BIOSIMILARS
APPENDIX H

KEY TERMS

A. What is a **reference** product?

   a. The single biological product, already approved by the Food & Drug Administration (FDA), against which a biosimilar product is compared

   b. Also referred to as an "originator product"

B. What is a **biosimilar**?

   a. A biological product that is ***highly similar*** to the FDA-approved reference product notwithstanding minor differences in clinically inactive components

   b. There are ***no clinically meaningful differences*** between biological product and the reference product in terms of safety, purity and potency

C. What does "**highly similar**" mean?

   a. High similarity is demonstrated by analyzing the structure and function of both the reference product and the biosimilar

   b. Slight differences are expected during the manufacturing process for biological products

D. What does "**clinically meaningful differences**" mean?

   a. Generally proven through human pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic studies, an assessment of clinical immunogenicity, and if required by the FDA, additional clinical studies

   b. Examples of "clinically meaningful differences": differences in expected range of safety, purity, or potency

E. What does "**interchangeability**" mean in terms of biosimilars?

   a. Interchangeability status is a second level of FDA approval beyond biosimilarity and is only granted if: (1) additional clinical trials demonstrate that the biosimilar can produce the same clinical result as the reference product in any given patient, and (2) additional clinical trials demonstrate the risk to efficacy or safety with alternating or switching between the biosimilar and reference product is not greater versus consistent use of the reference product

   b. There are currently no interchangeable FDA approved biosimilar products at this time.

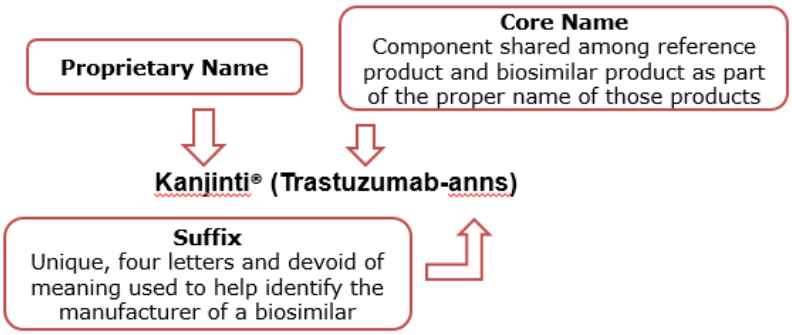
F. Can a biosimilar be **substituted** for a reference product?

   a. Biosimilar drugs may be substituted for the reference product, based on state laws. Additional considerations include individual institutional practice and physician approval for substitution.

NOMENCLATURE & LABELING

A. The naming of biosimilars requires the assignment of a four-character alphabetic suffix to the nonproprietary name of the original product to distinguish between reference medications and their biosimilar.

B. Example:



National Comprehensive Cancer Network® (NCCN®) Approach

A. NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines®) are developed by panel members from NCCN member institutions. Recommendations for allowance of biosimilar substitution for reference products may or may not be included in each guideline based on panel member recommendations, clinical experience, or current evidence-based data.
   a. NCCN Guidelines® include footnote:
      - An FDA-approved biosimilar is an appropriate substitute for …(reference product)
   b. NCCN Chemotherapy Order Templates (NCCN Templates®) include note under reference product:
      - A biosimilar agent may be substituted if clinically appropriate. For more information on the use of biosimilars, please refer to disease-specific guideline.
   c. NCCN Drugs & Biologics Compendium (NCCN Compendium®) add newly FDA-approved biosimilars to the NCCN Compendium® according to disease-specific guidelines.

RESOURCES

1. FDA website:
   http://www.fda.gov/drugs/biosimilars/biosimilar-development-review-and-approval

2. FDA Purple Book- Database of licensed biological products
   http://www.fda.gov/purplebook

3. Lyman GH, Balaban E, Diaz M, Ferris A, Tsao A, Voest E, Zon R, Francisco M, Green S, Sherwood S, Harvey RD, Schilsky RL. American Society of Clinical Oncology Statement: Biosimilars in Oncology. J Clin Oncol. 2018 Apr 20;36(12):1260-1265. doi: 10.1200/JCO.2017.77.4893. Epub 2018 Feb 14. PMID: 29443651. https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29443651/

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1. U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Biological Product Definitions. October 2017
2. U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Labeling for Biosimilar Products; Guidance for Industry. March 2016
3. U.S Food and Drug Administration. Biosimilar Product Regulatory Review and Approval. October 2017
4. U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Questions and Answers on Biosimilar Development and the BPCI Act; Guidance for Industry. December 2018.

Last Updated: May 20, 2021