

# Quality Considerations and Control for Drug Products Containing Nanomaterials

**From Doxil to Onpattro**

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CDER | US FDA

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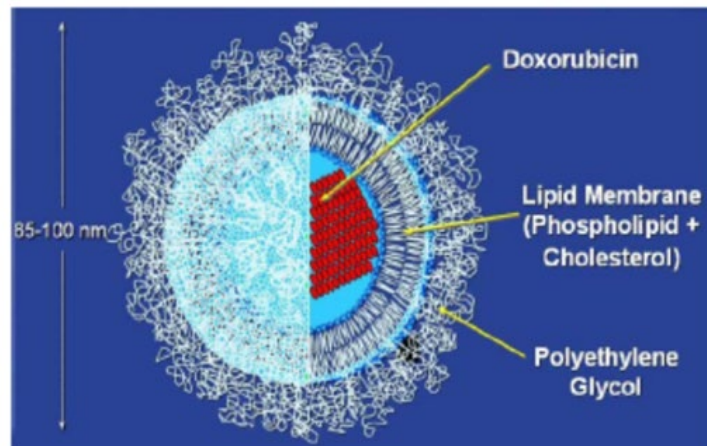
## Doxil®

API: small molecule  
(Doxorubicin Hydrochloride)

**Drug carrier: Liposomes**

Indication: Ovarian Cancer; AIDS-related Kaposi's Sarcoma; Multiple Myeloma

**Approval date: 11/17/1995**



Adapted from: Barenholz Y. Doxil® — the first FDA-approved Nano-drug: Lessons learned. Journal of Controlled Release 2012; 16:117–134.

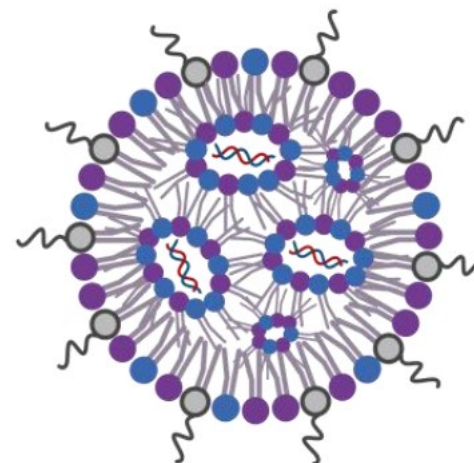
## Onpattro®

API: siRNA  
(Patisiran)

**Drug carrier: Lipid nanoparticles**

Indication: polyneuropathy of hereditary transthyretin-mediated amyloidosis in adults

**Approval date: 08/10/2018**



Adapted from: Thi, T. T. H. et al Lipid-Based Nanoparticles in the Clinic and Clinical Trials: From Cancer Nanomedicine to COVID-19 Vaccines. Vaccines April 2021.

# Overview

- **liposome drug products – a story of success**
- **What do we learn?**
- **Lipid Nanoparticle Drug Products – a new legend**
- **Where are we going?**



# FDA Approved Liposome Drug Products

Trade name	Active Ingredient	Indication	Route	Initial Approval Date
Doxil	Doxorubicin HCl	cancer	Intravenous	11/17/1995
DaunoXome*	Daunorubicin Citrate	cancer	Intravenous	04/08/1996
AmBisome	Amphotericin B	infections	Intravenous	08/11/1997
DepoCyt*	Cytarabine	cancer	Intrathecal	04/01/1999
Visudyne	Verteporfin	photosensitizer	Intravenous	04/12/2000
Definity	Perflutren	ultrasound contrast agent	Intravenous	07/31/2001
DepoDur*	Morphine Sulfate	pain following major surgery	Epidural	05/18/2004
Exparel	Bupivacaine	analgesia	Intravenous	10/28/2011
Marqibo	Vincristine Sulfate	cancer	Intravenous	08/09/2012
Onivyde	Irinotecan HCl	cancer	Intravenous	10/22/2015
Vyxeos	Daunorubicin and Cytarabine	cancer	Intravenous	08/03/2017
Arikayce Kit	Amikacin Sulfate	Lung disease	Oral inhalation	09/28/2018

\* Discontinued



# Generic Liposome Drug Products Development

**Product Specific Guidance (PSG) developed by FDA  
&  
FDA approved Generic Liposome Drug Products**

<b>Drug Product</b>	<b>PSG History</b>	<b>Approved ANDAs</b>
<b>Doxorubicin Hydrochloride Liposome injection (Doxil)</b>	Recommended Feb 2010; Revised Nov 2013, Dec 2014, Apr 2017, Sept 2018	5 ANDAs approved between 2013 to 2022
<b>Amphotericin B liposome injection (AmbiSome)</b>	Recommended Apr 2014; Revised Jan 2016, Aug 2020	2 ANDA approved in between 2021 and 2022
<b>Verteporfin for Injection (Visudyne)</b>	Recommended Apr 2014	
<b>Bupivacaine Liposome Injectable Suspension (Exparel)</b>	Recommended Feb 2018	
<b>Perflutren Lipid Microsphere Injectable Suspension (Definity)</b>	Recommended Sept 2018	
<b>Irinotecan Hydrochloride Liposome Injection</b>	Recommended Feb 2022	
<b>Cytarabine and Daunorubicin Liposome for Injection</b>	Recommended Aug 2022	

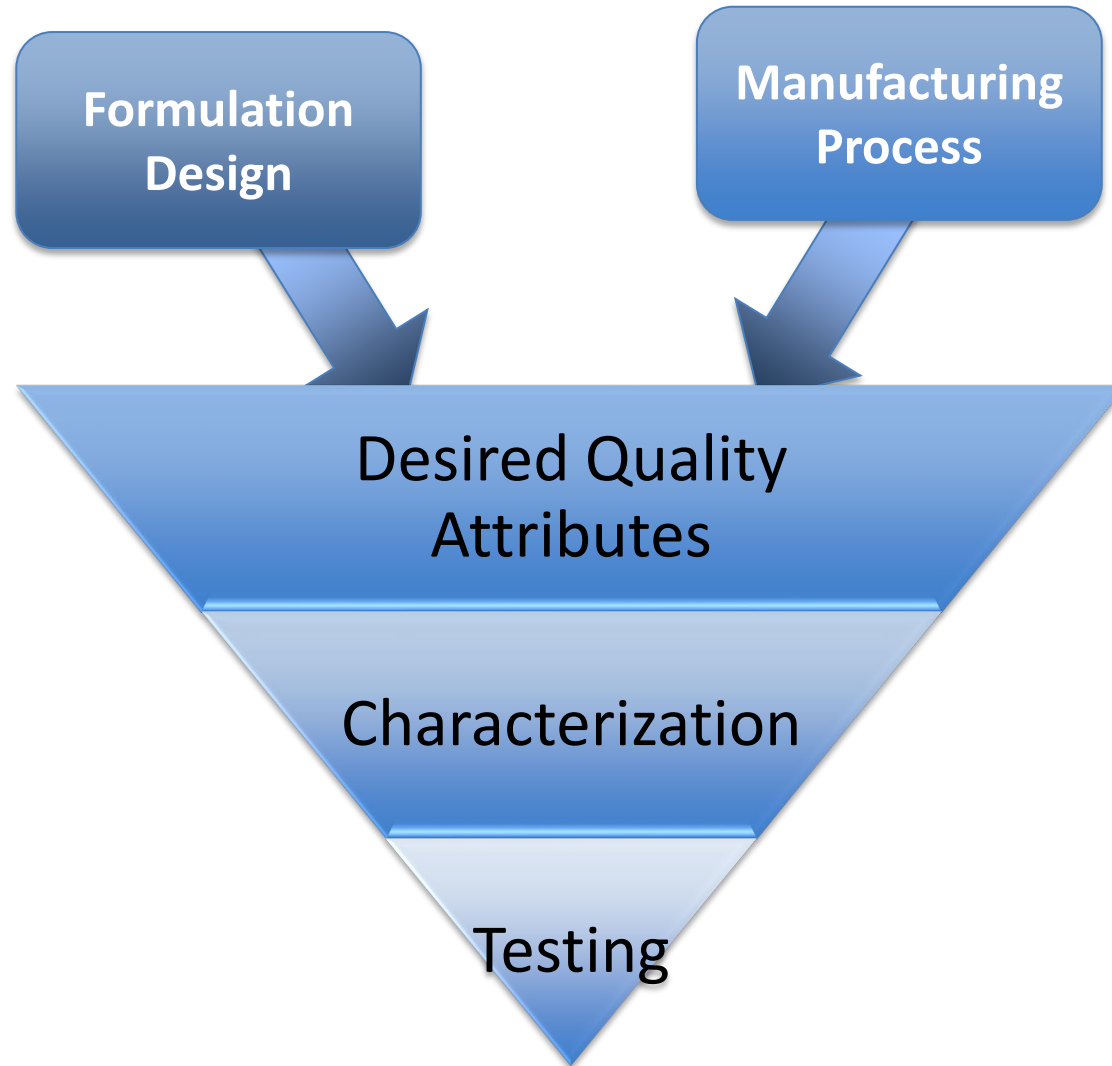


# Other Relevant Guidance

- [Liposome Drug Products: Chemistry, Manufacturing, and Controls; Human Pharmacokinetics and Bioavailability; and Labeling Documentation](#)
  
- [Drug Products, Including Biological Products, that Contain Nanomaterials](#)

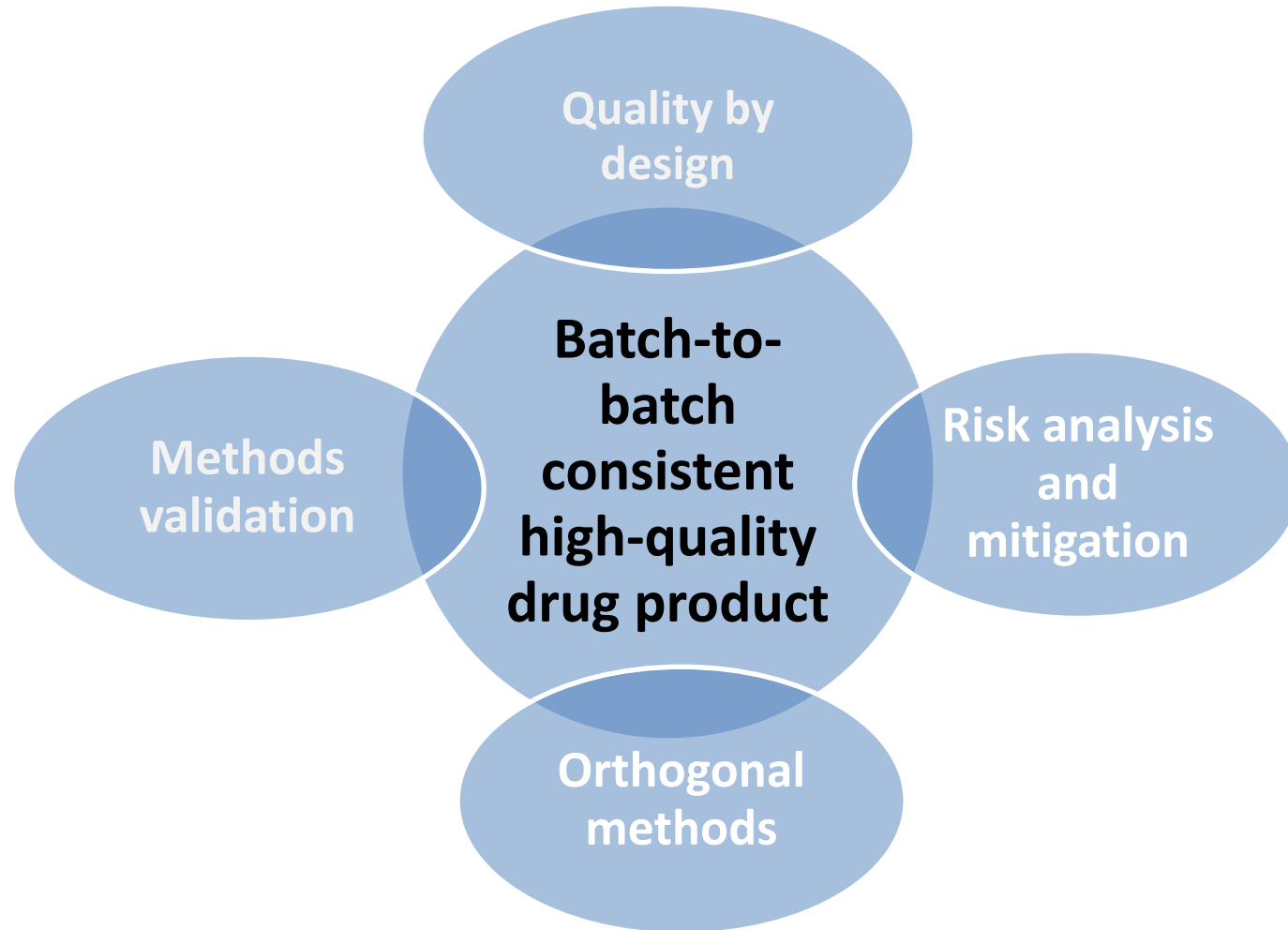
# What Do We learn?

- quality perspectives



# What Do We learn?

- quality perspectives





# Lipid Nanoparticles

**“The origins of LNP systems used for genetic drugs lie in the development of liposomal drug delivery systems for small molecule drugs”**

- Cullis, P.R. and M.J. Hope, Lipid Nanoparticle Systems for Enabling Gene Therapies. Mol Ther, 2017. 25(7): p. 1467-1475.

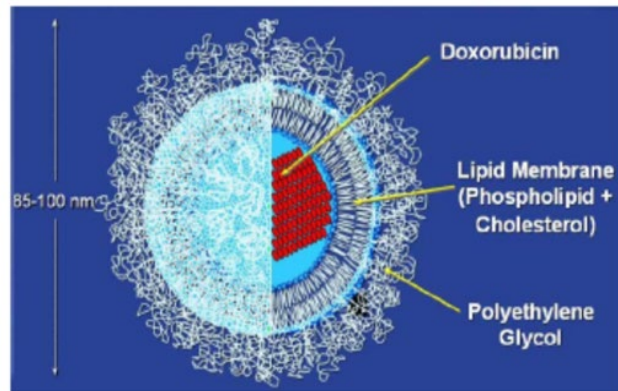
# From Doxil<sup>®</sup> to Onpattro<sup>®</sup>

- ***Desired profiles for delivery genetic drugs: - lessons learned from liposome drug products***
  - a size range of 100 nm or less
  - high encapsulation efficacy
  - circulation longevity
  - robust, scalable manufacturing processes
  - stability
  
- ***Specific requirements for delivery of siRNA***
  - Ionizable cationic lipids -facilitate association and encapsulation;
  - near-neutral charge on the external membrane surface;
  - dissociation of PEG from LNP in vivo quickly

# From Doxil® to Onpattro® -Formulation Development



## Doxil®



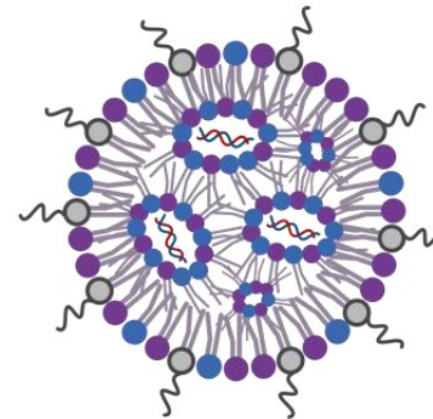
Dosage form: Liposome Injection

Lipids: HSPC

Cholesterol

MPEG 2000-DSPE

## Onpattro®



Dosage form: Lipid Complex Injection

Lipids: HSPC

Cholesterol

PEG 2000-C-DMG

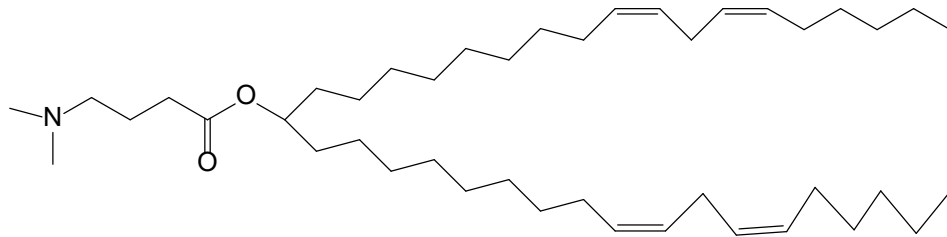
Dlin-MC3-DMA

# Onpattro – Lipid Selection



## Ionizable cationic lipid - Dlin-MC3-DMA

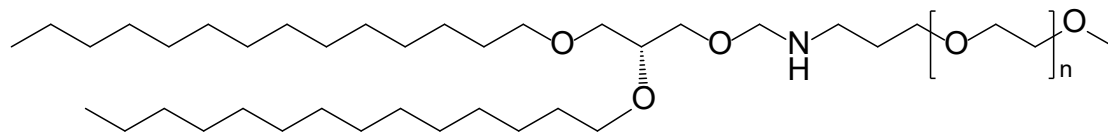
Chemical name: (6Z,9Z,28Z,31Z)-heptatriaconta-6,9,28,31-tetraen-19-yl-4- (dimethylamino)butanoate



- **Optimized Pka to ~6.4: positively charged at an acidic pH but neutral in the blood;**
- **Encapsulation at acidic pH**
- **Neutral surface charge at physiological pH**

## PEG lipid - PEG<sub>2000</sub>-C-DMG

(R)-2,3-bis(tetradecyloxy)propyl 1 (methoxypoly(ethylene glycol)2000)propyl carbamate

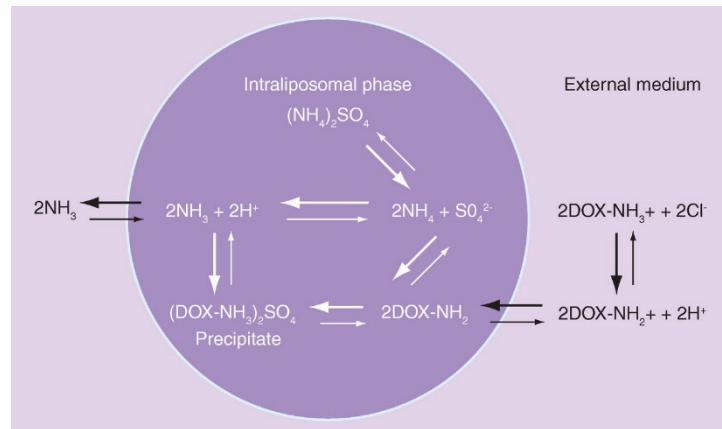


- **Stabilize the LNP particle**
- **Control the particle size**
- **C14 alkyl chain – fast dissociation in vivo**

# From Doxil® to Onpattro® -High Encapsulation Efficiency

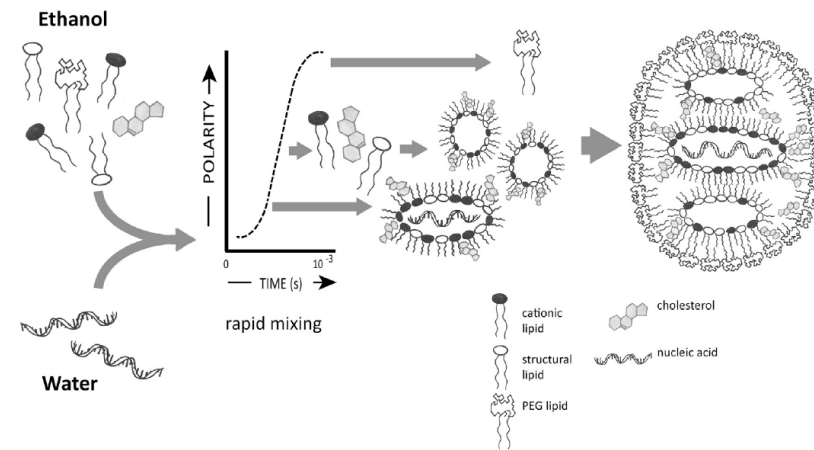
## Doxil®

Active drug loading by ion gradient method



## Onpattro®

- Ionizable cationic lipid complexes with the nucleic acids in acidic media (pH~4) by electrostatic interaction
- Ethanol loading process



Jiang, W, Lionberger R. and Yu L.X., In vitro and in vivo characterizations of PEGylated liposomal doxorubicin Bioanalysis. 2011 Feb;3(3):333-44.  
Cullis, P.R. and M.J. Hope, Lipid Nanoparticle Systems for Enabling Gene Therapies. Mol Ther, 2017. 25(7): p. 1467-1475.

# From Doxil<sup>®</sup> to Onpattro<sup>®</sup> -Manufacturing Evolution



- **Extrusion method (Doxil)**
- **Homogenization**
- **Ethanol loading method (Onpattro)**

T-tube mixing process was developed where lipids dissolved in ethanol were rapidly mixed with oligonucleotides in an aqueous buffer resulting in efficient loading of nucleic acid polymers into small (diameter <100 nm) LNP systems.

Cullis, P.R. and M.J. Hope, Lipid Nanoparticle Systems for Enabling Gene Therapies. *Mol Ther*, 2017. 25(7): p. 1467-1475.

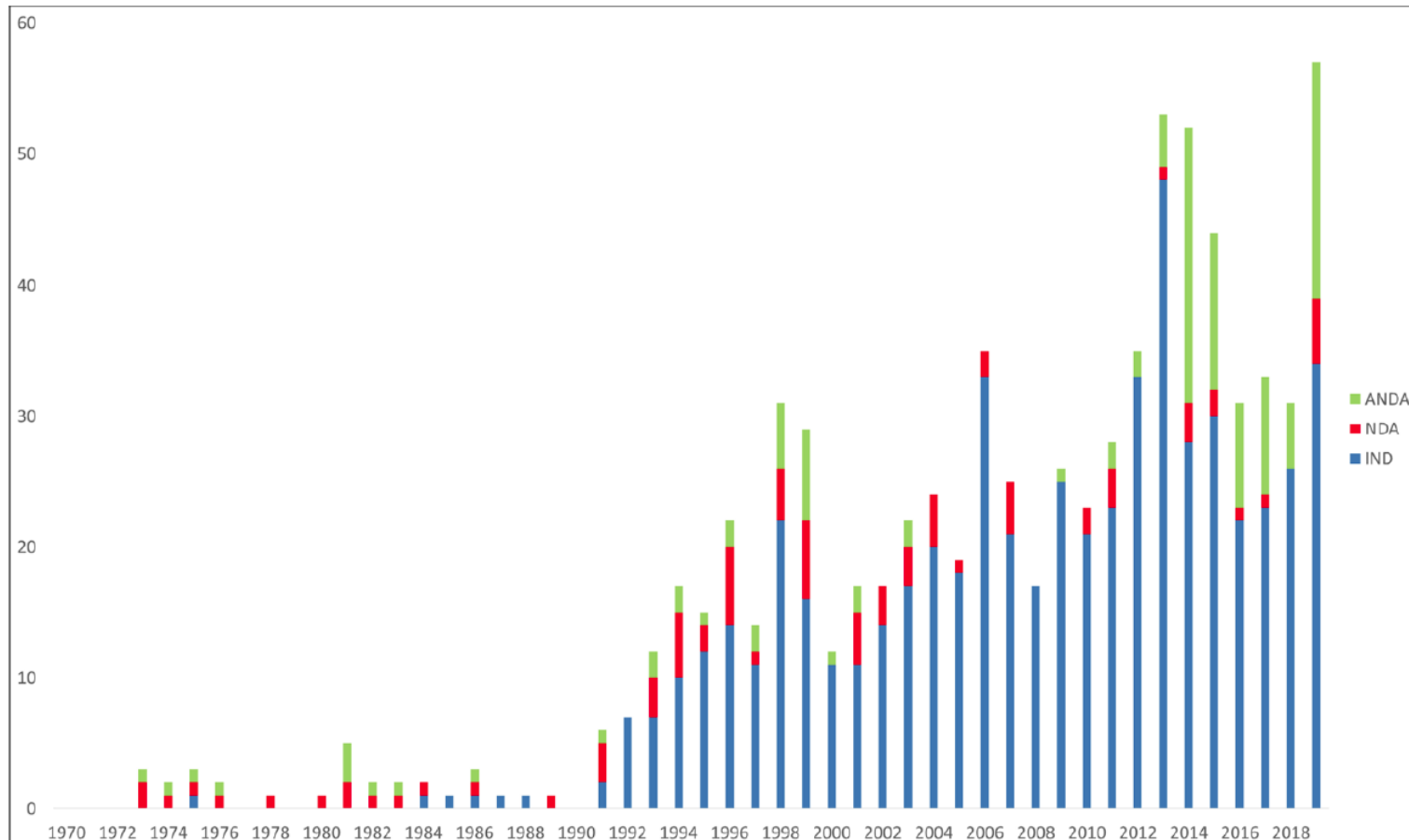
# From Doxil<sup>®</sup> to Onpattro<sup>®</sup> - Characterization and Testing



- Morphology – Cryo-TEM
- Surface charge
- Particle size and size distribution - DLS
- Encapsulation efficiency
- In-Vitro Release

# Where Are We Going

- Submissions to the US FDA of Drug Products Containing Nanomaterials





# Closing Thought

## *a science-based, product-focused regulatory policy:*

- Design and intent of nanomaterial (QbD)
- Risk-based approach
- Identify process risks and control strategy
- Characterization is key through development - Adequacy of analytical methods; Sampling strategy; Orthogonal methods
- Encourage industry to consult with the Agency early in product development (pIND and PDEV)



# Acknowledgement

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