

## **Draft Guidance on Gentamicin Sulfate**

This draft guidance, once finalized, will represent the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) current thinking on this topic. It does not create or confer any rights for or on any person and does not operate to bind FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if the approach satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations. If you want to discuss an alternative approach, contact the Office of Generic Drugs.

**Active ingredient:** Gentamicin Sulfate

**Form/Route:** Solution/Ophthalmic

**Recommended studies:** Request for Waiver of In vivo Bioequivalence Study Requirements

To qualify for a waiver of the in vivo bioequivalence (BE) study requirements under 21 CFR 320.22(b)(1), a generic gentamicin sulfate ophthalmic solution, EQ 0.3% base product must have the same active and inactive ingredients in the same concentration as the Reference Listed Drug (RLD).

For an ophthalmic drug product that differs from the RLD in preservative, buffer, substance to adjust tonicity, or thickening agent [as permitted by the chemistry, manufacturing and controls (CMC) regulations for abbreviated new drug applications (ANDAs), 21 CFR 314.94(a)(9)(iv)], the regulation specifies that the applicant must identify and characterize the differences and provide information demonstrating that the differences do not affect the safety or efficacy of the proposed drug product.

Changes in any of the inactive ingredients can change the safety and efficacy of an ophthalmic drug product. Therefore, an in vivo BE study with clinical endpoint is required for any gentamicin sulfate ophthalmic solution, EQ 0.3% base product that has a different inactive ingredient or a difference of more than 5% in the amount of any inactive ingredient compared to that of the RLD. The sponsor is advised to submit a protocol to the Division of Clinical Review in the Office of Generic Drugs for review and concurrence prior to conducting a BE study with clinical endpoint for such a product.