolution test method and sampling times:**

Please note that a **Dissolution Methods Database** is available to the public at the OGD website at <http://www.fda.gov/cder/ogd/index.htm>. Please find the dissolution information for this product at this website. Please conduct comparative dissolution testing on 12 dosage units each of all strengths of the test and reference products. Specifications will be determined upon review of the application.

For modified release products, dissolution profiles generated using USP Apparatus I at 100 rpm and/or Apparatus II at 50 rpm in at least three dissolution media (pH 1.2, 4.5 and 6.8 buffer, water) should be submitted in the application. Agitation speeds may have to be increased if appropriate. It is acceptable to add a small amount of surfactant, if necessary. The following sampling times are recommended: 1, 2, and 4 hours and every 2 hours thereafter, until at least 80% of the drug is dissolved. Comparative dissolution profiles should include individual tablet data as well as the mean, range, and standard deviation at each time point for twelve tablets. Specifications will be determined upon review of the data submitted in the application.