Common Monographs – Over-the-Counter (OTC) Products
Presentation to RCC Stakeholder Dialogue Session
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Health Canada/Health Products and Food Branch
Lisa Lange,
Lisa.Lange@hc-sc.gc.ca

Health and Human Services/Food and Drug Administration
Steven Adah,
Steven.Adah@fda.hhs.gov
Content

1. Overview

2. Progress update and current status

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The objectives of the RCC OTC Monograph Working Group are to:

- Make it easier for US and Canadian firms to do business on both sides of the border through greater regulatory alignment

- Conduct a pilot program that develops and aligns monograph elements for a specific drug category
  - Indications
  - Conditions of Use
  - Directions
  - Warnings

- Provide recommendations on the feasibility for developing an aligned OTC drug monograph
  - Where are the greatest areas for alignment?
  - Where are the current obstacles for collaboration?
  - How will future projects, teams, and communication methods be established?
Progress update: What have we accomplished?

| First Step: Scope and Governance | • Monograph development  
|                                  | • Agency structure  
|                                  | • Recognizable differences |
| Learning about each other’s regulatory system |

| Second Step: Selection of Pilot monograph | • Discussion and review of published and unpublished regulatory documents  
|                                           | • Discussion of any foreseeable complexities and potential policy implications |
| Review of the regulatory history for monographed drug products |

| Third Step: Development of Aligned Monograph | • Clinical data review  
|                                            | • Label review |
| Review of the clinical data and discussion of labeling |

| Fourth Step: Public Process for Pilot Monographs | • January 2013 FDA and HC announced common cold indications for certain over-the-counter antihistamine ingredients as the first area of alignment |
Current Status: Where are we now?

Updates within FDA and HC:
• Have shared their respective draft documents for comment and review within the working group
• Identified any potential areas of conflict
• Continue to meet every two weeks

Current Status:
FDA
Drafted a proposed rulemaking and currently in clearance

HC
Developed a draft guidance document and awaiting internal approvals
Looking Ahead: Where are we headed?

• **Goal**
  – Short Term: Publication of proposed draft documents with aligned elements (ingredients, indication, directions, warnings, etc.)
  – Long Term: Both regulatory agencies are considering opportunities for further monograph alignment

• **Timing**
  – Both agencies will publish their draft and final documents at the same time
  – Working together through the final rulemaking and comment periods

• **FDA**
  – Publish a proposed rulemaking
  – Similar to other proposed rulemakings: there will be a comment period
  – Publication of a final rulemaking

• **HC**
  – Publish a draft guidance document
  – Similar to other guidance documents: there will be a comment period
  – Publish a final guidance document
Recommendations: Lessons Learned and Catalysts to Further Alignment

**Lessons Learned**

- **Regulation versus Policy:** Addressing safety issues in a timely manner

- **External Communications:** Addressing industry requests for increased participation and notification (progress updates) Managing agency restrictions on external communications

- **‘Life Cycle’ Approach:** Future projects will require a ‘Life Cycle’ approach to prevent drift between documents over time

- **Implementation Strategies:** Notable and unique differences for HC and FDA within each regulatory system

**Catalysts to Further Alignment**

- **Collaboration:** Active participation from both FDA and HC

- **Documentation:** Work plan documentation and meeting agenda/minutes

- **Working Group Discussions:** Selection of the current monograph
  - Consideration of other monographs for future projects
  - Information sharing and exchange in the absence of IT infrastructure

- **Meeting Targeted Timelines and Goals**
Questions

• Is there an interest in aligning a particular class of OTC ingredients?

• Are there better ways to engage stakeholders on the development of monographs given current HC and FDA policies on monograph development?