

# **Perspective for Modernization of Regulatory Assessment and Submission including KASA and PQ/CMC**

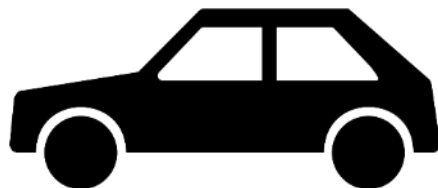
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*CMC Strategy Forum North America  
July 17, 2023*

# Pharmaceutical Quality



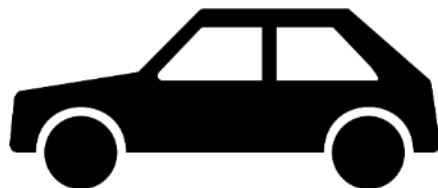
**A quality product of any kind consistently meets the expectations of the user.**



# Pharmaceutical Quality



**A quality product of any kind consistently meets the expectations of the user.**



**Drugs are no different.**



**Patients expect safe and effective  
medicine with every dose they take.**



Pharmaceutical quality is assuring *every* dose is safe and effective, free of contamination and defects.



It is what gives patients confidence  
in their *next* dose of medicine.

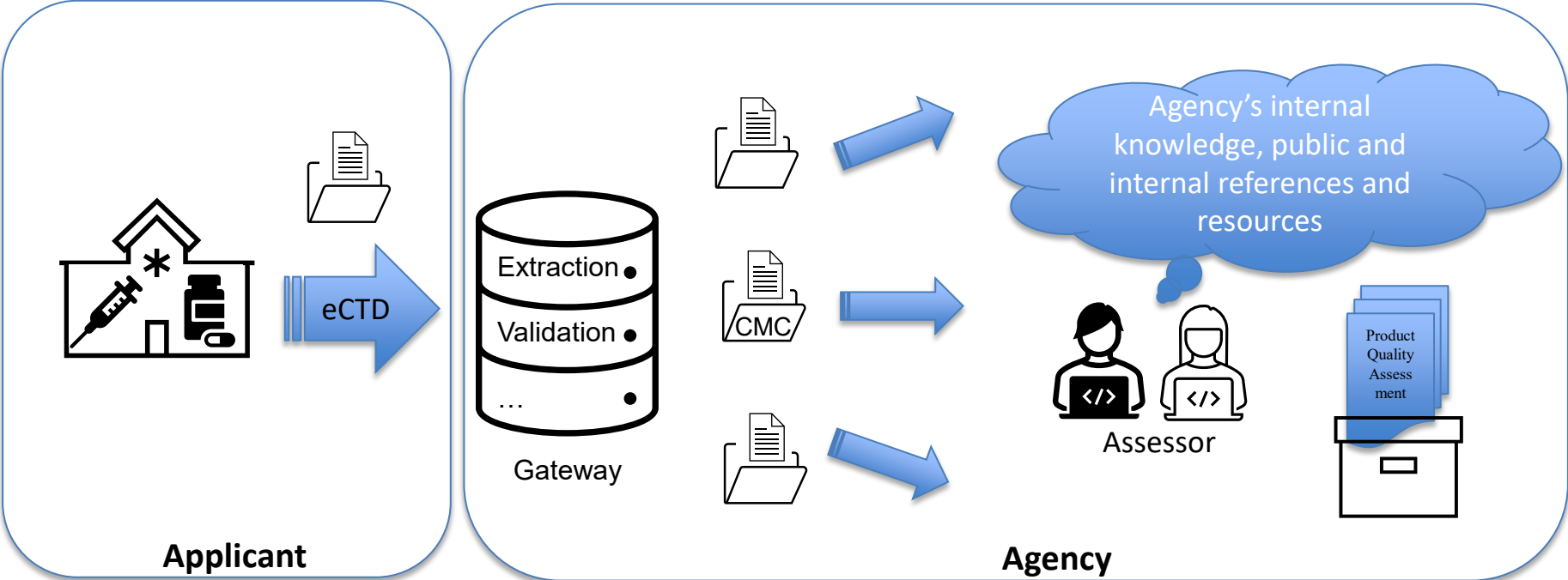
# Overview



- FDA's initiatives to support present-day submissions and assessments
  - Existing environment for CMC data submissions and assessment
  - Introduction for PQ/CMC and KASA initiatives
  - Current progress, and examples
- Development approach for KASA and PQ/CMC projects for biological products
  - Specific considerations
  - Current progress, and examples



# Current CMC Data Submissions and Assessment





# CDER Application- and Assessment-related Challenges

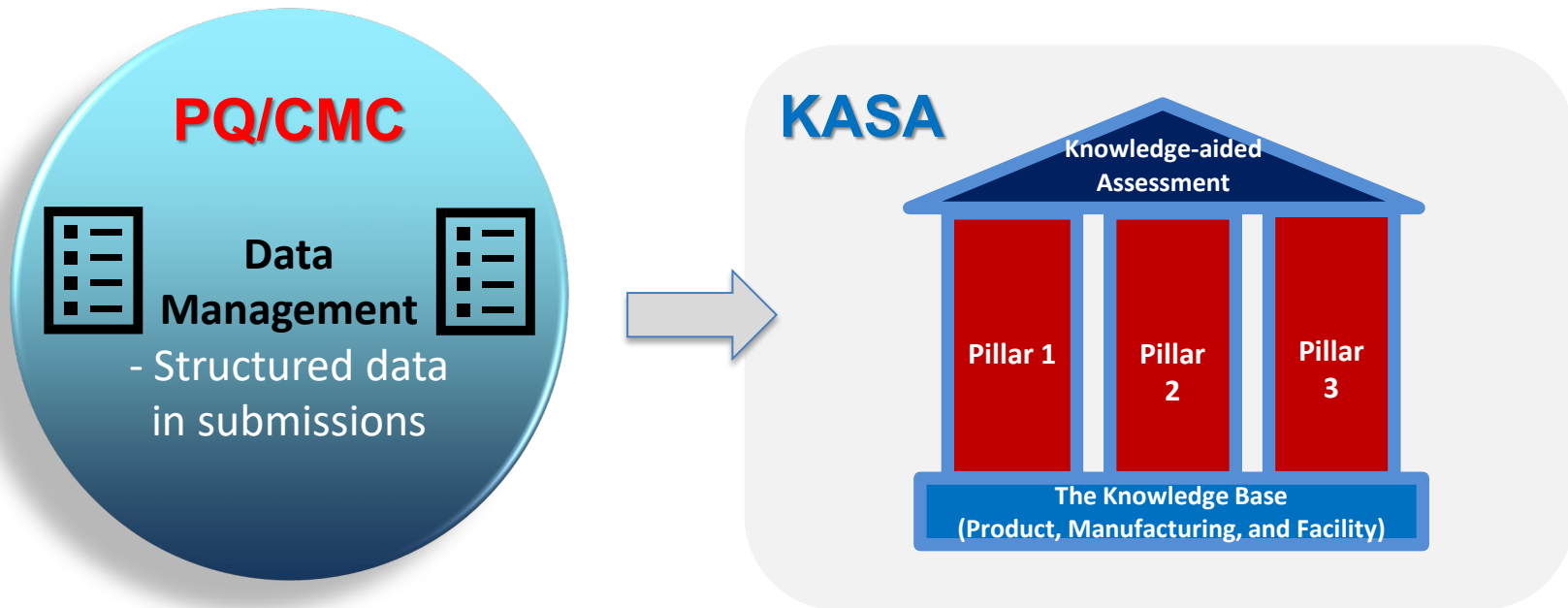
## Application Challenges

- Module 3 content and data submitted in PDF format with unstructured quality data and information. This hinders the efficiency of data exchange, and lifecycle knowledge management.
- Alignment with regulatory expectations changes and technological advancement
- Complexity of biological products, and relevant terminologies (*specific for OBP*)

## Assessment Challenges (internal)

- Freestyle narrative assessment:
  - Unstructured text
  - Summarization of application information
  - “Copy and paste” data/tables
- Cumbersome knowledge sharing and knowledge management
- Potential for subjective assessment based on the assessor’s expertise and knowledge at hand
- Volume of new applications

# FDA's Initiatives to Support the New Era of Submission and Assessment



Other projects include Modernize the Common Technical Document (CTD) Quality section (ICH M4Q(R2)), Quality Surveillance Dashboard (Agency's internal tool), etc.



## Electronic standards for CMC data submission

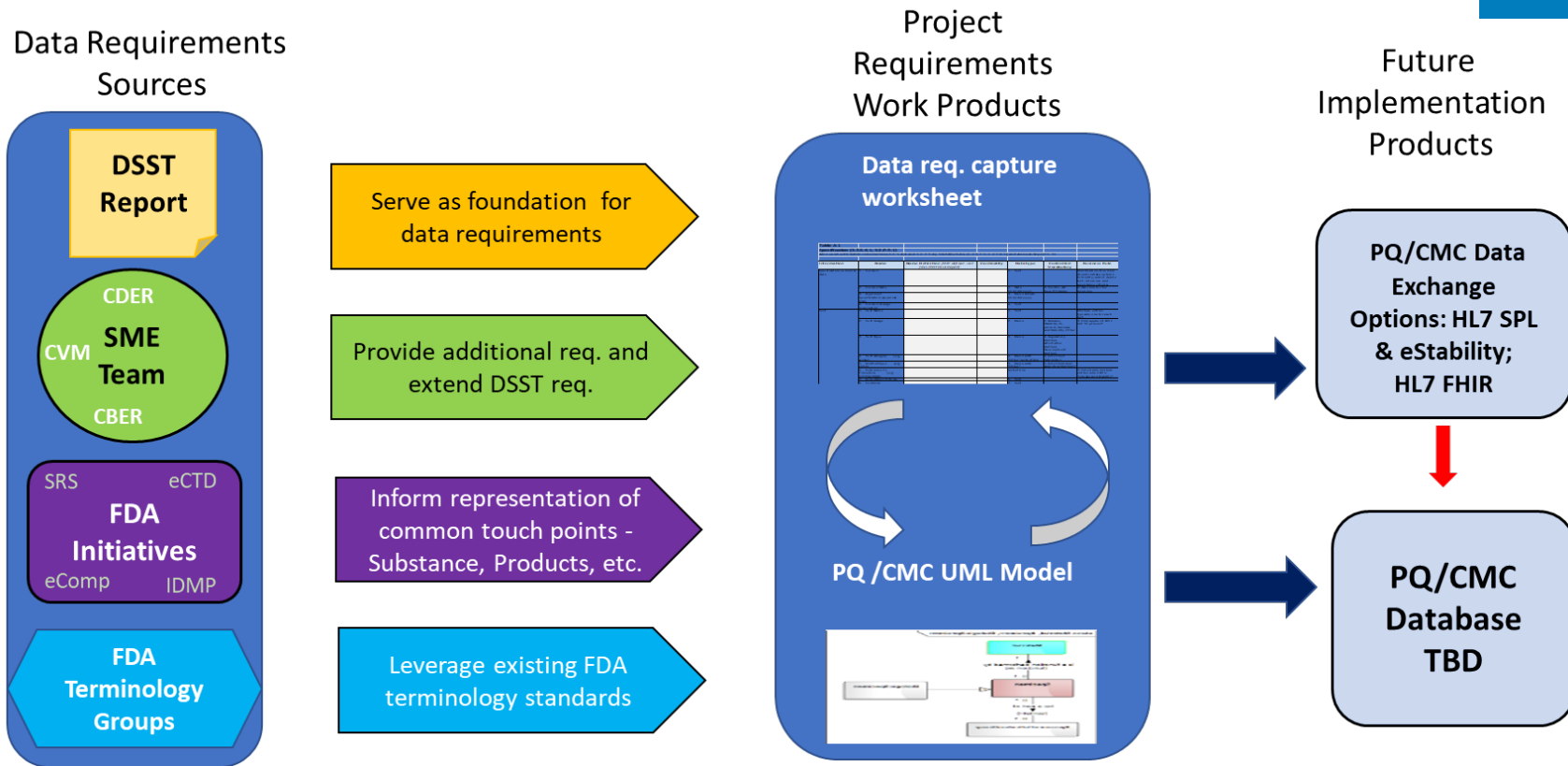
### What is PQ/CMC?

Pharmaceutical  
Quality/Chemistry,  
Manufacturing  
and Controls

- Develop structured data\* standards for CMC information
- Implement a data exchange standard for submitting CMC data as an HL7 FHIR message  
[implemented as a required submission format under Section 745A(a) of FD&C Act]

\* Structured data is highly specific information and is stored in a predefined format, vs. Unstructured data is a conglomeration of many varied types of data that are stored in their native formats.

# Data Standards Development Strategy





# PQ/CMC Scope & Phases



## Phase 1 – *draft completed*

1. Specification
2. Batch Information (Drug substance/Drug product)
3. Batch Analysis
4. Stability Study
5. Stability Analysis
6. Nomenclature of Drug Substance
7. Composition of Drug Product
8. Batch Formula
9. Drug Substance – Control of Materials
10. Drug Product – Control of Excipients
11. Drug Substance Impurities
12. Drug Product Impurities

## Phase 2

FRN Chapter 1:  
The text of the Document  
“Pharmaceutical Quality/Chemistry  
Manufacturing and Controls  
(PQ/CMC) Data Exchange”  
published on March 18, 2022

Covers 194 elements in 12 sections



# PQ/CMC Scope & Phases



## Phase 1 – *draft completed*

- FRN Chapter 2:
- Enhancements to support solid oral dosage form component and composition: multi-layer tablets and capsules.
  - Support for drug product manufacturing of solid oral dosage forms.

Published on May 1, 2022

Covers 389 data elements

## Phase 2 – *in progress: 2021~*

### 1. **Manufacturing Process:**

- Manufacturer info
- Equipment
- Manufacturing process
- Unit operations
- Process parameters
- In-process controls/tests

- A. Solid oral drug product - Done**
- B. Solid drug substance – in progress
- C. Liquid drug product – in planning ...



# A Demonstrative Example

Test	Limit
Description	White or almost white, crystalline powder.
Identification	
. Test A:	The I.R. spectrum is concordant with the reference spectrum
. Test B:	It meets the requirements of the test for
(+)-trans -paroxetine (corresponding to RC C of USP)	Not more than 0.1%
Related substances:	
. Impurity I (corresponding to RC B of USP)	Not more than 0.30%
. Impurity	
. Impurity (corresponding to RC B of USP)	
. Any other	
. Total impurities	
Heavy metals	Not more than 20 ppm (Pb)
Water	2.2 – 2.7%
Residue on ignition	Not more than 0.1%
Assay	98.5 – 102.0% (on anhydrous and solvent-free substance)
Residual solvents:	
. Isopropanol	Not more than 0.2%
Additional test	
Particle size (laser)	D(v,0.1): NMT 10 $\mu\text{m}$ D(v,0.5): NMT 30 $\mu\text{m}$ D(v,0.9): NMT 60 $\mu\text{m}$
Polymorphic Form	The x-Ray powder diffractogram is consistent with the reference diffractogram of Characteristic XRD peak positions are: 7.1, 10.8, 14.2, 16.7, 17.2, 18.5, 21.4, 21.8, 22.6, 23.2, 23.5, 24.0, 24.2, 28.5, 32.5 within $\pm 0.3$ degrees.

Currently unstructured Specification Table



# A Demonstrative Example



Reference: [Federal Register Notice Draft PQ/CMC Data Elements and Terminologies; Request for Comments \(07/11/2017\)](#)

Table	Data Element Name	Data Element Name Definition	Data type	Terminology	Controlled Vocabulary	Conformance
01-Specification	<b>Specification Title</b>	The textual identification for the specification	Text		0	M
01-Specification	<b>Specification Subtitle</b>	An additional textual identification for the spe	Text		0	O
01-Specification	<b>Specification Type</b>	A classification of specification related to the	Code	Drug ProductDrug Su	See Controlled Terminology sheet	M
01-Specification	<b>Specification Version</b>	The alphanumeric text assigned by the spons	Text		0	M
01-Specification	<b>Specification Version Date</b>	The date when the sponsor assigned a date to	Date		0	M
01-Specification	<b>Specification Status</b>	The current FDA regulatory status of the spec	Code	ApprovedTentatively	See Controlled Terminology sheet	M
01-Specification	<b>Specification Status Date</b>	The date on which the FDA approval status fo	Date		0	M
01-Specifica						O
02-Test						M
02-Test						M
02-Test						M
02-Test						M
02-Test						M
02-Test	<b>Relative Retention Time</b>	The ratio of the retention time of a componen	Text		0	O
02-Test	<b>Test Additional Information</b>	Placeholder for providing any comments that	Text		0	O
02-Test	<b>Test Order</b>	The sequential number assigned to each Test	Numeric		0	M
02-Test	<b>Stage Name</b>	A textual description and/or a number that id	Text		0	M
02-Test	<b>Stage Sequence Order</b>	The order of the stages in regular succession.	Numeric		0	M
02-Test	Stage Additional Information	Placeholder for providing any comments that	Text		0	O
03-Acceptance Criteria	<b>Value</b>	The acceptable qualitative or text value of the	Text		0	O
03-Acceptance Criteria	<b>ValueNumeric</b>	The acceptable quantitative or numeric value	Numeric		0	O
03-Acceptance Criteria	<b>ValueNumeric UOM</b>	A named quantity in terms of which other qu	Code	<a href="http://www.fda.gov/">http://www.fda.gov/</a>	See Controlled Terminology sheet	O
03-Acceptance Criteria	<b>Original Text</b>	The text of the acceptance criteria as provide	Text		0	M
03-Acceptance Criteria	<b>Acceptance Criteria Usage</b>	A coded value specifying when a particular an	Code	ReleaseStability	See Controlled Terminology sheet	M
03-Acceptance Criteria	<b>Interpretation Code</b>	A code that describes how to relate the given	Code	NMT (not more than)	See Controlled Terminology sheet	M
03-Acceptance Criteria	<b>Additional Information</b>	A textual field to provide any additional infor	Text		0	O

PQ/CMC effort:

Transform into standardized and structured, discrete data elements





# A Demonstrative Example

FDA

Applicant:  
Prepares e-submission using 1) standardized, structured, discrete data elements, and 2) data exchange standards

OR

Substance Specification

chemicalName \*  
companyCode  
CAS Number  
INN  
IUPACName  
USAN  
UNII \*

Create FHIR File

Clear Out Header Cells

Clear Out PQspecFillout

Adopted from Geoffrey Wu: FDA's Current Effort in Structured Product Quality Submission (aka PQ/CMC)  
At WCBP 2023, Washington DC



## What is KASA?

Knowledge-Aided  
Assessment and  
Structured Application

A data-based platform for structured quality assessments of applications that supports knowledge management.

- Captures and manages knowledge during lifecycle
- Establishes rules and algorithms for risk assessment, control and communication for product, manufacturing, and facilities
- Performs computer-aided analyses
- Provides framework for a structured quality assessment

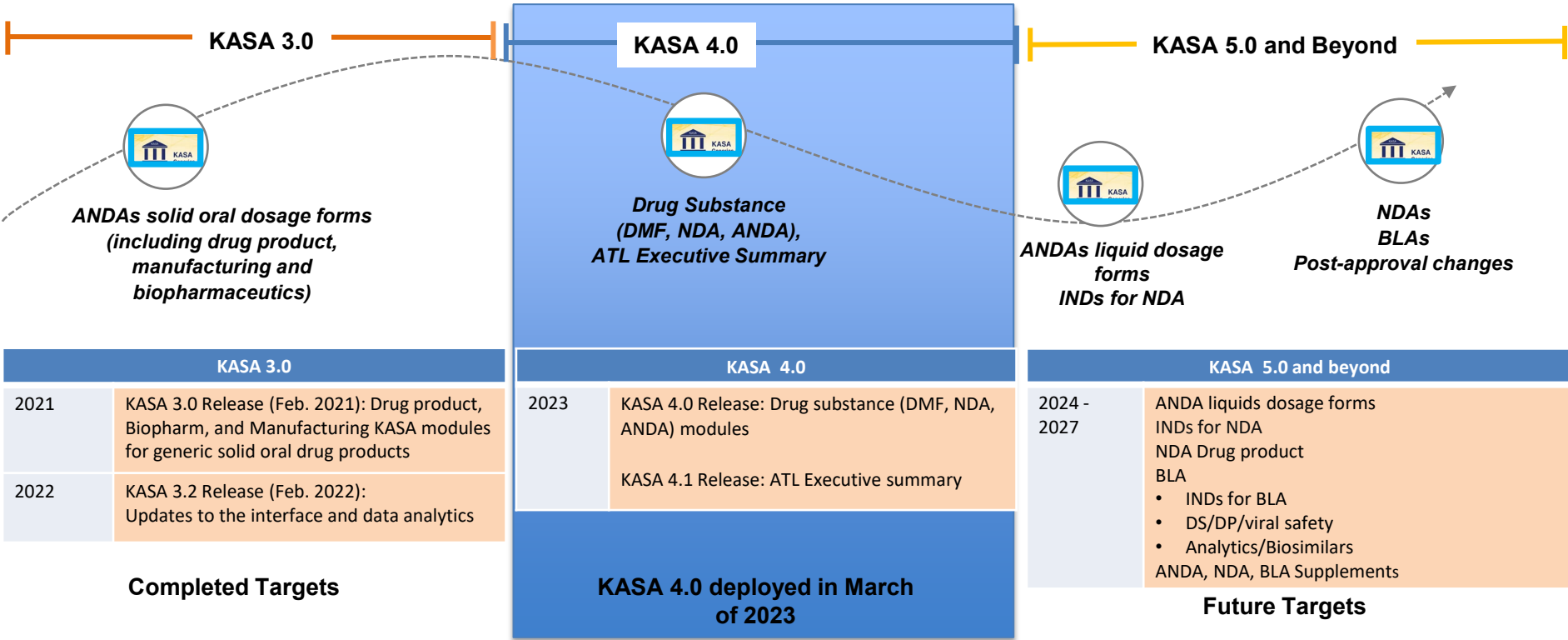


## Agency's KASA system



- In 2016 CDER/OPQ's KASA system was envisioned as a means of modernizing FDA's assessment by taking advantage of Structured data, Advanced analytics and Knowledge management.
- KASA is an internal assessment tool intended to streamline practices already in place for assessments, increasing efficiency and consistency.
- KASA will support:
  - Efficiency gains through focused assessment of risk parameters
  - Streamlined assessment using concise dropdown menus to replace long written text, generation of direct links to a content in submission
  - Consistent assessment across product lifecycle
  - Standardized knowledge management/analytics

# Roadmap for KASA IT Production





# A Demonstrative Example

FDA

FDA U.S. FOOD & DRUG  
ADMINISTRATION

PHARMACEUTICAL QUALITY  
CHEMISTRY, MANUFACTURING, AND CONTROLS ( PQ/CMC )

Application Sequence .. ATZN32801 0001 Spec. Ver...

Test Category: (All)

Drug Product Specification  
Specification .

Type: Drug Product

Version: 2.0

Approval Status: Not Approved

Version Date: 2018-04-27

Approval Date: 2019-05-23

Additional Information: Test example specification

Legend (Usa..

R Release

S Stability

Legend (Type)

C Compen..

P Propriet..

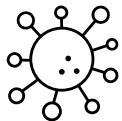
Brief

Test Category	Test Name	Usage	Method	Type	Acceptance Criteria	Additional Information
Assay	Assay					
Biological Proper..	Microbial quality					
Chemical Proper..	Water content					
Description	Description					
Identification	Identification					
Impurities	Degradation products					
	Degradation products					
	Individual unspecified degradation products					
	Total degradation products					
Physical Properties	Dissolution	RS	Degradation Product	P	NMT 2.0% w/w	Or
			Dissolution by HPLC	P	Shall comply with the requirements	Or
			Dissolution by UV	P	Shall comply with the requirements	Or
	Uniformity of dosage units	R	Uniformity of Dosage	P	Shall comply with the requirements	Or

Inside FDA system:

- Submitted data is rendered into a report in a familiar format but with discrete data elements “behind the scene”, presented to reviewers during quality assessment.
- Needed data elements can be “pushed” into the KASA system for further assessment.

# Development approach for KASA and PQ/CMC projects for biological products



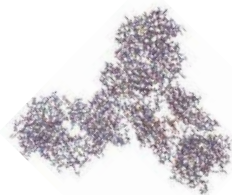
*Biological Products vs Small Molecule Drugs*

- PQ/CMC
  - Requirements for each CMC element are being developed accounting for applicability to product (biological vs small molecule drugs), dosage form (injectable, oral solid, etc.)
- KASA
  - Platforms are being developed specific for biological or for small molecule products, while some modules will have a common structure

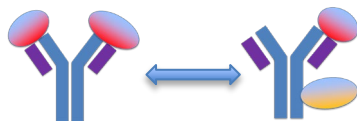
# Specific Considerations for Biological Products



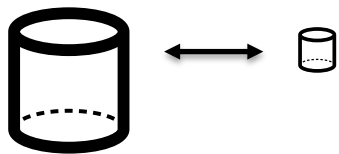
Biological Products can be highly complex



Molecules may have indication specific CQAs



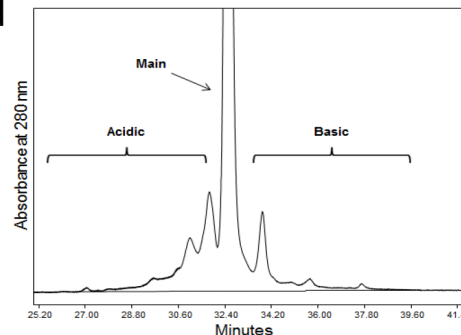
Many controls/parameters must be established based on small scale models (e.g., viral clearance)



Biological products may contain product-related substances (retaining activity) as well as product-related impurities

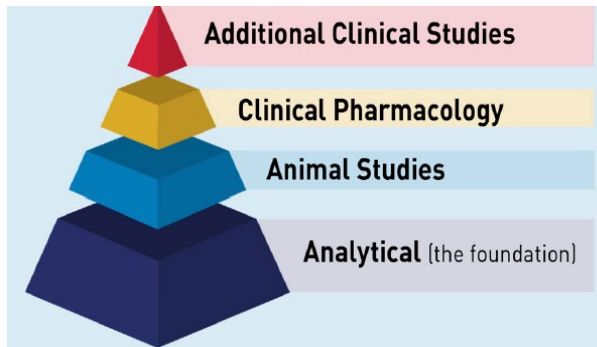


CQAs may not always be fully resolved by a given method



# Biological Products Offer Unique Opportunities

## Biosimilars and role of analytics



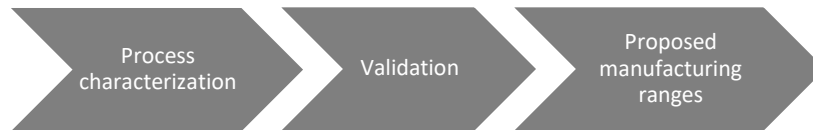
Explosion in use of “Platform” and “Modular” manufacturing approaches



Informatics power in identifying molecules of same target/pathway

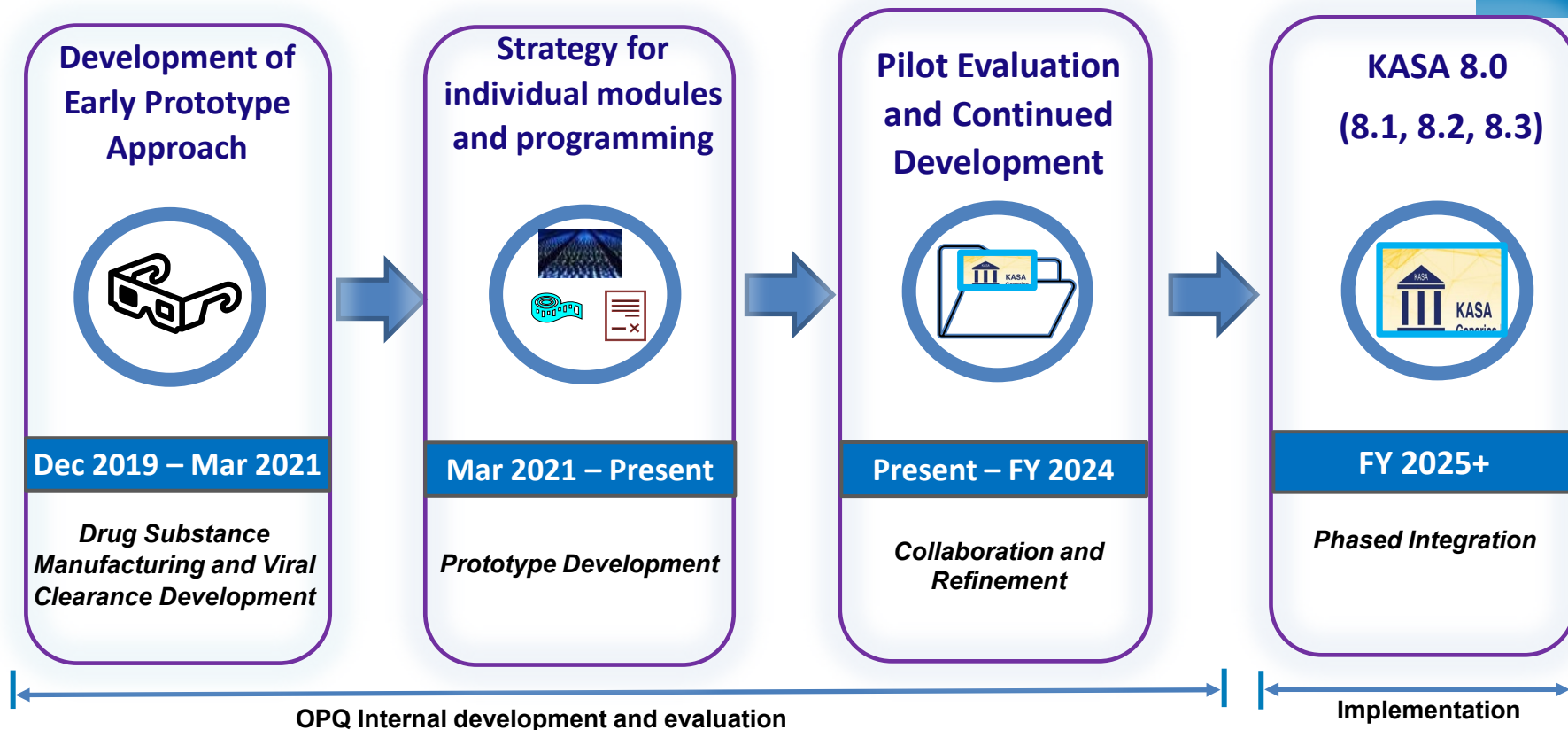


Unique submission elements (e.g., completed Process validation) are needed for PQ/CMC and suitable to KASA





# KASA for Biologics Roadmap

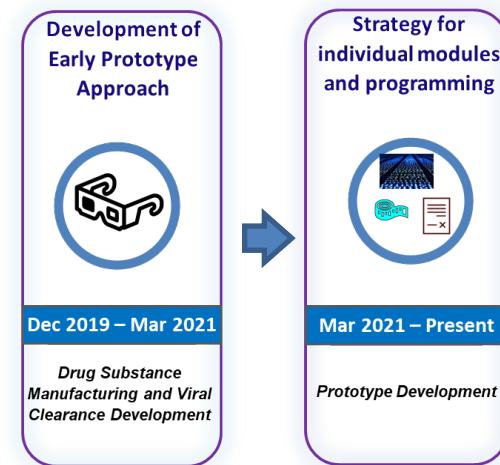




# Biologics KASA Prototype Modules & Key Features



- Modules developed and in roll out:
  - DS manufacturing - *risk-based assessment* based on OBP expertise and scientific consensus
  - Viral clearance/Adventitious agents testing
  - Comparative analytical assessment – in development
- Designed for fed-batch monoclonal antibody BLAs that represent the majority of BLA submissions
- Able to capture revisions during assessment cycle
- Designed to be consistent with ICH concepts
- Modules apply to new BLAs (though framework can be adapted for supplements)





# OBP KASA at a Glimpse – DS Manufacturing



## Select Unit Operations Included in the Application

Cell Culture - Harvest	Cell Culture - Production Bioreactor	Cell Culture - Seed Bioreactor
Cell Culture - Vial Thaw and Inoculation Expansion	Chromatography - Anion Exchange	Chromatography - Cation Exchange
Chromatography - Hydrophobic Interaction	Chromatography - Mixed Mode	Chromatography - Protein A
Ultrafiltration/Diafiltration	Viral Filtration	Virus Inactivation - Low pH
Perfusion Production Bioreactor	Perfusion Seed/Pre-production Bioreactor	Add New Unit Operation

Selection for unit operations

Expandable to include additional unit operations

*\*Data you see in the slides are mock data for presentation purpose*



# OBP KASA at a Glimpse – DS Manufacturing



*\*Data you see in the slides are mock data for presentation purpose*

Process parameter: **Duration (Low pH)** minutes

Has the process parameter been characterized? Yes (Characterization data) IR

Is the characterization study appropriate? Yes Characterization is appropriate Comment included inside IR

Characterization range: 15 240 IR

Has the process parameter been validated? Yes Assessor Comment(s) IR

Validation range: 61 80 IR Graph

Proposed process parameter range: 60 90 IR Graph

Low High

250  
200  
150  
100  
50  
0

Characterization range Validation range PAR

Key Questions

Visual Comparisons of Ranges

Assessor's conclusion

Is the proposed PAR acceptable: Yes Comment included inside IR



# OBP KASA at a Glimpse – DS Manufacturing



## Parameter Final Risk Classification

### Parameter Risk Ranking

Preliminary:

Final:

### Parameter Classification

Preliminary:

Final:

Is this parameter claimed as an Established Condition per ICH Q12?

High risk

High risk

Comment included inside

Critical process parameter

CPP

Assessor Comment(s)

No

Link to Assessor's  
comment

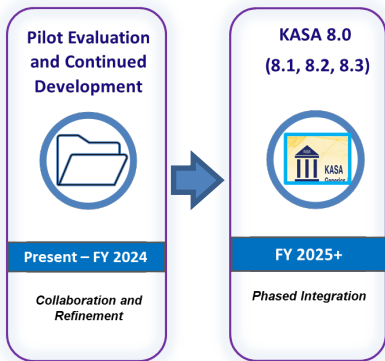
Conclusion for Parameter  
risk

Key Questions

*\*Data you see in the slides are mock  
data for presentation purpose*

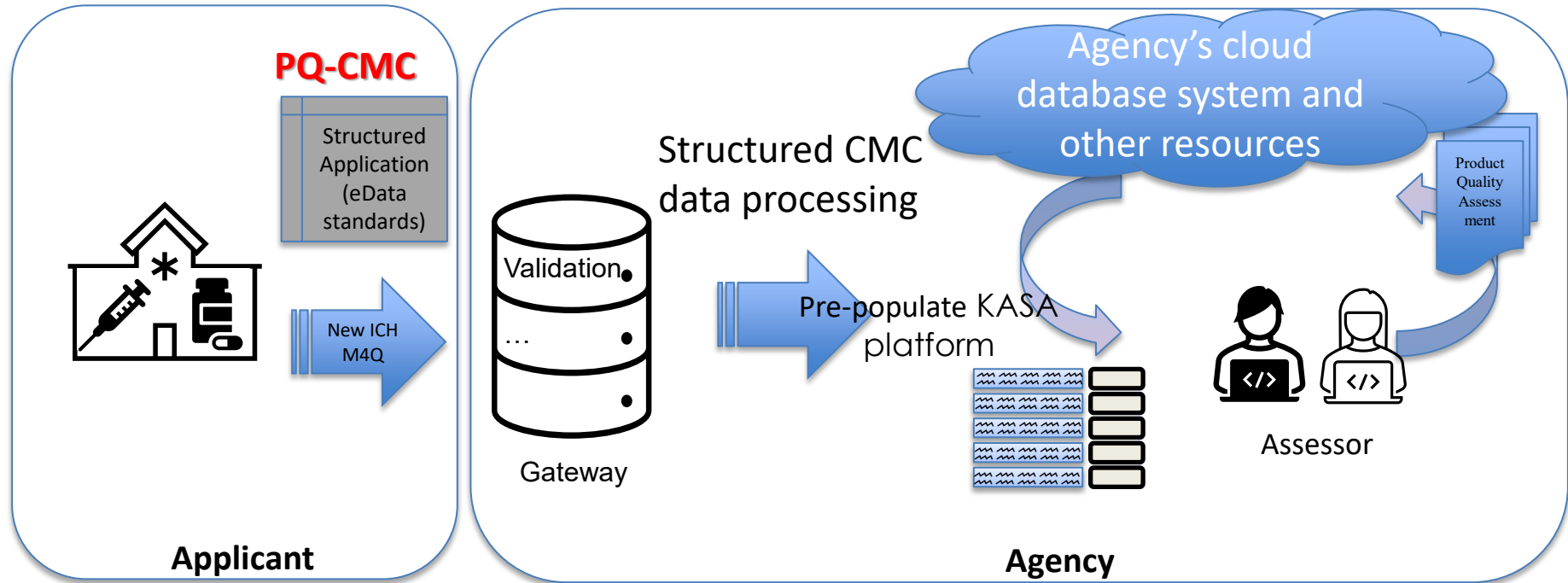


# Biologics KASA: Ongoing Development & Integration Strategy



- Identify areas of existing KASA work from small molecules that can be leveraged
- Create additional modules and user requirements
  - Expansion of Manufacturing modules to additional cell substrates/product classes (e.g., E. coli, insulins) and additional unit operations (e.g., perfusion systems, DP manufacturing)
  - Additional modules covering Methods, Specifications, Comparative analytical assessment, etc.
- Develop a single platform with multiple modules covering manufacturing, controls and product quality for DS and DP
- Anticipate a phased implementation where inter-related topics are introduced in groups

# Future CMC Data Submissions and Review



Content and organization of submission and electronic data standards

Integrated set of tools and framework to aid regulatory assessment and knowledge management



# Envisioned Benefits of PQ/CMC and KASA



- Ensures Industry and FDA are using the “same data”
- For Industry
  - Could provide consistent formats for internal and external data management and storage (e.g., in LIMS), and data exchange with Contract Manufacturing Organizations
- For FDA
  - Receives consistent high-quality data that can be consumed by computer systems without data entry and interpretations
  - Operationalize submitted data to enhance the effectiveness of quality assessment – a significant enabler for KASA
- Facilitates the M4Q implementation and enhances global regulatory convergence





## Envisioned Benefits of PQ/CMC and KASA



- KASA presents incredible opportunities for knowledge management, consistency in decision making, and improving efficiency for assessing pharmaceutical products
  - Development of KASA for biologics uses similar approaches and leverages the knowledge/systems from Small molecule drug KASA, as well as includes unique elements applicable only for protein products
- Accelerate the digitization efforts in both industry and FDA, eventually enhances lifecycle knowledge management (e.g., for crisis response)
- Accelerate the submission process by industry and assessment review by FDA, thus accelerating availability of drugs to patients

# Acknowledgments



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- Dilip Devineni
- Sireesha Vardhineedi
- Paul Xu
- Bazarragchaa Damdinsuren

## Former members:

- Fabiola Gomez
- Pick-Wei Lau
- Ramesh Potla
- Christelle Yemeck

## Other FDA contributors (slides):

- Steve Kozlowski
- Geoffrey Wu
- Norman Schmuff
- Andre Raw
- OPQ PQ/CMC Workgroup
- FDA PQ/CMC SME Group (Smita Hastak)
- and many others

