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A CASE STUDY: Regulatory Challenges and Opportunities in Developing a Novel Microarray Patch Delivery System

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Agenda

- About Vaxxas
- Our projects and partners
- The High-Density Microarray Patch Delivery System
- Case study: US FDA pre-IND and IND application
- Regulatory challenges and opportunities

Disclaimers:

The speaker's personal opinion/interpretation may not wholly reflect the company position. Information discussed is specific to the Vaxxas case and product.





About Vaxxas

- Australian technology based on research from the University of Queensland.
- Needle-free patch that delivers vaccine to immune-cell rich layer under the skin.
- Vaxxas Biomedical Facility opened 2023, in Brisbane, Queensland.
- R&D, pilot-scale, early commercial production.
- Rapidly growing 140+ employees.
- Expanding vaccine pipeline and partnerships.









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Vaccine clinical programs & partners



Publications: Forster et al, PLoS Med 17(3) e1003024, 2020; Fernando et al, Vaccine, 36, 2018.



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High-Density Microarray Patch (HD-MAP) Delivery System













Vaccine coated micro-projections



HD-MAP integrated in a single-use applicator



Apply & press, hold, remove

Potential benefits

- Vaccine delivery to immune-cell rich epidermis and dermis.
- Reduced antigen required.
- No needle/syringe.
- Dried formulation > reduce/eliminate cold-chain.
- Lower-skilled or selfadministration.
- Improved global vaccine accessibility

> hard-to-reach areas, pandemic response.





Case Study: US FDA Pre-IND and IND Application Aim

- Phase I clinical study with a pandemic influenza vaccine, administered using the HD-MAP delivery system.
- Conduct study in Australia under TGA Clinical Trial Notification (CTN) scheme.
- Also, obtain FDA Investigational New Drug (IND) approval.

Status

- Pre-IND FDA 'meeting' complete.
- Addressing FDA feedback.
- IND application targeted for 2024.





Why an IND?

- Agency feedback and interaction
 - Novel dosage form, route of administration, formulation, container closure
 - No equivalent products are registered
 - No specific guidelines or standards
 - R&D > commercial pathway and agency expectations unclear
- Multiple FDA Meeting Types
 - Pre-IND (Type B), Type D (issues), INTERACT (novel/development)
- Pre-IND Meeting Request
 - Questions and background package
- **IND** Application
 - 30-day evaluation
 - Requirement for US-based clinical studies
 - IND is 'on-going'







Pre-IND – CMC Question Focus

- Confirm Combination Product classification and Primary Mode of Action (PMOA)
 - Varies globally
 - Defines how product will be regulated
- Confirm Vaxxas manufacturing responsibility
 - Drug Substance and/or Drug Product
- Confirm Common Technical Document (CTD) requirement, structure and content
 - Location of device/vaccine/combination information
 - Data expectations for a Phase I submission
- Other regulatory requirements for a combination product





FDA Response - Product Definition and Responsibility

- Combination Product (defined under 21 CFR 3.2(e))
 - A product comprised of two or more regulated components, that are physically, chemically or otherwise combined or mixed and produced as a single entity.
 - Single-entity combination product = Biological constituent + Device constituent
 - Biologic constituent = vaccine formulation
 - Device constituent = HD-MAP (base and projections) + applicator assembly
 - Regulated in accordance with PMOA
- Primary Mode of Action (PMOA)
 - The single mode of action of a combination product that makes the greatest contribution to the combination products overall intended use(s)
 - ✓ Vaccine provides the PMOA
 - Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER) is lead Center for review
 - : Submission = IND/BLA
- Vaxxas is a Drug Product and Combination Product manufacturer







FDA Response – CTD Structure and Content

- CTD dossier structure
 - Separate Drug Substance module for device components
 - Device documentation in 32R
 - Include a Reviewers Guide in Module 1
- For a sterile product
 - Aseptic process validation: agreement on approach
 - Device component sterilization: description, validation method, impact on quality of parts
- Finish Product Specifications
 - Additional methods, set acceptance criteria
- Defined container closure system components
 - Container closure integrity testing
- Investigational product labelling 21 CFR 312.6(a) and 21 CFR 812.5, or waiver.



	eCTD TECHNICAL CONFORMANCE GUIDE
	Technical Specifications Document
	This Document is incorporated by reference into the following Guidance Document(s):
Gui	dance for Industry Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic Format — Certain Human Pharmaceutical Product Applications and Related Submissions Using the eCTD Specifications
	For questions regarding this technical specifications document, contact CDER at esub@fda.hhs.gov or CBER at esubprep@fda.hhs.gov
	U.S. Department of Health and Honnan Services Tools and Drog Administration Conter for Drog Polasimon and Research (CDER) Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)
	Novemember 2022



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FDA Reminder – Biocompatibility Testing

• For Phase I IND, evidence of biocompatibility testing of **skin contacting parts** in accordance with ISO-10993-1.



Table A.1: Biocompatibility Evaluation Endpoints





FDA cGMP Expectations

• Combination products must demonstrate compliance to the cGMP expectations for **each** of the constituent parts.



Investigational combination products that include device constituent parts are subject to design controls under 21 CFR 820.30





FDA Expectation – Device Design Control for Phase I IND

- Design control:
 - Mandatory methodology to control the design process, include quality, and relevant expertise throughout development.
 - Includes product design and manufacturing process.
 - Meet user needs, intended uses, specified requirements.
- Demonstrate design control in IND application for **Phase I prototype**
 - At minimum, a risk analysis with supporting verification data/information.
 - Safety risks have been identified and adequately mitigated.
 - Product functions as intended.
- Introduce device design control early in the development process.





Other Areas for Understanding

- Information requirements for Phase II and Phase III stage IND
- Defining Critical Quality Attributes (CQAs)
- Managing prototype changes > Bridging
- Including Human Factors engineering/usability
- Identify global differences in regulatory requirements for licensure
- Registration submission pathways
 - FDA considers it a **new** product, even if the vaccine is approved
 - Different dose form, route of administration, formulation, material interactions, users/use environment.
 - Single and/or multiple submissions
 - Single BLA in CTD format
 - Or Master File for the 'platform'
 - Defining the submission Sponsor > vaccine or device manufacturer



Regulatory Opportunities

Network/research/participate

- Interactions with regulatory authorities and recognized experts .
- ISPE Combination Products CoP .
- Combinate Podcast
- MAP Regulatory Working Group (RWG): .
 - PATH MAP Center of Excellence + Cardiff University partnership
 - Inform, guide and define regulatory science of the dose form
 - Expedite clinical translation of safe and effective products
 - CMC regulatory topics e.g., 0
 - Define MAP dose form
 - Identify and understand MAP CQAs
 - Develop standardized validated test methods
 - Inform microbiological requirements/specifications
 - Adopt, adapt, or develop new, standards/methods







Thank you







Session II: Global Regulatory Approach to Combination Products



Justine Mann CBE Pure Solutions

<u>Moderator</u>



Daniel Flewellen SeerPharma



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