

Draft Guidance on Bexarotene

This draft guidance, when finalized, will represent the current thinking of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA, or the Agency) on this topic. It does not establish any rights for any person and is not binding on FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if it satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations. To discuss an alternative approach, contact the Office of Generic Drugs.

Active Ingredient: Bexarotene

Dosage Form; Route: Capsule; oral

Recommended Studies: One study

1. Type of study and design: Multiple-dose, steady state, two-way crossover in vivo
Strength: 75 mg
Subjects: Patients who are receiving Bexarotene Capsules in an established treatment regimen
Additional comments:
 - a) TARGRETIN is a member of the retinoid class of drugs that is associated with birth defects in humans. The protocol should specify and require both formal pregnancy counseling for female subjects, and male subjects regarding the risk to their female partner and a section regarding the counseling in the Informed Consent document.
 - b) Adequate contraception must be continued for at least 1 month following the last dose of bexarotene.
 - c) The protocol should include following specific exclusion criteria in addition to other exclusion criteria:
 - Subjects demonstrating abnormalities in lipid profile or thyroid-function on screening laboratory evaluations.
 - Subjects receiving systemic therapy with Vitamin A in doses of greater than 15000 IU (5000 mcg) per day.
 - Subjects who are taking gemfibrozil or tamoxifen.
 - Use of any other retinoid class drug (e.g. isotretinoin) within 30 days of entry into the study.
 - Use of topical medications such as corticosteroids or tar baths.
 - d) In addition to the exclusion of drugs that are also known to cause photosensitivity, subjects should be advised to avoid prolonged exposure to the sun or UV light during the study. Similarly, it would be prudent to exclude subjects with a known history of skin cancer.
 - e) The protocol should include an appropriate plan for continued follow-up, standard care for subsequent follow up, and treatment of subjects who continue to demonstrate thyroid and/or lipid abnormalities at the end of study laboratory evaluations.

Analytes to measure (in appropriate biological fluid): Bexarotene in plasma

Bioequivalence based on (90% CI): Bexarotene

Waiver request of in vivo testing: Not Applicable

Dissolution test method and sampling times: The dissolution information for this drug product can be found on the FDA-Recommended Dissolution Methods website available to the public at the following location: <http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/dissolution/>. 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 abbreviated new drug application (ANDA).