

# FDA and EMA: Regulatory Situation of NBCDs

Beat Flühmann PhD,  
Siem Reap May 18<sup>th</sup> 2016

**GaBI Educational Workshops  
in collaboration with the  
NBCD Working Group**

# The Generic Paradigm → Sameness

- Pharmaceutical equivalence (identical API...)
- Bioequivalence in healthy subjects: comparable PK
- Known mode of action (PK  $\approx$  PD)

No clinical efficacy and safety studies required

Generics:  
Sameness



# Classes of products

## Generic paradigm



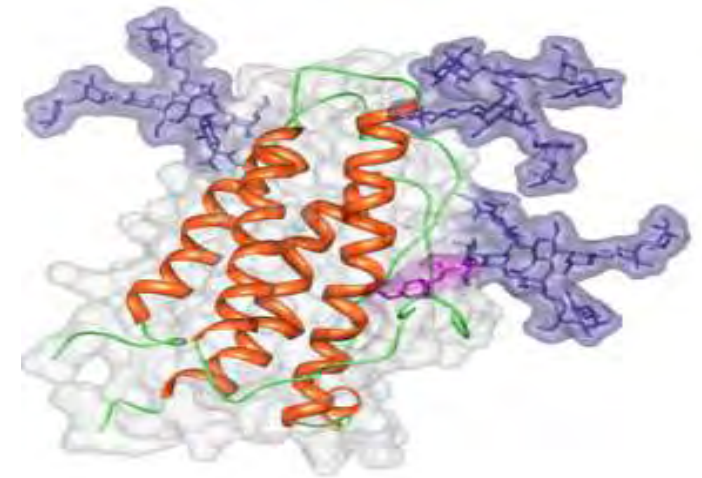
**Small molecules drugs**  
(m.w. <500) *e.g. ASA*  
**Fully characterized**

## NBCD / Nanosimilars



**Complex (non-biological) drugs**  
(m.range 43[IS]-150kDa) *e.g. polynuclear ferric hydroxide carbohydrate complexes*  
**Not fully characterized**

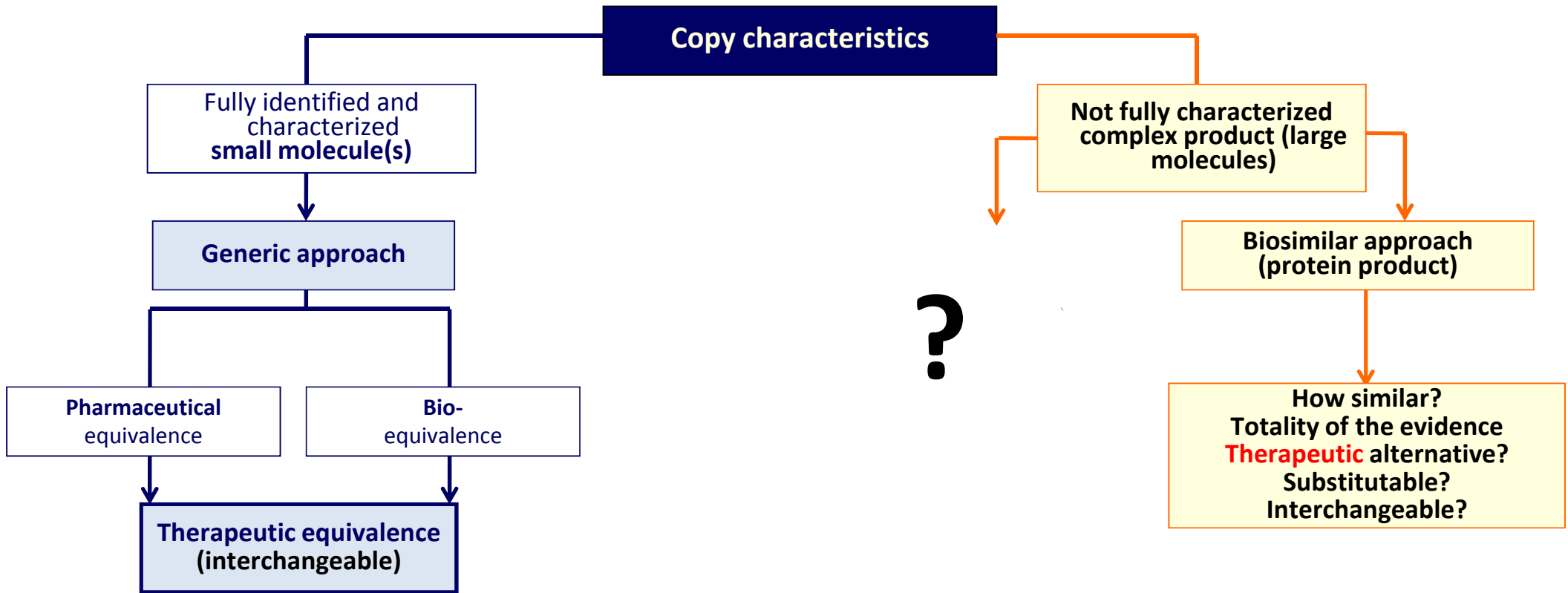
## Biosimilar approach



**Complex (biological) drugs**  
(m.range 5-150kDa) *e.g. EPO*  
**Not fully characterized**



# Today's Regulatory Pathways



# Scientific discussions initiated 6 years ago..

Workshop

## Bioequivalence of Complex Drugs

7 October 2009, Leiden, the Netherlands

“the Leiden Paper”

Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology 59 (2011) 176–183



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/yrtph](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/yrtph)



### The therapeutic equivalence of complex drugs <sup>☆</sup>

Huub Schellekens <sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Ety Klinger <sup>c,1</sup>, Stefan Mühlebach <sup>d,2</sup>, Jean-Francois Brin <sup>e,3</sup>, Gert Storm <sup>f,g</sup>,  
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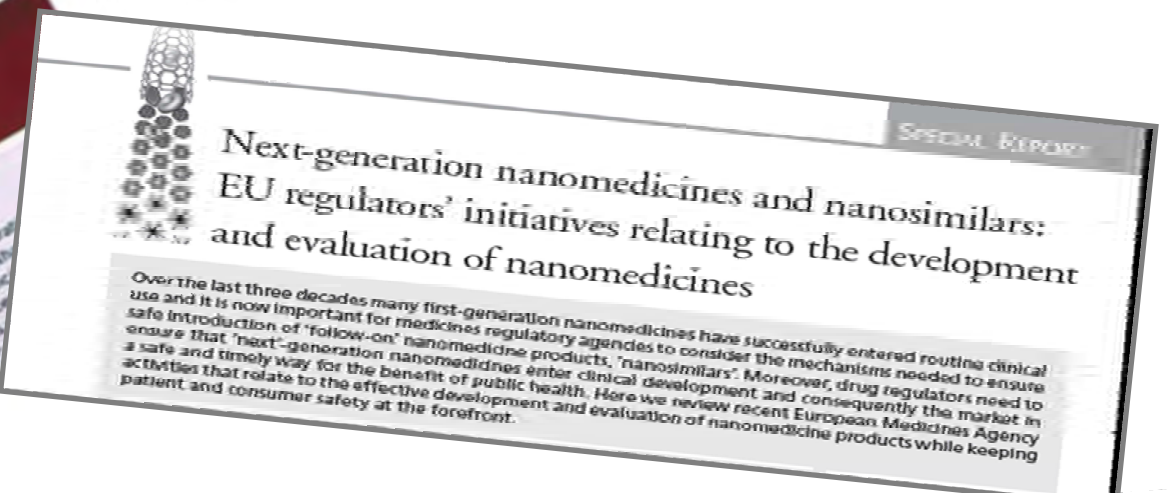
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...and in publications by us and others...



ANNALS OF THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES  
 Issue: Annals Meeting Reports

**Scientific considerations for complex drugs in light of established and emerging regulatory guidance**

Chris Holloway,<sup>1</sup> Jan Mueller-Berghaus,<sup>2</sup> Beatriz Silva Lima,<sup>3</sup> Sau (Larry) Lee,<sup>4</sup> Janet S. Wyatt,<sup>5</sup> J. Michael Nicholas,<sup>6</sup> and Daan J.A. Crommelin<sup>7</sup>

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...and in publications by us and others.

The AAPS Journal (© 2013)  
DOI: 10.1208/s12248-013-9532-0

Commentary

**Different Pharmaceutical Products Need Similar Terminology**

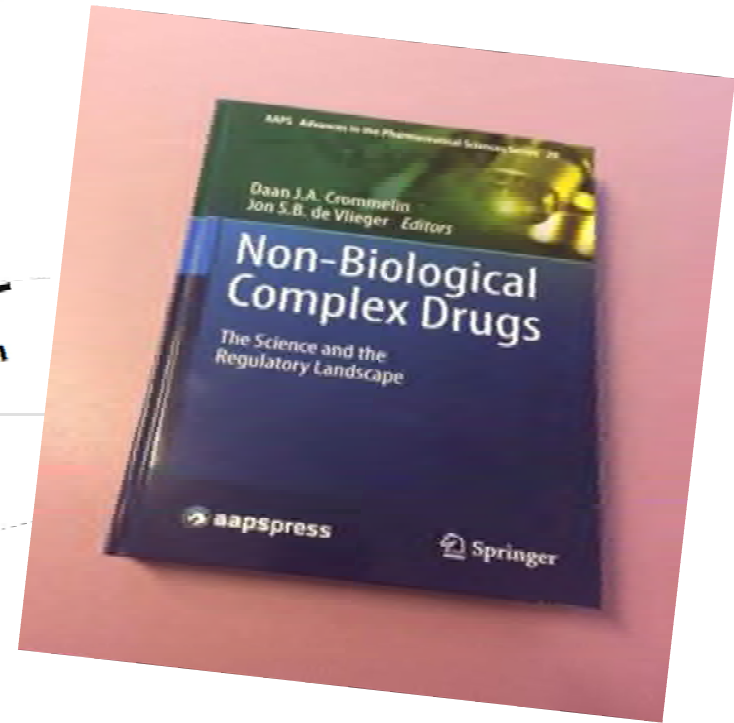
Daan J. A. Crommelin,<sup>1</sup> Jon S. B. de Vlieger,<sup>2</sup> Vera Weinstein,<sup>3</sup> Stefan Mühlebach,<sup>4</sup> Vinod P. Shah,<sup>5</sup>  
and Huub Schellekens<sup>1,6,7</sup>

The AAPS Journal (© 2013)  
DOI: 10.1208/s12248-013-9533-z

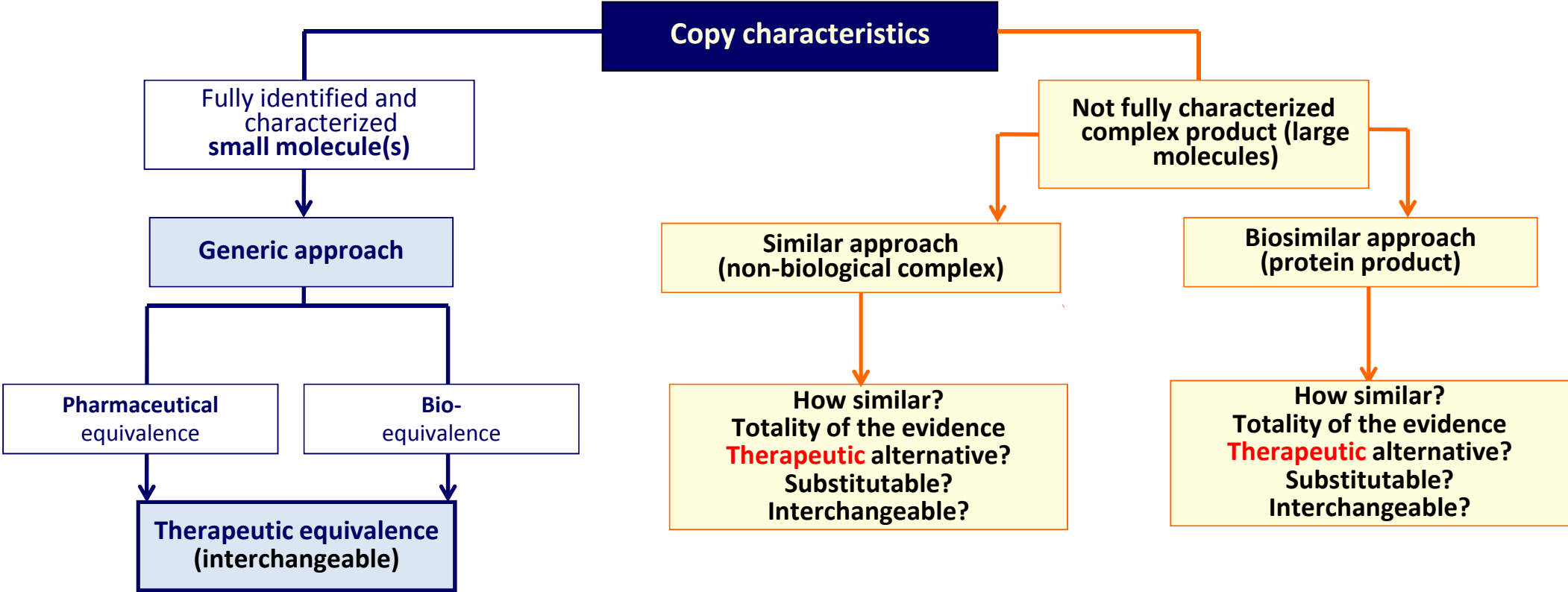
Commentary

**How to Regulate Nonbiological Complex Drugs (NBCD) and Their Follow-on Versions: Points to Consider**

Huub Schellekens,<sup>1,2,10</sup> Sven Stegemann,<sup>3</sup> Vera Weinstein,<sup>4</sup> Jon S. B. de Vlieger,<sup>5</sup> Beat Flühmann,<sup>6</sup>  
Stefan Mühlebach,<sup>7</sup> Rooeria Gasnar,<sup>8</sup> Vinod P. Shah,<sup>9</sup> and Daan J. A. Crommelin<sup>1</sup>

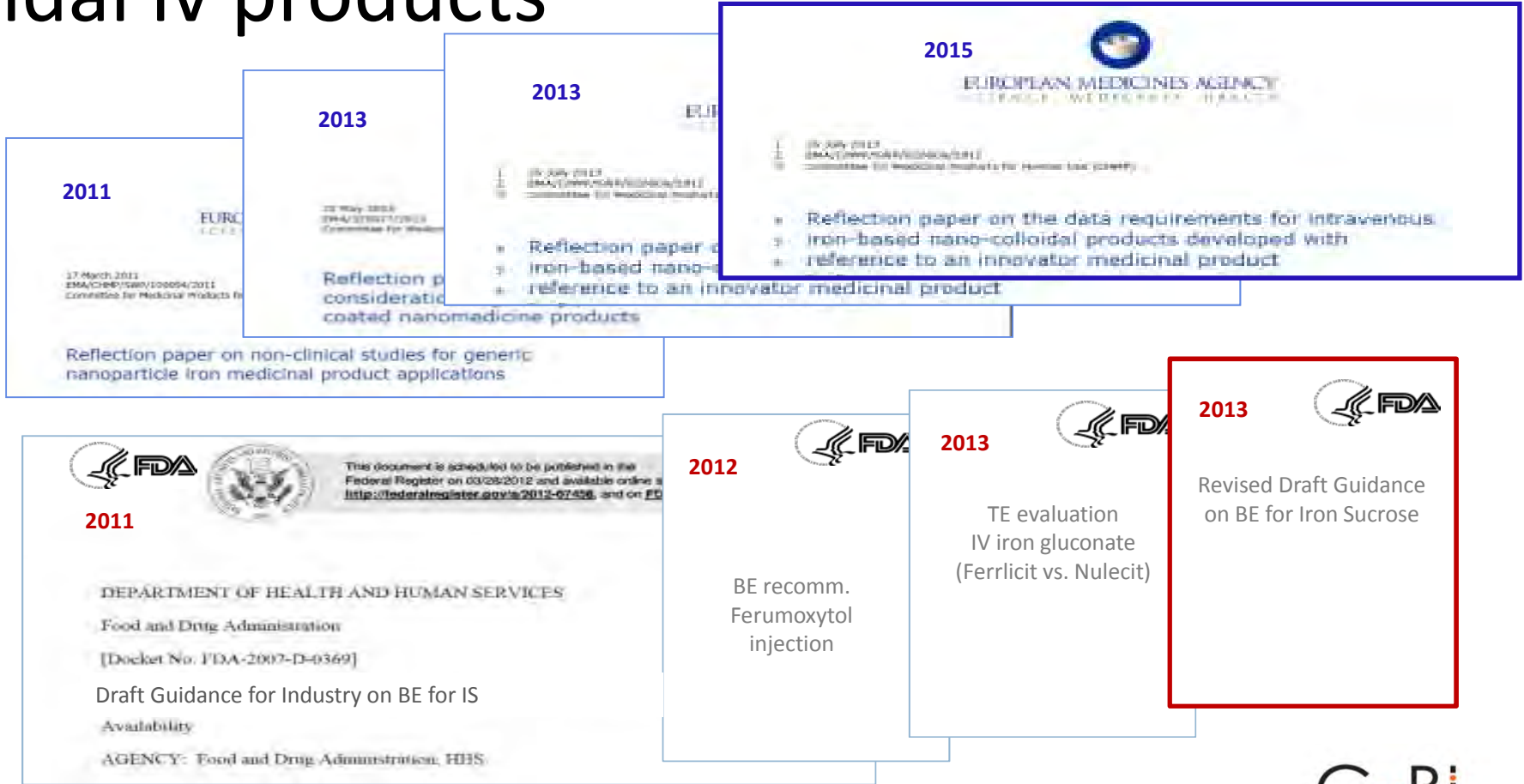


# Follow the Similarity Approach.





# EMA and FDA issued proposals for nano colloidal iv products



# FDA aware of complexity of products

- Quality
  - Iron release influenced by size morphology and surface properties (quality, toxicity)
  - Carbohydrate coating properties (kinetics, hypersensitivity, safety, impurities)
  - Labile iron release under physiological conditions
- Pharmaceutical comparability
  - Chemical composition and physicochemical characteristics
  - Manufacturing controls
- Clinical
  - Bioequivalence



# GDUFA Regulatory Science Priorities 2016

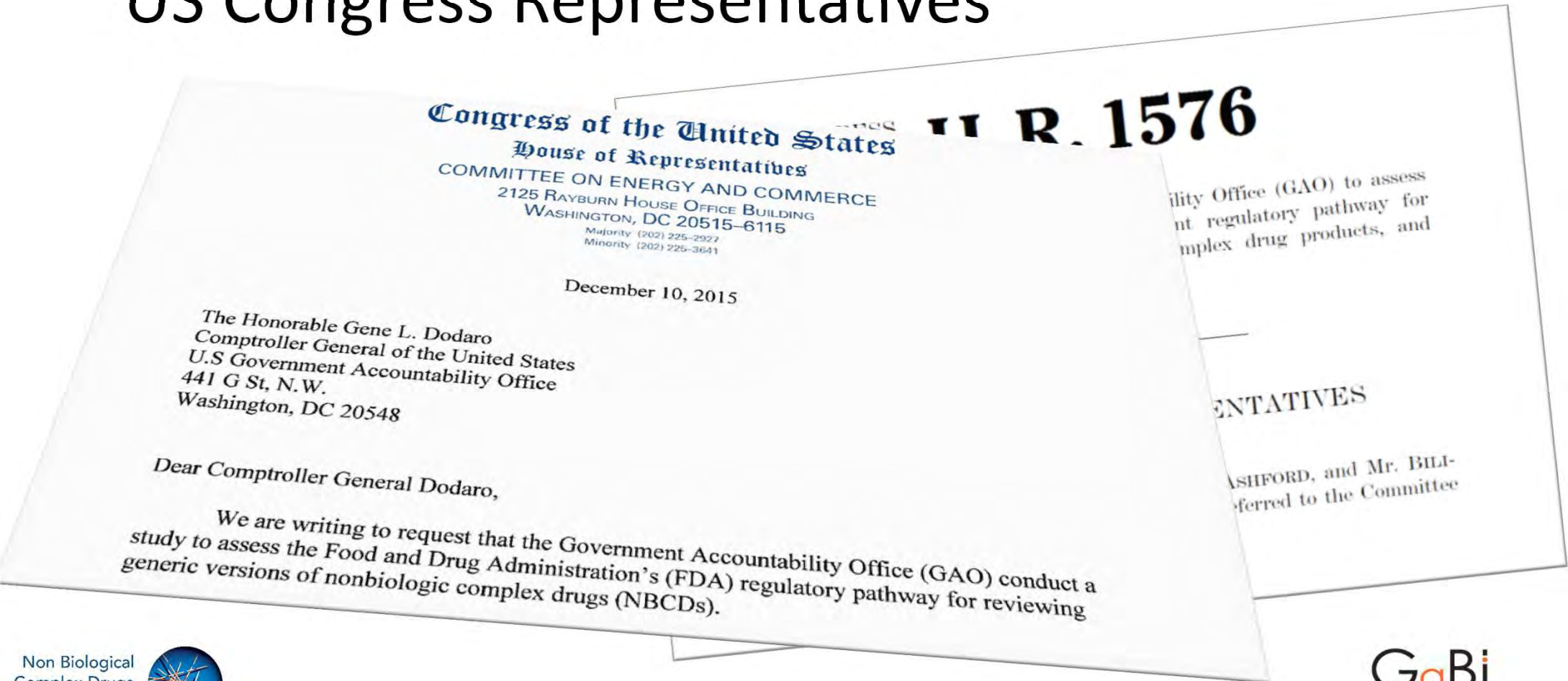
- Post-market evaluation of generic drugs
- **Equivalence of complex products**
- Equivalence of locally-acting products
- Therapeutic equivalence evaluation and standards
- Computational and analytical tools



FDA and NIH initiated a research program to link FDA's equivalence standards to in vivo performance including clinical trials



# NBCDs Approval Process Under Scrutiny by US Congress Representatives



# EMA considerations on Nanosimilars

- Quality
  - Iron release influenced by size morphology and surface properties (quality, toxicity)
  - Carbohydrate coating properties (kinetics, hypersensitivity, safety, impurities)
- Pharmaceutical comparability
  - Chemical composition and physicochemical characteristics (stress tests)
  - Manufacturing controls
- Non-clinical
  - Blood/plasma, RES, and tissue concentration comparisons
  - Biodisposition in animal model incl. “toxicological” target tissues
- Clinical
  - PK
  - Efficacy and short-time safety (only if minor differences observed)
- PV

