General Requirements for Stability Studies of Pharmaceutical Products

هذه المتطلبات وردت في القواعد المنظمة لدراسات الثبات الصادرة عن الإدارة العامة للصيدلة وكذلك قرارات لجنة دراسات الثبات واللجنة الفنية اعتباراً من ٢٠٠٨/٥/٤

1- Human (old system), food supplements and veterinary products:

A- The stability study (including physical, chemical and microbiological analysis) should be done on 3 different R&D batches.

B- The stability study is done as:

i- Long term study: at 30˚C ± 2˚C / 65 ± 5% RH) for the required shelf life. Accelerated study at 40˚C ± 2˚C / 75 ± 5% RH for 6 months could be submitted as a supportive study.

Or ii- Accelerated study: at 40˚C ± 2˚C / 75 ± 5% RH for 6 months to guarantee the product a shelf life of 2 years.

iii- Long term stability study at 25˚C ± 2˚C / 60 ± 5 % RH is acceptable only with justification. A commitment letter from the company to be responsible for storage at pharmacies and wholesale stores at 25˚C should be submitted.

C- Validated stability indicating methods should be followed and submitted in full details, and the following should be taken into consideration:

i- For official methods, specificity, precision and accuracy are only required

ii- For non official methods, the required items are: specificity (against degradation products or other ingredients, forced degradation could be followed), precision (repeatability), accuracy, linearity, range and robustness.

D- Assay chromatograms at different time intervals for the tested batches as well as chromatograms for the assay validation should be submitted with full details (e.g. peak area, retention time, peak height…….etc).

E- Stability study files will be received after setting an appointment as illustrated at website *www.eda.mohp.gov.eg* following the sequence: Services → Registeration → CAPA committee → Stability committee → Workflow

The company should submit the file on the date set by stability study department with a referral letter from registration department of CAPA.

F- The stability study file should be complete and fulfill the requirements as illustrated at the website *www.eda.mohp.gov.eg* the sequence: →Services → Registration → CAPA committee → Stability committee → File content for all cases, should be followed.

A period up to one month may be given to the applicants of files containing deficient documents or information to submit a complete file.

2- Human pharmaceutical products which follow ministerial decrees 370/2006 and 296/2009 :

A-Accelerated stability study on one R&D batch for 6 months to guarantee a tentative registration license with a shelf life of 2 years is required.

The study should be conducted at 40˚C ± 2˚C / 75 ± 5% RH for shelf stored products and at 25˚C ± 2˚C for refrigerator stored products.

The tentative registration license is valid for 3 years.

B-Long term stability study at required storage conditions on three production batches should be submitted to guarantee a final registration license.

(All the requirements given under 1-C, 1-D, 1-E and 1-F should be considered)

3- Re-registration of pharmaceutical products:

The ongoing stability study should be submitted on 3 different marketed batches (at least one batch per year to be followed until expiry).

(All the requirements given under 1-C, 1-D, 1-E and 1-F should be considered)

4- Changing manufacturing site:

Only validation of method of analysis with detailed chromatograms should be submitted.

5- Local and toll pharmaceutical products:

The stability study may be done at the site of manufacturer or at any other licensed site (company or center). The contract between the product owner and the organization performing the stability study should be provided. The name of product (under test) should be mentioned clearly in the contract.

(All the requirements given under 1, 2, 3 and 4 should be considered)

6- Imported pharmaceutical products:

The stability study should be provided by the owner of the product (mother company) and should be signed by the authorized person and stamped per page.

(All the requirements given under 1, 3 and 4 should be considered)

7- Under-license pharmaceutical products:

The stability study may be provided by the mother company (license holder) or the manufacturer.

(All the requirements given under 1, 2, 3 and 4 should be considered)

8- Pharmaceutical products packed in semi-permeable plastic containers (starting August 2011):

A- The long term study should be done at 30˚C ± 2˚C / 35 ± 5 % RH.

B-The accelerated stability study should be done at 40˚C ± 2˚C / 25 ± 5 % RH.

9- Change pack type:

A- The product will be guaranteed a shelf life according to stability study performed on the new pack.

B- For changing pack from AL/PVC to AL/AL stability study is not required on the new pack, except if required by the stability committee for justifiable reasons.

C- Change of pack size or volume while using same packaging material doesn't require submitting a new stability study.

10- Multidose injections:

The in-use stability study (including all required parameters) should be provided on 3 different batches in addition to stability studies on the unopened vials.

11- Ophthalmic pharmaceutical preparations:

The in-use stability study (stability after opening) ,including physical, chemical and microbiological analysis, should be provided on 3 different batches in addition to the stability studies on the unopened containers.

12- The powders for reconstitution:

The stability study for 3 different batches after reconstitution should be provided, at storage temperature of the product after reconstitution, in addition to the stability studies on the original product before reconstitution.