

# **Update on the Safety of Long Acting Beta Agonists (LABA)**

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# Outline

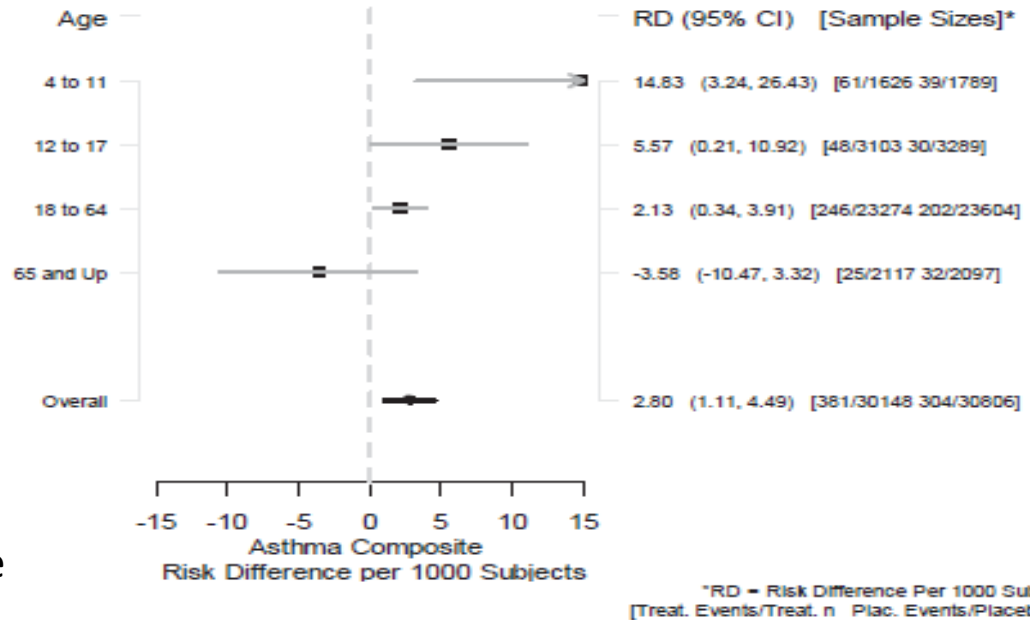
- Background
- LABA Safety Trials
- Results of Safety Trials and Meta-analysis
- Revised Labeling
- Summary

# Background

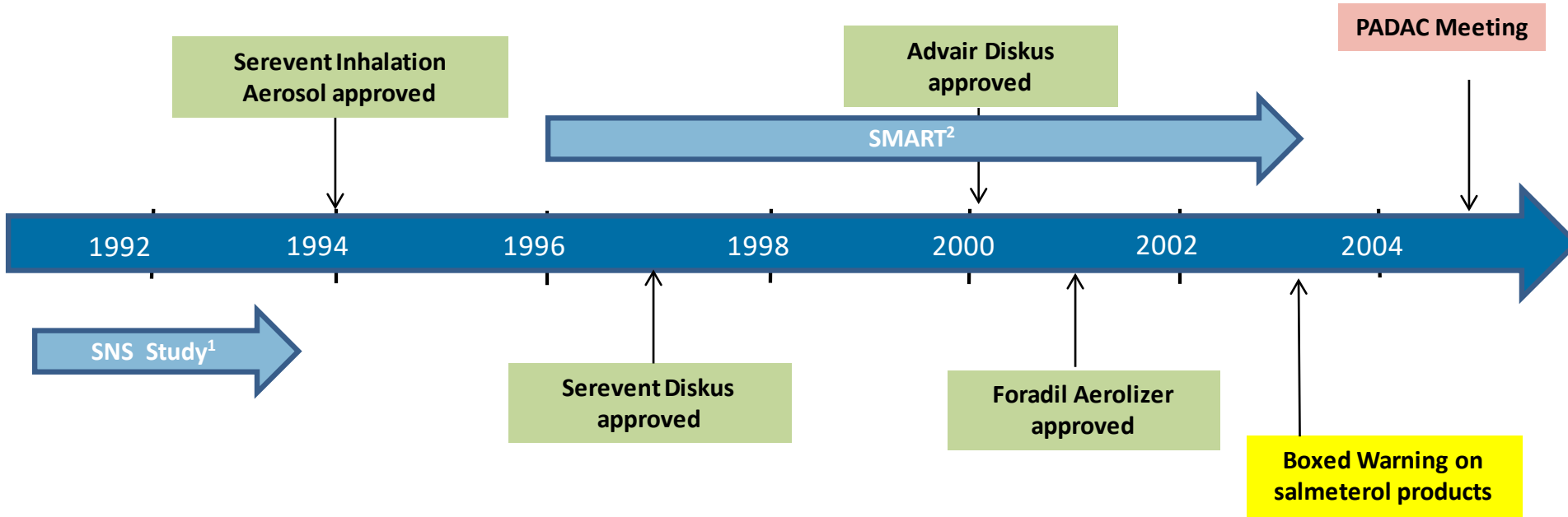
- Serious asthma outcomes – hospitalizations, intubation, death
  - Serevent Nationwide Surveillance Study (SNS)
  - Salmeterol Multicenter Asthma Research Trial (SMART)
    - potential increased risk in African American patients
  - FDA- meta-analysis
    - potential increased risk of hospitalizations in pediatric patients
- Extensive regulatory history
  - Boxed Warning, Advisory Committee meetings
- FDA required large safety trials (post-marketing requirements)
  - Evaluate risk of LABA when added to ICS
  - Now completed

# LABAs and Hospitalizations in Pediatric Patients

- Excess in serious asthma outcomes higher in children
- Risk Difference for asthma hospitalization, intubation, and death according to age LABA vs. no LABA
- For pediatric and adolescent patients with asthma who require addition of a LABA to an inhaled corticosteroid, a fixed-dose combination product containing both an inhaled corticosteroid and a LABA should ordinarily be used to ensure adherence with both drugs.



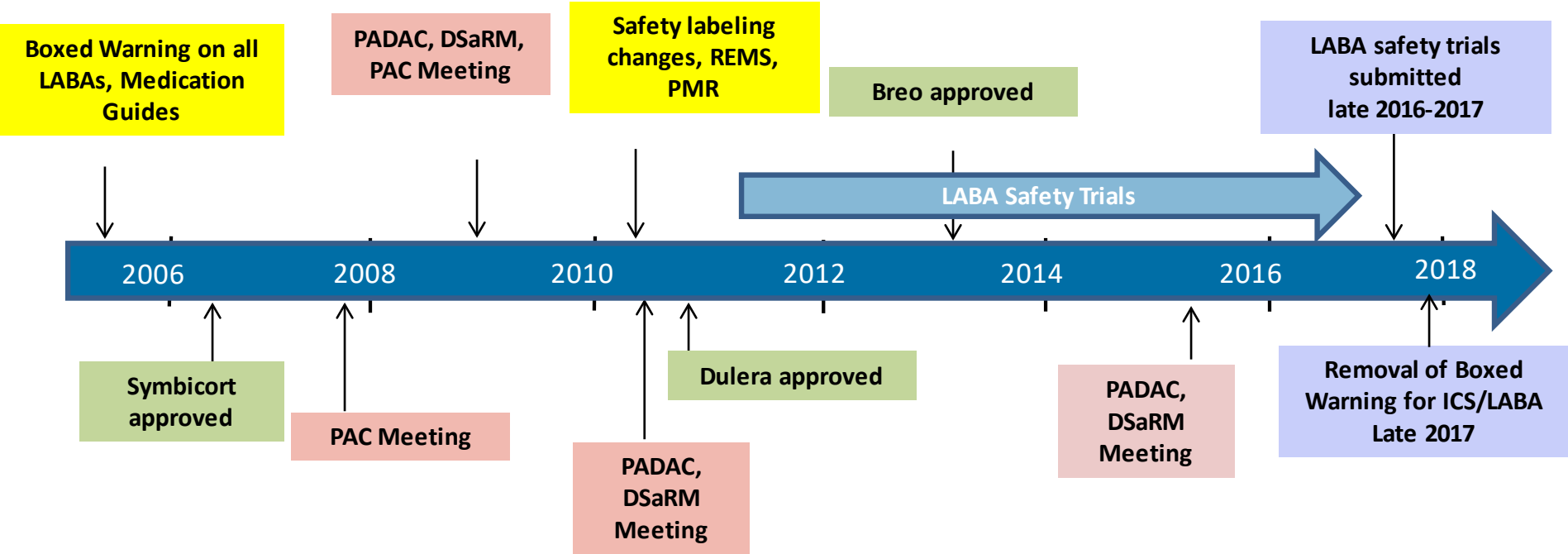
# Relevant LABA Regulatory History



<sup>1</sup> *BMJ* 1993; 306:1034-7

<sup>2</sup> *Chest* 2006; 129; 15-26

# Relevant LABA Regulatory History



# LABA Post-marketing Required Trials

- Trial required for each sponsor of LABA product approved for asthma
- Safety of LABA when added to ICS
- Serious asthma outcomes
  - hospitalizations, intubations, death
- Efficacy assessment - exacerbation
- Particular interest in pediatric population
- Individual trials, but similar design to potentially analyze results together for rare events, e.g. asthma related death
  - Joint Oversight Steering Committee
  - Joint Data Monitoring Committee
  - Shared Adjudication Committee

## Adult and Adolescent Required Safety Trials

- Four randomized, double-blind, active-controlled, 26 week trials
  - Advair Diskus, Dulera, Foradil Aerolizer, Symbicort
- 11,700 patients 12 years and older with asthma per trial
  - 10% patients 12-17 years of age
- ICS/LABA vs. ICS
- Serious asthma outcomes
  - hospitalizations, intubation, death
- Non-inferiority design
  - 90% power to rule out 2 fold increase in event rate
- Required final report submission June 2017



## Pediatric Required Safety Trial

- One randomized, double-blind, 26 week trial
  - Advair Diskus
- 6200 patients 4 to 11 years with asthma
- ICS/LABA vs. ICS
- Serious asthma outcomes - hospitalizations, intubation, death
- Non-inferiority design
  - 90% power to rule out 2.7 fold increase in event rate
- Required final report submission June 2017

# Results of Safety Trials

- Trials completed in staggered fashion and submitted to FDA
  - Advair Diskus (adult and adolescent) – January 2016
  - Advair Diskus (pediatric) – May 2016
  - Symbicort - May 2016
  - Dulera – September 2017
- Novartis withdrew formoterol fumarate (Foradil Aerolizer) from US market<sup>1</sup>, so safety study terminated
- Each trial excluded the pre-specified NI margin
  - Very few intubations and deaths
    - 5 total across the trials
- Significant reduction in asthma exacerbations
  - majority of events were those requiring systemic corticosteroids

<sup>1</sup> FDA Drug Shortages [<https://www.fda.gov/Drugs/drugsafety/DrugShortages/default.htm>]

# LABA and Serious Asthma Outcomes

	Advair (fluticasone/ salmeterol)		Advair (fluticasone/ salmeterol) Pediatric		Symbicort (budesonide/ formoterol)		Dulera (mometasone/ formoterol)	
	FP/SAL	FP	FP/SAL	FP	BUD/FOR	BUD	MOM/FOR	MOM
<b>N</b>	5834	5845	3107	3101	5486	5487	5868	5861
<b>Serious asthma outcomes</b>	34 (0.6)	33 (0.6)	27 (0.9)	21 (0.7)	43 (0.7)	40 (0.7)	39 (0.7)	32 (0.5)
<b>Hazard Ratio (95% CI)</b>	1.03 (0.6, 1.7)		1.29 (0.7, 2.3)		1.07 (0.7, 1.7)		1.22 (0.8, 1.9)	
<b>Deaths</b>	0	0	0	0	2 (<1%)	0	0	0
<b>Intubation</b>	0	2 (<1%)	0	0	1 (<1%)	0	0	0
<b>Hospitalization</b>	34 (0.6)	33 (0.6)	27 (0.9)	21 (0.7)	42 (0.7)	40 (0.7)	39 (0.7)	32 (0.5)
FP=fluticasone propionate, FP/SAL=FP/salmeterol xinafoate; BUD = budesonide, BUD/FOR = BUD/formoterol; MOM = mometasone, MOM/FOR = MOM/formoterol Source: Approved labels for Advair Diskus, Symbicort, and Dulera								

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# Meta-Analysis of Serious Asthma-Related Events

	ICS/LABA N= 17,537 <sup>a</sup>	ICS N= 17,552 <sup>a</sup>	ICS/LABA vs. ICS Hazard Ratio (95% CI)
<b>Serious Asthma-related event</b>	116	105	1.10 (0.85, 1.44)
<b>Asthma-related death</b>	2	0	
<b>Asthma-related intubation</b>	1	2	
<b>Asthma-related hospitalization</b>	115	105	
<sup>a</sup> Includes data from the adult/adolescent safety trials with Advair Diskus, Dulera, and Symbicort Source: Labels for approved ICS/LABA with an asthma indication			

# Meta-Analysis of Serious Asthma-Related Events Subgroup by Age

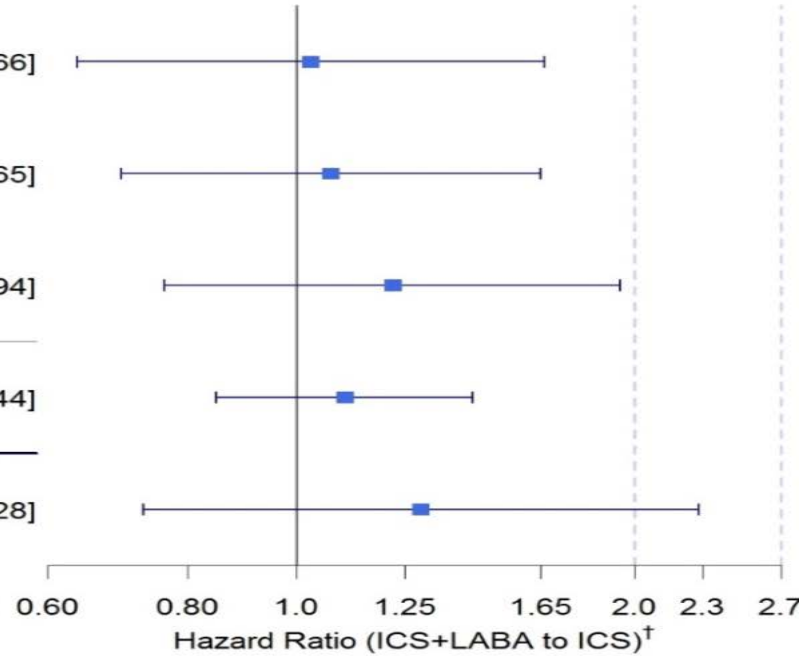
	ICS/LABA N= 17,537 <sup>a</sup>	ICS N= 17,552 <sup>a</sup>	ICS/LABA vs. ICS Hazard Ratio (95% CI)
<b>Serious Asthma-related event</b>	116	105	1.10 (0.85, 1.44)
<b>Age 12-17 years</b>	<b>n=1,735</b>	<b>n=1,796</b>	
<b>Serious Asthma-related event</b>	8	9	0.93 (0.36, 2.4)
<b>Age 18-64 years</b>	<b>n=13,720</b>	<b>n=13,690</b>	
<b>Serious Asthma-related event</b>	90	75	1.20 (0.88, 1.62)
<b>Age &gt;64 years</b>	<b>n=2,080</b>	<b>n=2,065</b>	
<b>Serious Asthma-related event</b>	18	21	0.85 (0.45, 1.6)

<sup>a</sup> Includes data from the adult/adolescent safety trials with Advair Diskus, Dulera, and Symbicort

# Serious Asthma-Related Events

## Individual Trials and Meta-analysis

	ICS+LABA	ICS	HR [95% CI]
Advair (adults/adolescents)	34/5834	33/5845	1.03 [0.64, 1.66]
Symbicort	43/5838	40/5843	1.07 [0.70, 1.65]
Dulera	39/5865	32/5864	1.22 [0.76, 1.94]
Meta-analysis* (adults/adolescents)	116/17537	105/17552	1.10 [0.85, 1.44]
Advair (pediatrics)	27/3107	21/3101	1.29 [0.73, 2.28]



Note: Only randomized subjects who took at least one dose of treatment were included.  
 \* Fitted by a Cox model stratified by trial using a single covariate of planned arm.  
<sup>†</sup> 2.0 and 2.7 are NI margins for individual adult/adolescent and pediatric trials, respectively.



# Efficacy – Asthma Exacerbations

	Advair (fluticasone/ salmeterol)		Advair (fluticasone/ salmeterol) Pediatric		Symbicort (budesonide/ formoterol)		Dulera (mometasone/ formoterol)	
	FP/SAL	FP	FP/SAL	FP	BUD/FOR	BUD	MOM/FO R	MOM
<b>N</b>	5834	5845	3107	3101	5486	5487	5868	5861
<b>Patients with EXB (%)</b>	480 (8)	597 (10)	265 (9)	309 (10)	539 (9)	633 (11)	708 (12)	779 (13)
<b>Hazard Ratio (95% CI)</b>	0.79 (0.70, 0.89)		0.86 (0.73, 1.01)		0.84 (0.75, 0.94)		0.89 (0.80, 0.98)	
Exacerbation defined as deterioration in asthma requiring use of systemic corticosteroids (≥3-days), inpatient hospitalization, or emergency department visit requiring systemic corticosteroids								
Source: Approved labels for Advair Diskus, Symbicort, and Dulera								

## Labeling

- Removed Boxed Warning from ICS/LABA products
- Warning revised
  - Emphasize risk of LABA monotherapy (without ICS)
  - Describe results of available trials and meta-analysis
- Medication Guide changed to Patient Information Leaflet

# ICS/ LABA Products for Asthma

Product/Dosage Strength	Sponsor	Approval Date for Asthma	Approved Age Range
<b>Advair Diskus</b> (FP/SAL Inhalation powder) 100/50, 250/50, 500/50	GSK	August 2000	≥ 4 years
<b>Advair HFA</b> (FP/SAL Inhalation Aerosol) 45/21, 115/21, 230/21	GSK	June 2006	≥ 12 years
<b>AirDuo</b> (FP/SAL Dry powder) 55/14, 113/14, 232/14	Teva	January 2017	≥ 12 years
<b>Breo Ellipta</b> (FF/VIL Inhalation Aerosol) 100/25, 200/25	GSK	May 2013	≥ 18 years
<b>Dulera</b> (MOM/FOR Inhalation Aerosol) 100/4.5, 200/4.5	Merck	June 2010	≥ 12 years
<b>Symbicort</b> (BUD/FOR Inhalation Aerosol) 80/4.5, 160/4.5	Astra-Zeneca	July 2006	≥ 12 years
FP=fluticasone propionate, SAL=salmeterol, FF=fluticasone furoate, VIL=vilanterol, MOM=mometasone, FOR=formoterol			

# Single Ingredient LABA Products for Asthma

Product/Dosage Strength	Sponsor	Approval Date for Asthma	Approved Age Range
<b>Serevent Diskus</b> (salmeterol xinafoate inhalation powder)	GSK	August 2000	≥ 4 years
<b>Foradil Aersolizer</b> (formoterol fumarate inhalation powder)	GSK	June 2006	≥ 5 years

## Summary

- Completed studies excluded pre-specified NI margin
  - Few intubations and deaths
- FDA conducted combined analysis
  - Subgroup analysis consistent with overall analysis
- Decrease in asthma exacerbations (glucocorticoid use) with ICS/LABA compared to ICS
- Boxed Warning removed from ICS/LABA products

Thank you