

(39) US Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (1977)

General Considerations for the Clinical Evaluation of Drugs

(HEW Pub No: (FDA) 77-3040)

Public Health Service, Food and Drug Administration, Rockville, Md.

Preamble

These guidelines are very brief and can be accessed online (<https://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM071682.pdf>) together with many others issued by FDA, for example, *General considerations for the clinical evaluation of drugs in infants and children (1977)*.

<https://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM071682.pdf>

Aims

The purpose of these guidelines is to present acceptable current approaches to the study of investigational drugs in man. These guidelines contain both generalities and specifics and were developed from experience with available drugs. It is anticipated that with the passage of time these guidelines will require revision. These guidelines are not to be interpreted as mandatory requirements by the FDA to allow continuation of clinical trials with investigational drugs or to obtain approval of a new drug for marketing. These guidelines, in part, contain recommendations for clinical studies which are recognised as desirable approaches to be used in arriving at conclusions concerning safety and effectiveness of new drugs (Foreword, page iii).

Contents (iii + 11 pages)

[Sub-headings omitted]

Foreword

Introduction

A. Institutional review

B. Principles of informed consent

Design and analysis considerations

Selection of subjects

Number of patients

Randomization of patients

Study control

Patient compliance

Dosage considerations

Drug dynamics studies

Tests for safety

Definitions and guidance

Definitions

Phase I studies

A. Subject and setting

B. Qualifications of investigators

C. Procedures

D. Additional considerations

Phases II and III studies

A. Subjects

B. Qualifications of investigators

C. Procedures and additional considerations

Women of childbearing potential

Male reproductive system

Evaluation in children

Authors

The Foreword is written by J Richard Crout MD (Director, Bureau of Drugs), and Marion J Finkel MD (Associate Director for New Drug Evaluation, Bureau of Drugs). No other details are included.