Special Issue

Bioavailability and Bioequivalence Assessment of Topical Drug Products Intended for Local Action

Message from the Guest Editors

Demonstrating bioequivalence (BE) for topical generics remains challenging due to the lack of standardized methods beyond the FDA's vasoconstrictor assay (VCA). While clinical endpoint studies are often required, recent advances focus on surrogate approaches like tape stripping, microdialysis, and in vitro tests (IVRT/IVPT). Regulatory emphasis on Q1/Q2/Q3 sameness further supports alternative BE strategies. This Special Issue on the bioavailability (BA) and bioequivalence (BE) of topical formulations intended for local action will focus on research and review papers discussing applications of validated methods used to assess the BE of topical dosage forms not intended for absorption (i.e., excluding transdermal dosage forms) and will include both in vivo and in vitro methods. We welcome articles dealing with all aspects of the BA/BE of topical dosage forms for local action, and invite researchers and drug developers to submit their original research or review articles with expert opinions and perspectives in this area.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Isadore Kanfer

1. Leslie Dan College of Pharmacy, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON M5S 3M2, Canada
2. Faculty of Pharmacy, Rhodes University, Makhanda, South Africa

Dr. Seeprarani Rath

Center For Dermal Research, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, 145 Bevier Rd, Piscataway, NJ 08854, USA

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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
pharmaceutics@mdpi.com

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Patrick J. Sinko
Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, William Levine Hall, Room 225C, 160 Frelinghuysen Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854-8020, USA

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