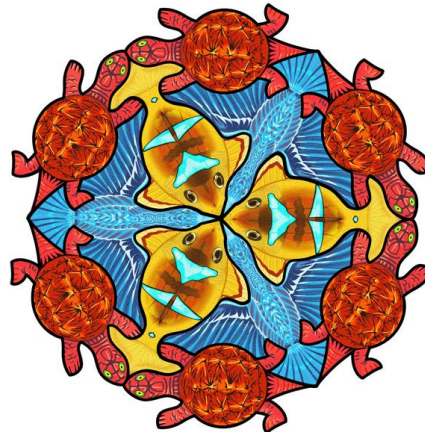


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*Centro
Ricerca
Interdipartimentale
Farmacogenetica
Farmacogenomica*

Conflict of interest disclosure on biosimilars (two-years): Sandoz, Hospira, Roche, Boehringer-Ingheleim, Eli-Lilly, Mundipharma

1970s	Chemical sameness	“copies”	available data
1980s	+ pharmacokinetic comparability	“generics”	+ bioequivalence
2000s	+ therapeutic comparability	“biosimilars”	+ clinical studies

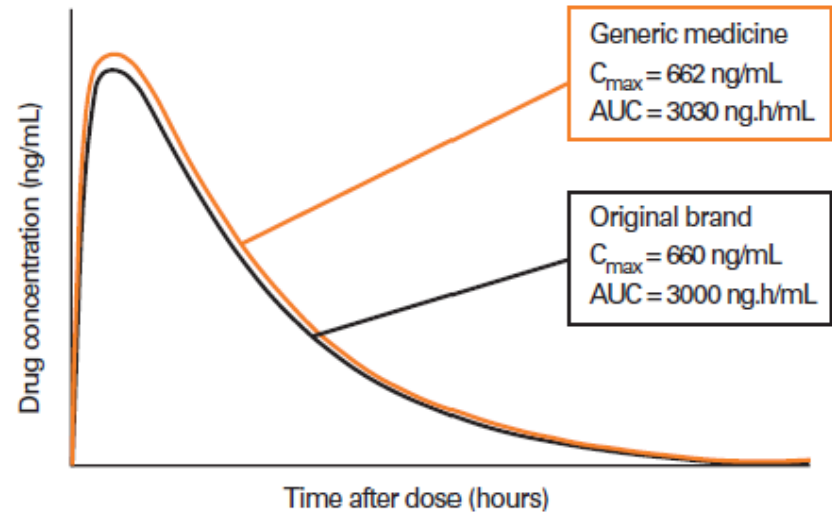
Bioequivalence is then determined by comparing the peak plasma concentration (C_{max}), time to achieve a maximal concentration (T_{max}) and the extent of absorption (area under the concentration-time curve, AUC) of the products.

The same bioequivalence principles apply to new drugs when different formulations of an active ingredient are compared.

Fig. 1

Bioequivalence analysis – a hypothetical bioequivalence study

Mean concentration–time curves for two brands of a drug after single oral doses



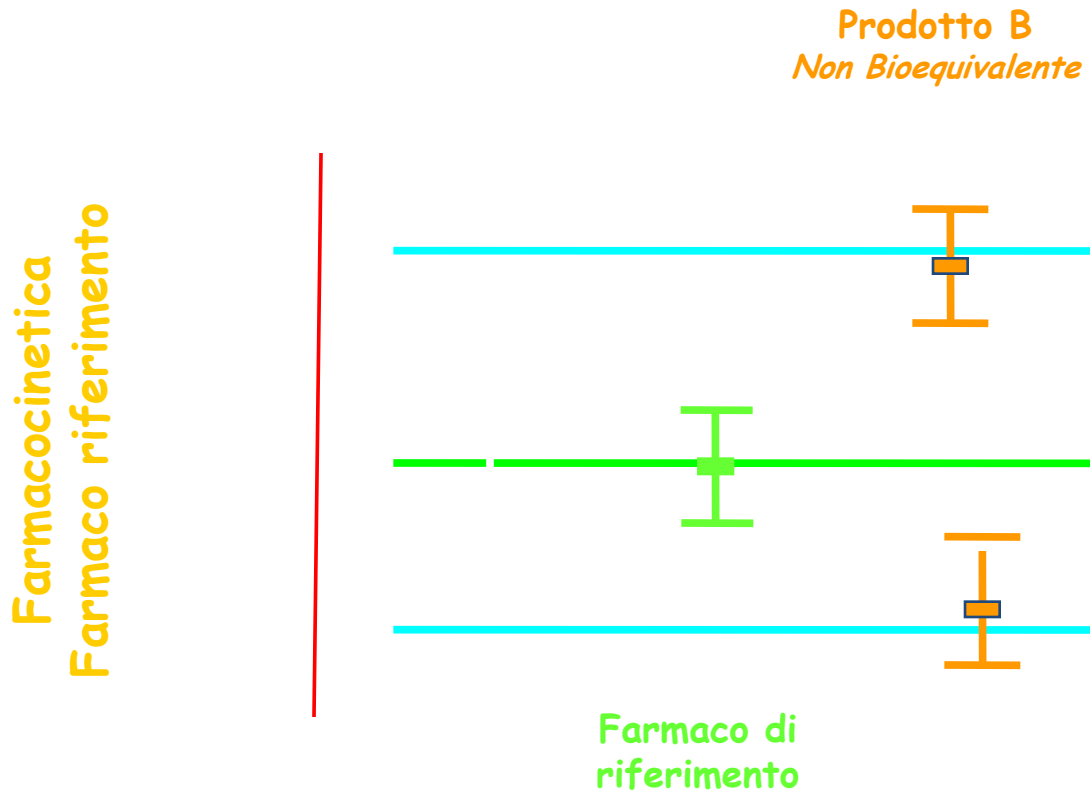
The original brand:generic medicine ratio for AUC is 0.99 (90% CI 0.91 to 1.04) and for C_{max} is 0.99 (90% CI 0.92 to 1.07).

C_{max} peak plasma concentration
AUC area under the concentration–time curve
CI confidence interval

Reprinted with permission from NPS News 2006;44:3.

Requisiti per la bioequivalenza imposti dalla FDA

Il Prodotto A è bioequivalente al farmaco di riferimento; 90% CI della AUC cade tra 80% - 125% del farmaco di riferimento



Il Prodotto B non è bioequivalente al farmaco di riferimento; 90% CI della AUC cade fuori 80% -125% del farmaco di riferimento

Ann Pharmacother. 2009 Oct;43(10):1583-97. Epub 2009 Sep 23.

Comparing generic and innovator drugs: a review of 12 years of bioequivalence data from the United States Food and Drug Administration.

Davit BM, Nwakama PE, Buehler GJ, Conner DP, Haidar SH, Patel DT, Yang Y, Yu LX, Woodcock J.

Division of Bioequivalence II, Office of Generic Drugs, Office of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, United States Food and Drug Administration, Derwood, MD 20855, USA. barbara.davit@fda.hhs.gov

Abstract

BACKGROUND: In the US, manufacturers seeking approval to market a generic drug product must submit data demonstrating that the generic formulation provides the same rate and extent of absorption as (ie, is bioequivalent to) the innovator drug product. Thus, most orally administered generic drug products in the US are approved based on results of one or more clinical bioequivalence studies.

OBJECTIVE: To evaluate how well the bioequivalence measures of generic drugs approved in the US over a 12-year period compare with those of their corresponding innovator counterparts.

METHODS: This retrospective analysis compared the generic and innovator bioequivalence measures from 2070 single-dose clinical bioequivalence studies of orally administered generic drug products approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) from 1996 to 2007 (12 y). Bioequivalence measures evaluated were drug peak plasma concentration (C(max)) and area under the plasma drug concentration versus time curve (AUC), representing drug rate and extent of absorption, respectively. The generic/innovator C(max) and AUC geometric mean ratios (GMRs) were determined from each of the bioequivalence studies, which used from 12 to 170 subjects. The GMRs from the 2070 studies were averaged. In addition, the distribution of differences between generic means and innovator means was determined for both C(max) and AUC.

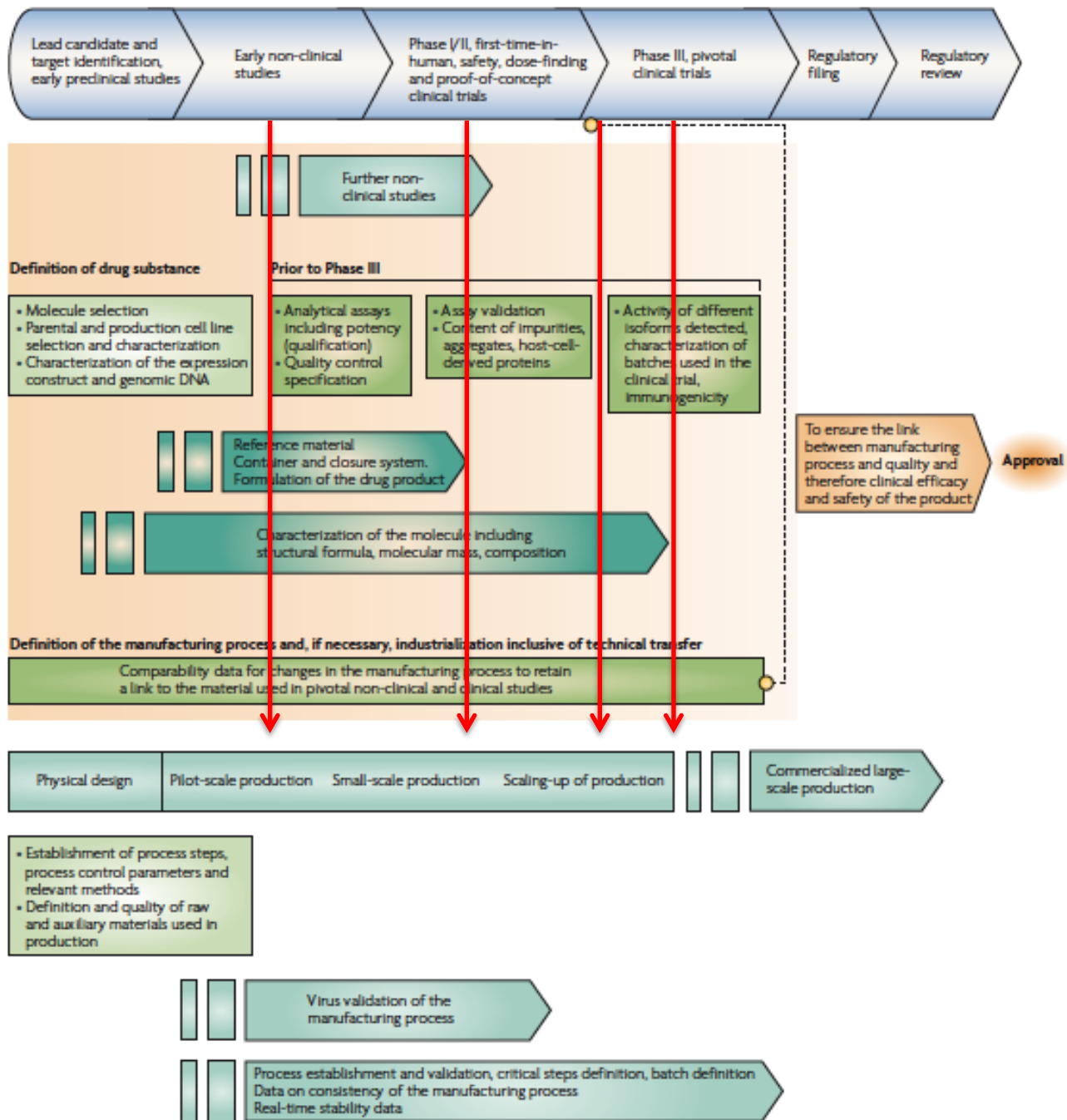
RESULTS: The mean +/- SD of the GMRs from the 2070 studies was 1.00 +/- 0.06 for C(max) and 1.00 +/- 0.04 for AUC. The average difference in C(max) and AUC between generic and innovator products was 4.35% and 3.56%, respectively. In addition, in nearly 98% of the bioequivalence studies conducted during this period, the generic product AUC differed from that of the innovator product by less than 10%.

CONCLUSIONS: The criteria used to evaluate generic drug bioequivalence studies support the FDA's objective of approving generic drug formulations that are therapeutically equivalent to their innovator counterpart.

Bioequivalenza nel pre-marketing

- Gli studi sperimentali sono eseguiti di solito con formulazioni del prodotto farmaceutico diverse da quelle successivamente introdotte sul mercato e spesso le aziende produttive modificano il procedimento industriale di produzione.

Anche in tutte queste circostanze si applicano le regole che sono richieste per valutare la bioequivalenza di un prodotto generico.



Bioequivalenza dei farmaci branded

- Modifiche nel procedimento industriale o nell' impianto di produzione dei farmaci condizionano la bioequivalenza di tutti i farmaci
- Inoltre i farmaci con stesso principio attivo prodotti in co-marketing contengono spesso eccipienti differenti

In tutti questi casi si applicano gli stessi concetti di bioequivalenza validi per i generici

INFORMATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS AND BODIES

COMMISSION

Communication from the Commission – Guideline on the details of the various categories of variations to the terms of marketing authorisations for medicinal products for human use and veterinary medicinal products

1. INTRODUCTION

Commission Regulation (EC) No 1234/2008 of 24 of November 2008, concerning the examination of variations to the terms of marketing authorisations for medicinal products for human use and veterinary medicinal products¹, hereinafter ‘the variations regulation’, was published in the Official Journal on 12 December 2008. The variations regulation aims to establish a simple, clearer and more flexible legal framework for the handling of variations to marketing authorisation of medicinal products, while ensuring a high level of protection of public and animal health.

1970s	Chemical sameness	“copies”	available data
1980s	+ pharmacokinetic comparability	“generics”	+ bioequivalence
2000s	+ therapeutic comparability	“biosimilars”	+ clinical studies

ary medicines
edicines for
use

Browse A-Z

Keyword search

Browse by therapeutic area

Browse by type

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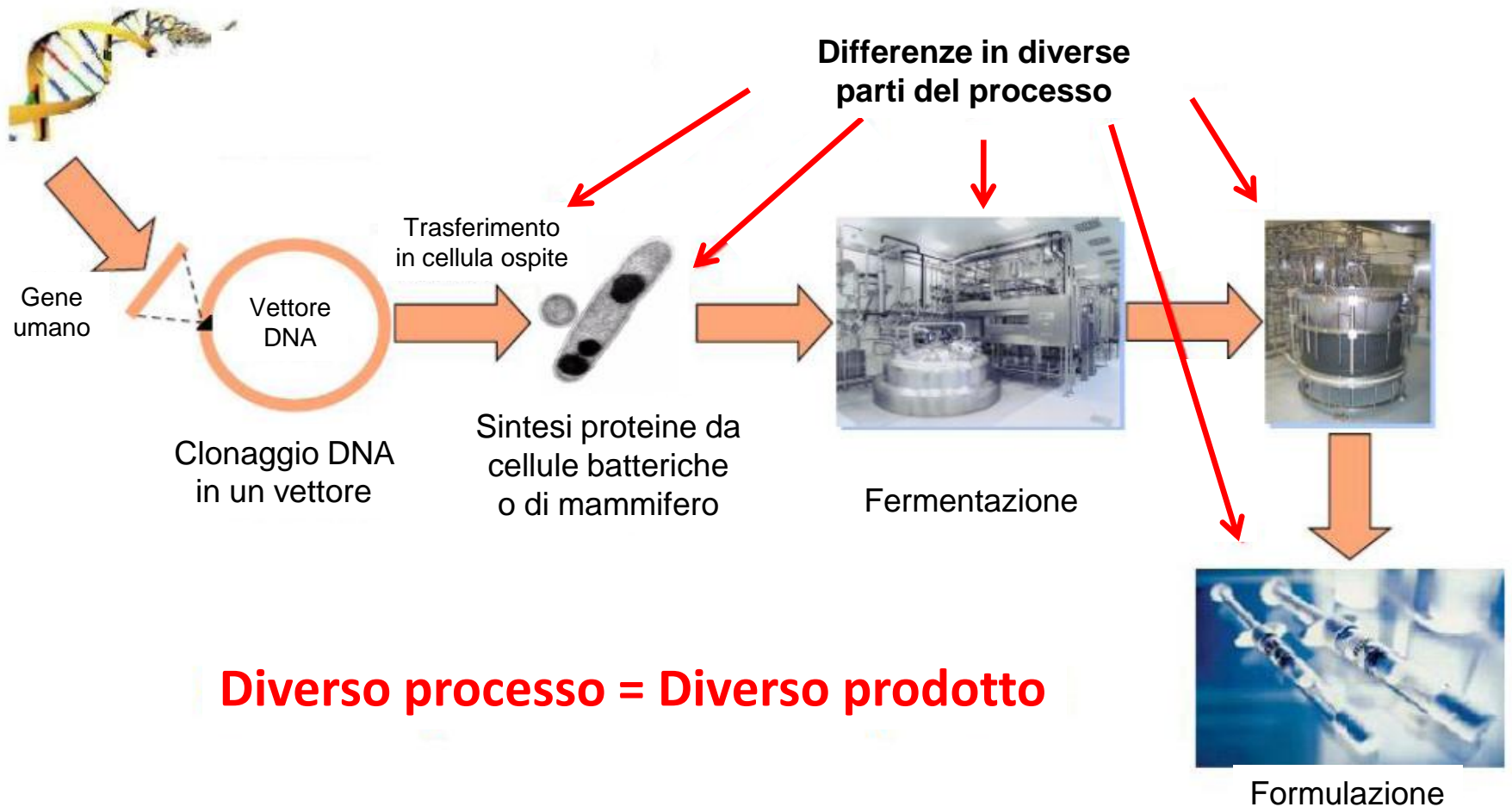
- Authorised medicine
- Withdrawn post-approval
- Suspended
- Refused

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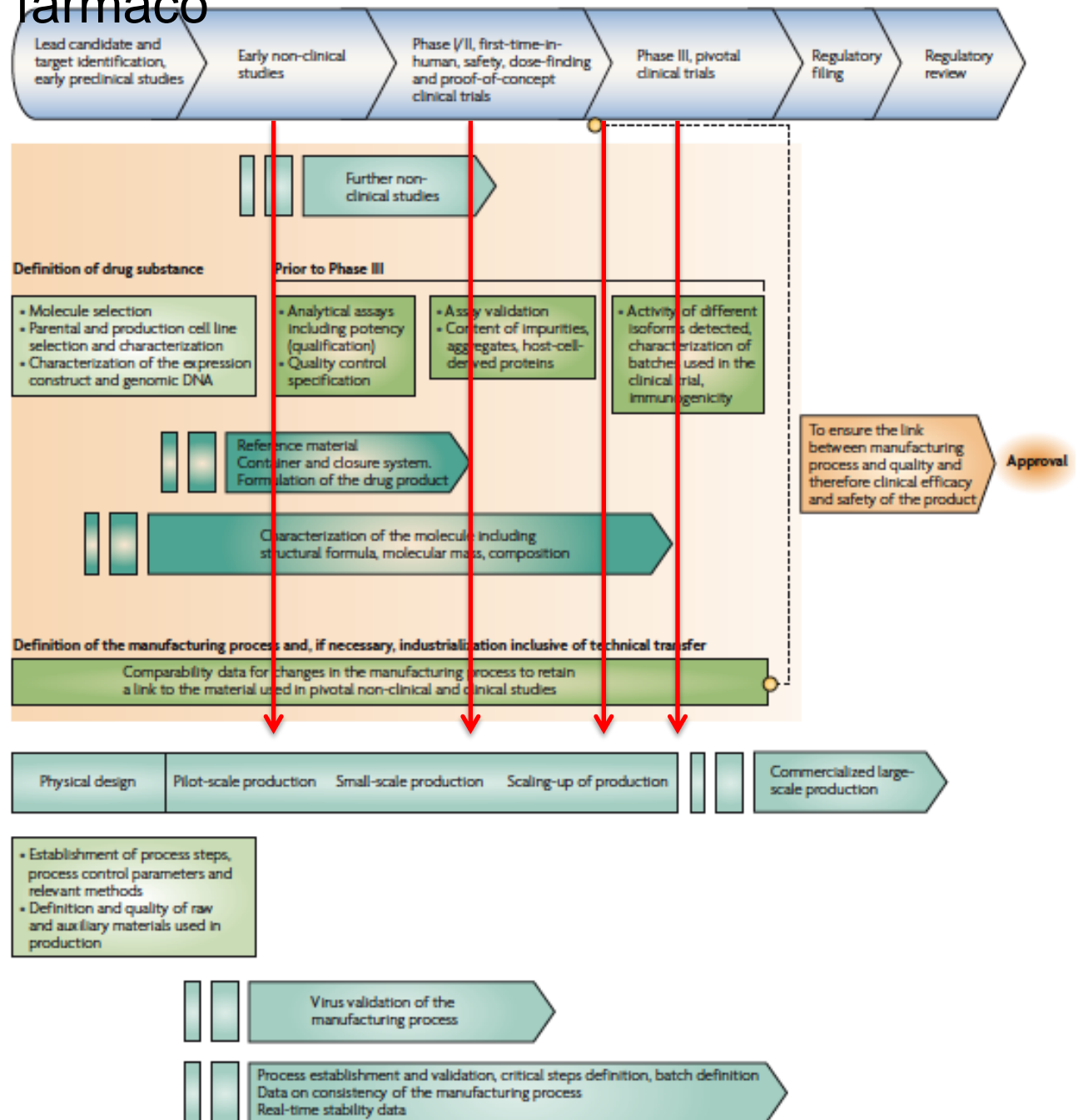
Download results to spreadsheet

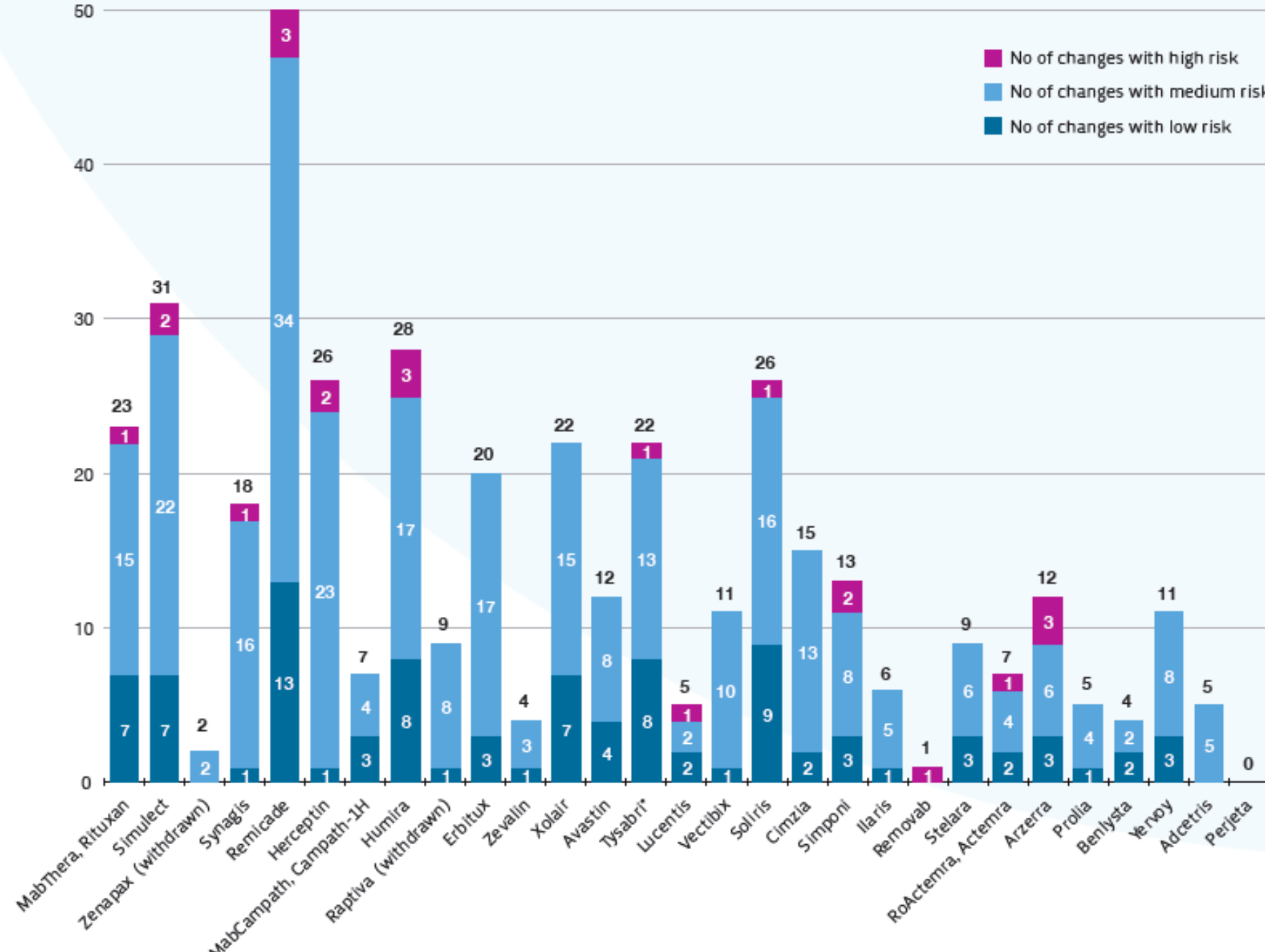
Name	Active substance	Therapeutic area	Date of authorisation / refusal	O C E	Status
Abasaglar (previously Abasria)	insulin glargine	Diabetes Mellitus	09/09/2014		Authorised
Lantus	insulin glargine	Diabetes Mellitus	09/06/2000		Authorised
Toujeo (previously Optisulin)	insulin glargine	Diabetes Mellitus	27/06/2000		Authorised

Il processo produttivo di un farmaco biologico è complesso



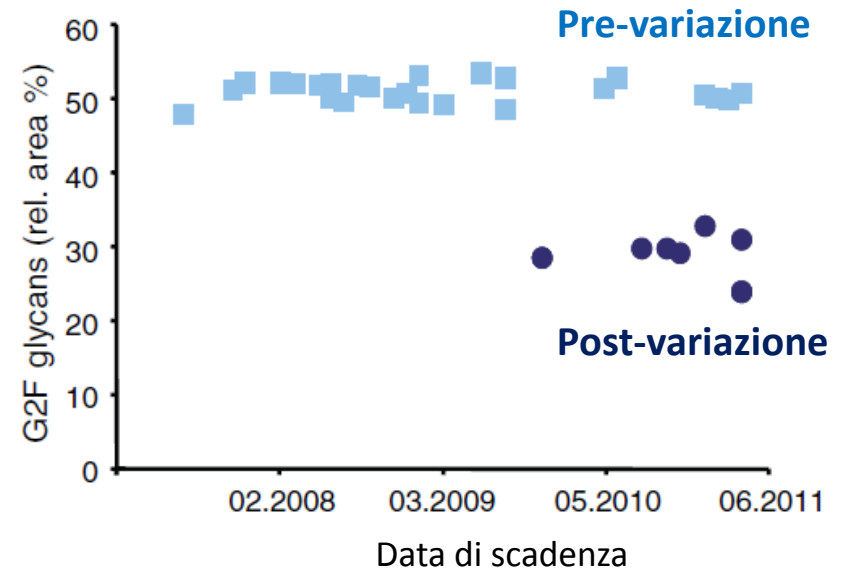
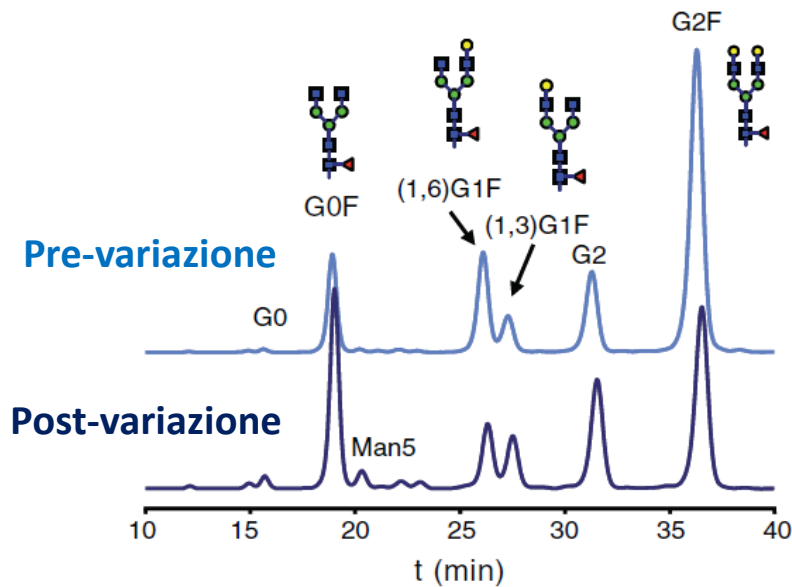
Lo sviluppo di un farmaco biotecnologico





Caratterizzazione di lotti commerciali: Enbrel[®] (etanercept)

Variazioni lotto-lotto - Profili glicosilazione

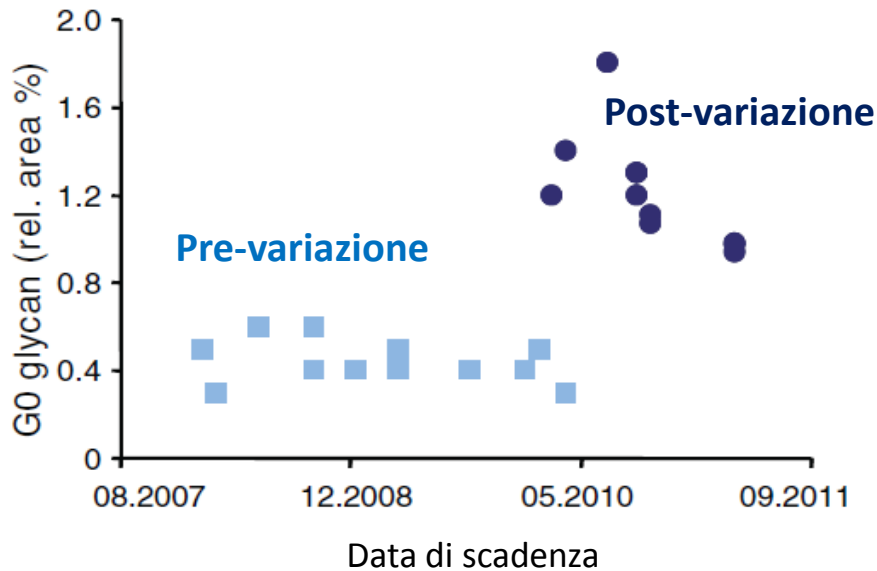


- Differenze/shift nei pattern di glicosilazione
- Il nome di prodotto è rimasto invariato – indicando qualità comparabile

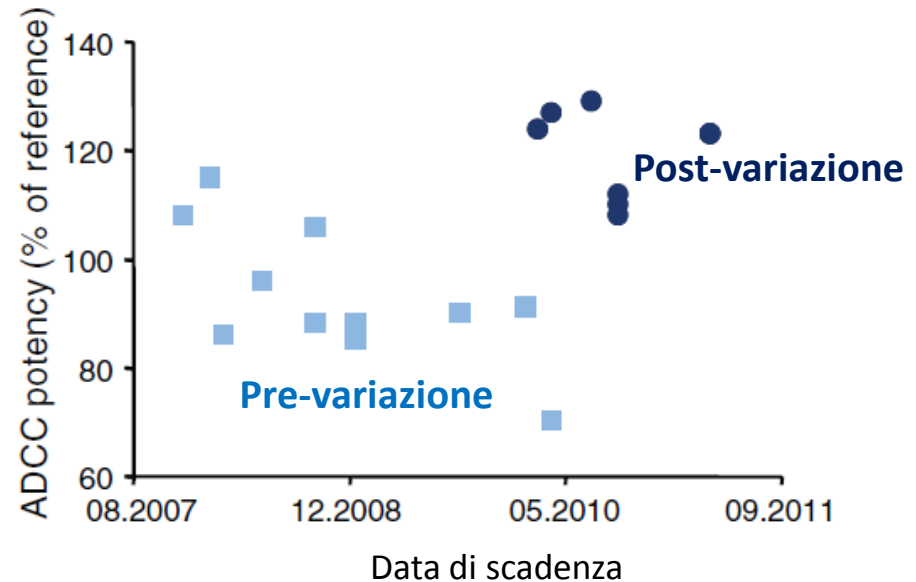
Caratterizzazione di lotti commerciali: Mabthera[®]/Rituxan[®] (rituximab)

Variazioni lotto-lotto- Glicosilazione e Potenza ADCC

Profilo glicosilazione (no fucosilato)



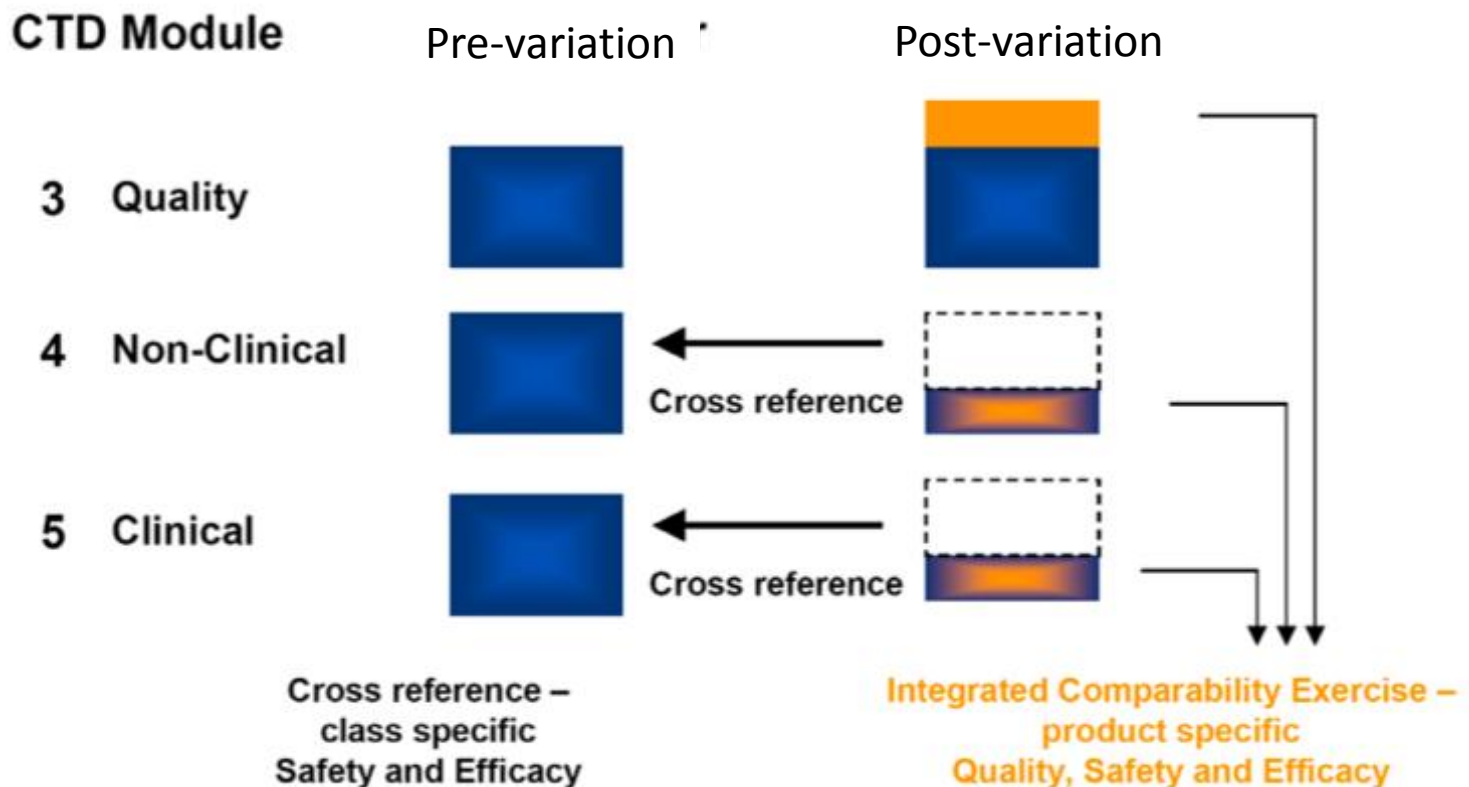
Potenza ADCC



- **Significative variazioni strutturali determinano anche variazioni funzionali**
- **Il nome di prodotto è rimasto invariato – indicando qualità comparabile**

- 1) Farmaci biotecnologici prodotti con processi diversi saranno diversi tra loro (*the process is the product and the product is the process*)
- 2) Piccole differenze in un prodotto biotecnologico possono portare a grandi differenze cliniche e grandi differenze in un prodotto biotecnologico possono portare a nessuna differenza clinica.

Stepwise comparability approach Q → NC → C



Patient safety

Pending EC decisions

Withdrawn applications

Paediatrics

Rare disease designations

Medicines under evaluation

Medicines for use outside the EU

Referrals

Shortages catalogue

Veterinary medicines

Herbal medicines for human use





About

Authorisation details

Product information

Assessment history

[« Previous tab](#)**Changes since initial authorisation of medicine**

Name	Language	First published	Last updated
 Lantus : EPAR - Procedural steps taken and scientific information after authorisation	(English only)	08/05/2009	12/03/2015
 Lantus-H-C-284-II-0075 : EPAR - Assessment Report - Variation	(English only)	14/08/2012	
 CHMP post-authorisation summary of positive opinion for Lantus	(English only)	20/04/2012	
 Lantus : EPAR - Steps taken after authorisation when a cutoff date has been used	(English only)	21/10/2005	

Initial marketing-authorisation documents

Name	Language	First published	Last updated
 Lantus : EPAR -			

**AUTHORISED**

This medicine is approved for use in the European Union


 [Lantus RSS feed](#)**News**

- ▶ Meeting highlights from the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) 27-30 May 2013 (31/05/2013)
- ▶ Meeting highlights from the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) 16-19 April 2012 (20/04/2012)
- ▶ European Medicines Agency update on safety of insulin glargine - Update (29/07/2009)
- ▶ European Medicines Agency update on safety of insulin glargine (29/06/2009)

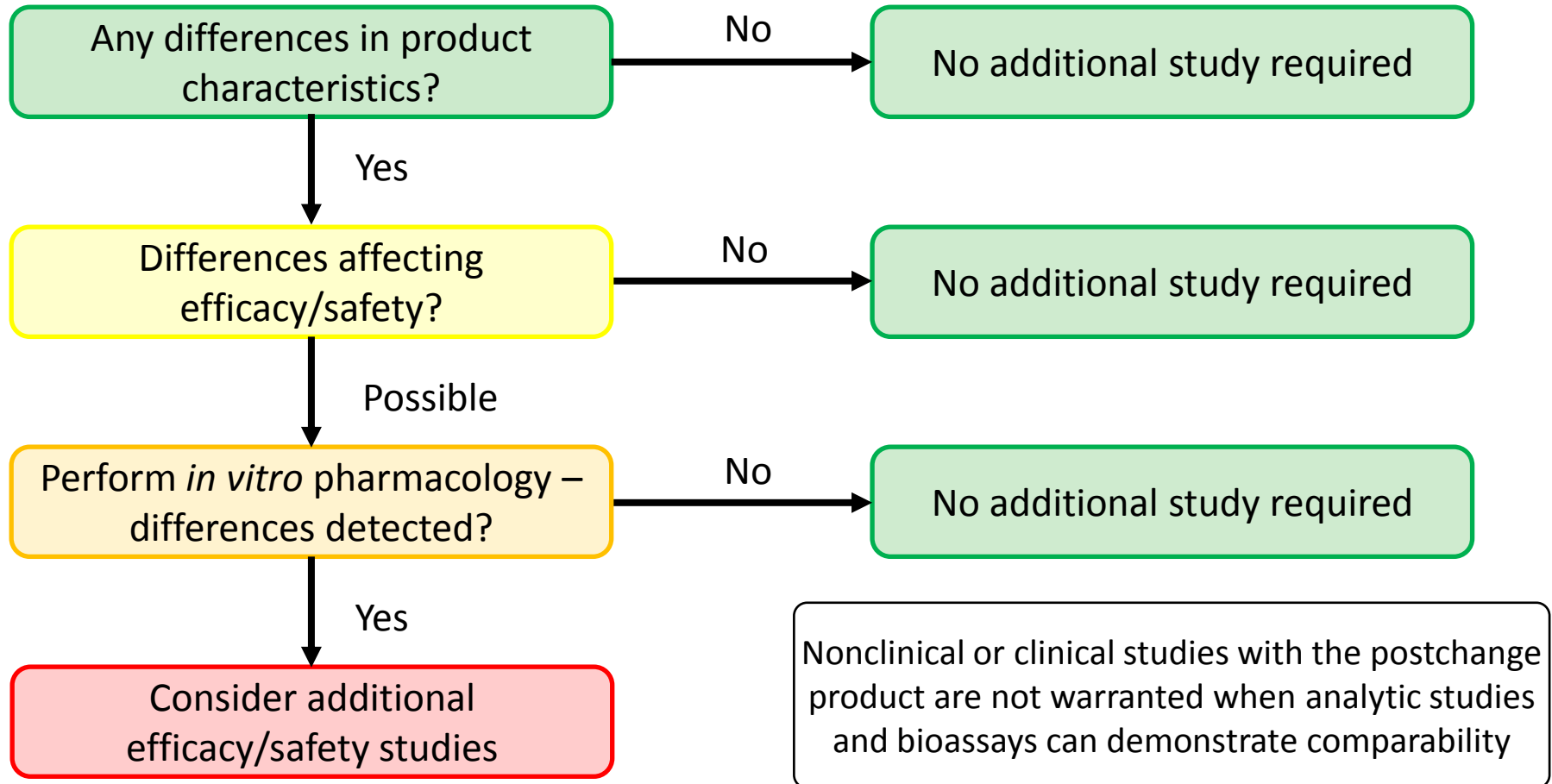
Related information

- ▶ [Lantus: Paediatric investigation plan](#)

More information on Lantus

-  [Outcome of review of new safety data on insulin glargine](#)

Requirement for Bridging Studies



**ICH Topic Q 5 E
Comparability of Biotechnological/Biological Products**

Step 5

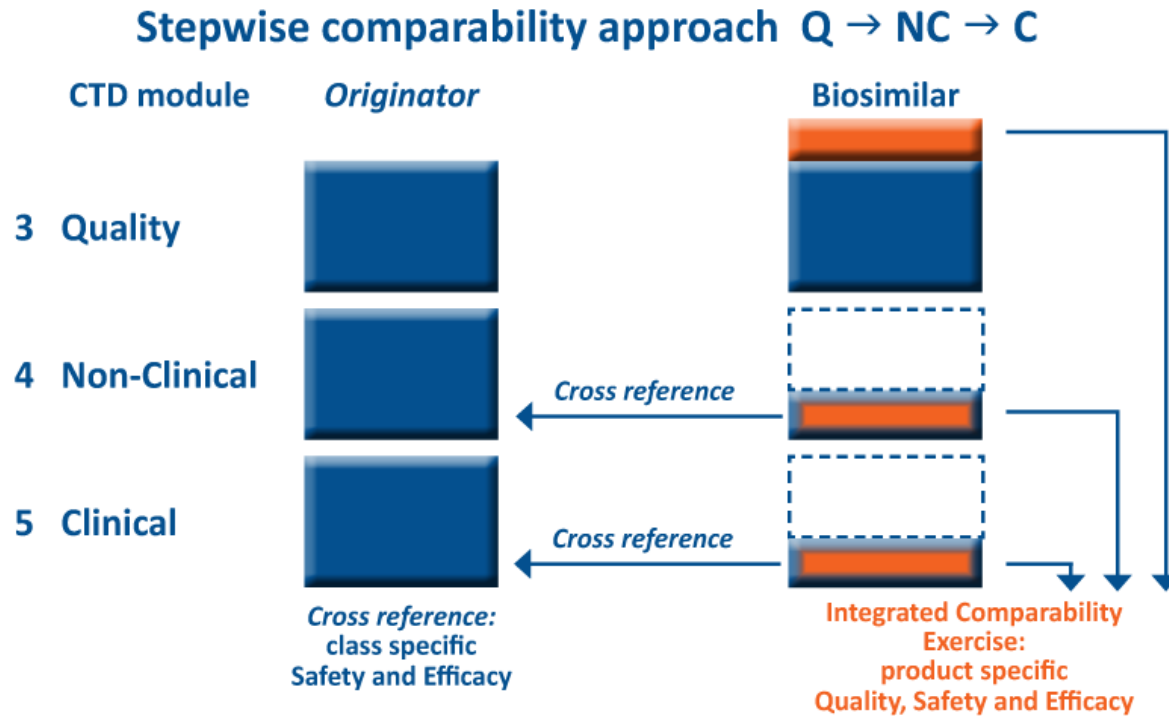
**NOTE FOR GUIDANCE ON BIOTECHNOLOGICAL/BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS
SUBJECT TO CHANGES IN THEIR MANUFACTURING PROCESS
(CPMP/ICH/5721/03)**

TRANSMISSION TO CHMP	November 2003
TRANSMISSION TO INTERESTED PARTIES	November 2003
DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS	May 2004
FINAL APPROVAL BY CHMP	December 2004
DATE FOR COMING INTO OPERATION	June 2005

The goal of the comparability exercise is to ensure the quality, safety and efficacy of drug product produced by a changed manufacturing process, through collection and evaluation of the relevant data to determine whether there might be any adverse impact on the drug product due to the manufacturing process changes.

The demonstration of comparability does not necessarily mean that the quality attributes of the pre-change and post-change product are identical, but that they are highly similar and that the existing knowledge is sufficiently predictive to ensure that any differences in quality attributes have no adverse impact upon safety or efficacy of the drug product.

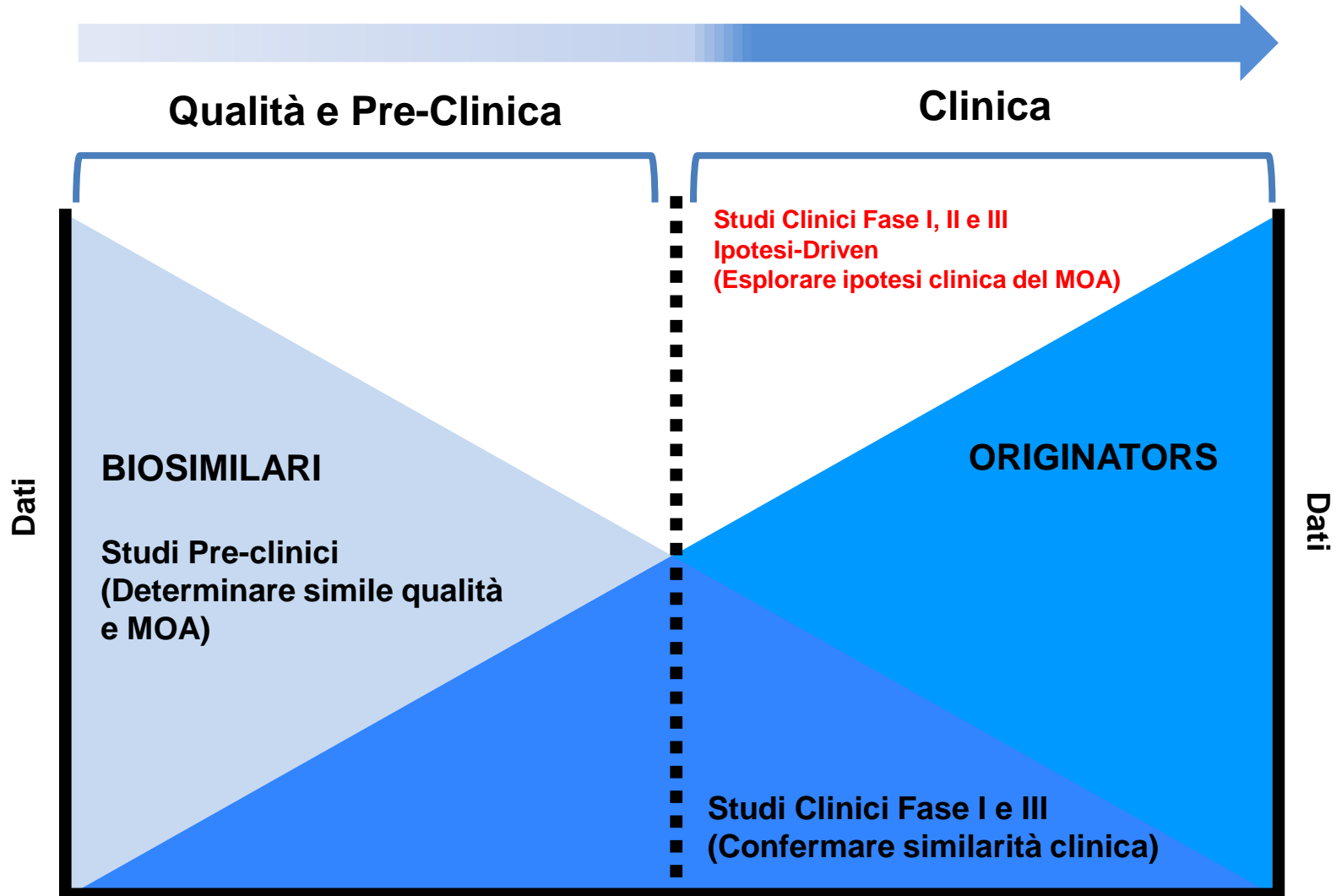
IL COMPARABILITY EXERCISE



Modified from Schneider CK et al., Nat Biotechnol 30, 2012

L'EMA delega alle singole Agenzie Nazionali il tema della sostituibilità e intercambiabilità

Biosimilari e Originator: basi scientifiche



Cos'è un farmaco biosimilare?

Un farmaco di origine biotecnologica che ha effettuato un comparability exercise nei confronti del farmaco di riferimento, è stato approvato dall'EMA ed è commercializzato alla scadenza brevettuale del farmaco di riferimento.

L'EMA approva quindi, in seguito al *comparability exercise*, il farmaco biosimilare come sovrapponibile al farmaco di riferimento (rischio/beneficio sovrapponibile tra i due farmaci).

Analoghe considerazioni valgono anche per i farmaci biologici, inclusi i biotecnologici ed i corrispondenti biosimilari. Per quanto concerne i farmaci biosimilari, infatti, l'identità del principio attivo e l'accertamento della biosimilarità rispetto al biologico di riferimento, compiuto dall'EMA in sede di rilascio dell'AIC, assicurano che tra il biologico di riferimento e il corrispondente biosimilare non vi siano differenze cliniche rilevanti, in termini di qualità, sicurezza ed efficacia, per le indicazioni terapeutiche autorizzate. Conseguentemente, l'art. 15, comma 11 *ter*, non trova applicazione, sia in quanto la norma fa testuale riferimento all'"equivalenza terapeutica fra medicinali contenenti diversi principi attivi", sia in quanto la valutazione della biosimilarità, che si fonda su uno specifico "esercizio di comparabilità" condotto a livello europeo dall'EMA seguendo i massimi standard scientifici, assorbe e rende superflua, ai fini della tutela della salute pubblica, ogni ulteriore valutazione in ordine alla sovrapponibilità di un biosimilare rispetto al biologico di riferimento.

26 June 2014
EMA/CHMP/340840/2014
Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP)

Assessment report

Abasria

International non-proprietary name: insulin glargine

Procedure No. EMA/H/C/002835/0000

THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG

Study Alias	Objective	Study Population	Number of Subjects Randomised
Phase I Studies			
ABEA	Comparison of the PK and PD of LY2963016 and EU-approved Lantus	Healthy subjects	80
ABEE	Comparison of the PD of LY2963016 and EU-approved Lantus	Patients with T1DM	20
ABEI	Relative bioavailability of LY2963016 to EU-approved Lantus	Healthy subjects	16
ABEM	Relative bioavailability of LY2963016 to EU-approved Lantus	Healthy subjects	24
ABEN^a	Comparison of the PK and PD of EU- and US-approved Lantus	Healthy subjects	40
Phase III Studies			
ABEB	Comparison of LY2963016 with Lantus (EU- and US-approved), as measured by change in HbA1c, when each is used in combination with pre-meal insulin lispro	Patients with T1DM (open-label)	536
ABEC	Comparison of LY2963016 with Lantus (EU- and US-approved), as measured by change in HbA1c, when each is used in combination with OAMs	Patients with T2DM (double-blind)	759

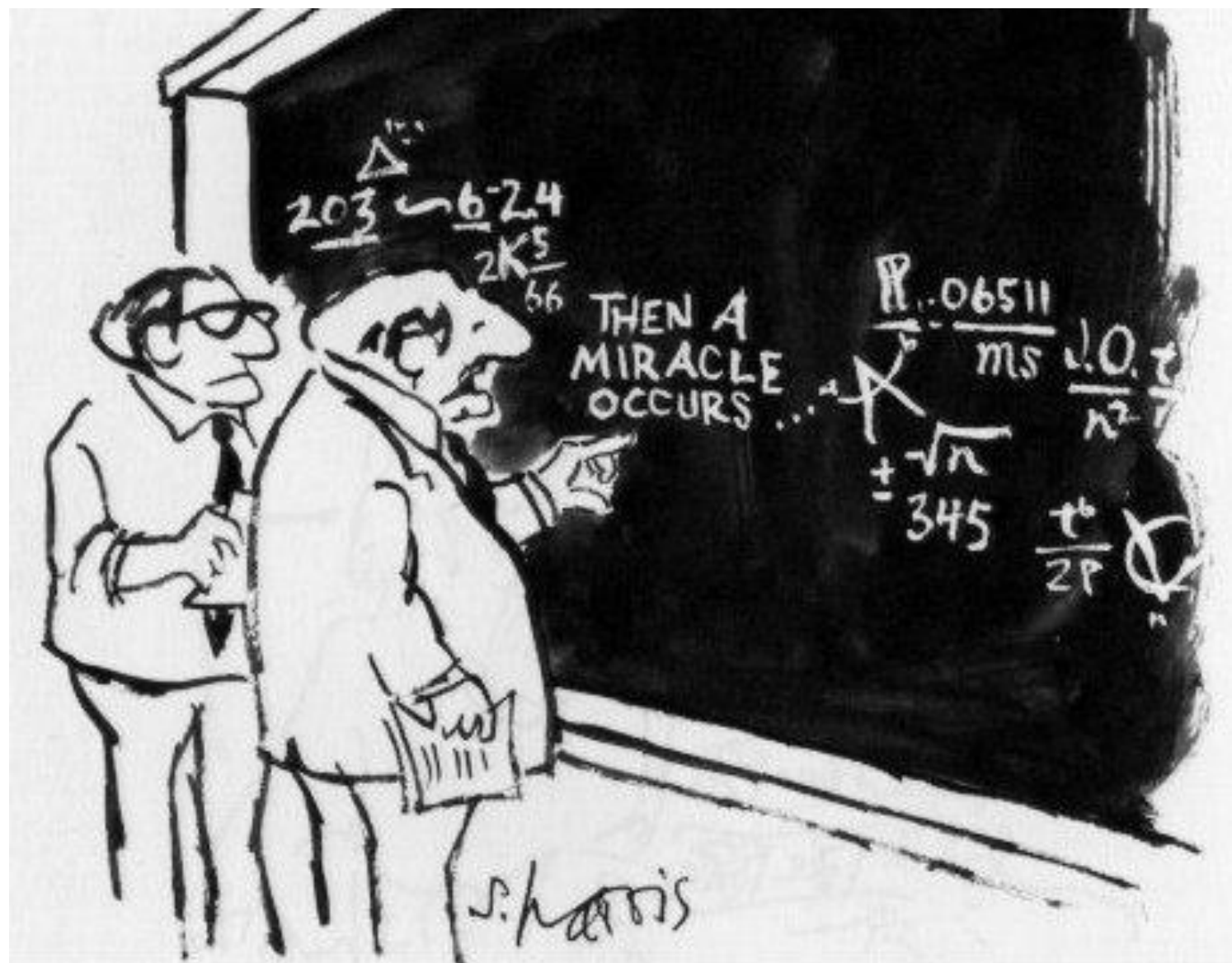
^a Study ABEN was a comparison of EU- and US-approved Lantus; no LY2963016 was administered.

Posizioni ufficiali sui biosimilari da innumerevoli Società Scientifiche

Nel periodo iniziale dell'immissione in commercio quando ancora le nostre conoscenze sono limitate...

- automatic substitutability should be excluded
- substitution should be cautiously considered
- decisions should be taken by clinicians

Drug naïve patients can be treated with biosimilars if the clinician is willing



"I think you should be more explicit here in step two."

from *What's so Funny about Science?* by Sidney Harris (1977)

Competizione



THE UNIVERSITY BOAT RACE DEAD-HEAT: THE FINISH.

1877: A dead heat at the Oxford Vs Cambridge University Boat Race in 1877