Draft: Glossary of Quality Terms

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Health Products and Food Branch
Our mission is to help the people of Canada maintain and improve their health.

Health Canada

The Health Products and Food Branch’s mandate is to take an integrated approach to the management of the risks and benefits to health related products and food by:

- minimizing health risk factors to Canadians while maximizing the safety provided by the regulatory system for health products and food; and,
- promoting conditions that enable Canadians to make healthy choices and providing information so that they can make informed decisions about their health.

Health Products and Food Branch

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Également disponible en français sous le titre : Ébauche : Glossaire des termes associés à la qualité
This glossary only includes terms used in the Guidance Document: Quality (Chemistry and Manufacturing): New Drug Submissions (NDSs) and Abbreviated New Drug Submissions (ANDSs) which are not defined in International Council for Harmonisation (ICH) guidance documents or other Health Canada Documents.

For additional definitions of terms used in quality documents, refer to the following documents:

**Food and Drug Regulations:**

**Individual ICH Quality Guidance Documents**

**Health Canada GMP guidance documents**

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/compli-conform/gmp-bpf/docs/gui-0001-eng.php#references

**Interim Policy on Health Canada's Interpretation of Medicinal Ingredient**

**Guidance Document: Biopharmaceutics Classification System Based Biowaiver**

**Definitions**

**Bridging study:** A bridging study is defined as a supplemental study performed to provide bioequivalence, pharmacodynamic or clinical data to support that significant changes in the formulation or manufacturing of a drug product result in an equivalent product to the product used for pivotal clinical trials. Such studies usually involve bioequivalence studies.

**Drug product intermediate:** A material that is the result of a drug substance having undergone at least one processing step in the presence of any other substance(s) (used in the manufacture of the drug product whether it appears in the finished dosage form or not) which must undergo further processing step(s) to become the finished dosage form.

That-first processing step of the drug substance in the presence of any other substance(s) would be considered a drug product manufacturing (fabrication) activity, subject to Part C, Division 2.
of the Food and Drug Regulations, and would define the date from which the expiry date for the
drug product would be established.

Fabrication: This is a term defined in GUI-001, but is considered synonymous with the ICH Q7
term “manufacture” in the guidance document: Quality (Chemistry and Manufacturing): New
Drug Submissions (NDSs) and Abbreviated New Drug Submissions (ANDSs).

Key Intermediate: an intermediate in which an essential molecular characteristic(s), usually
involving the proper stereochemical configuration required for structure/activity
(pharmacological and/or physiological activity of the drug substance), is first introduced into the
structure (for example [e.g.], introduction of a chiral centre, as exemplified by the Corey
aldehyde in prostaglandin syntheses, or the production of one geometric isomer in preference to
another).

Mass Balance: The process of adding together the assay value and levels of degradation
products to see how closely these add up to 100% of the initial value, with due consideration of
the margin of analytical error.

Semi-synthetic drug product: A drug product containing one or more semi-synthetic drug
substance(s), or a drug product containing both synthetic (or semi-synthetic) and non-
synthetic/non-semi-synthetic drug substances (e.g. a drug product containing both a synthetic
drug substance and a biological drug substance).

Semi-synthetic drug substance: A semi-synthetic drug substance is one in which the structural
constituents have been introduced by a combination of chemical synthesis and elements of
biological origin (e.g., obtained from fermentation or by extraction from botanical material). A
synthesis step involves cleavage and formation of covalent bonds.

Small Scale Batch: A small scale batch is considered less than 100 000 units for solid oral
dosage forms or less than 10% of commercial scale batch size. The batch is manufactured in a
manner that is considered representative of the proposed commercial scale process.
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