#### **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.





## Research in a regulatory agency: the advantages of the researcher/assessor model at OPQ/CDER

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#### Disclaimer

This presentation reflects the views of the author and should not be construed to represent FDA's views or policies.



#### Outline

- Background
- What does FDA do?
- What are the different types of jobs in OBP?
- PI at US FDA: what do I do, how did I get there and some thoughts 4 years later

### My Background

- PhD in pharmacology in Strasbourg (France)
- Postdoc/Staff Scientist at NCI (UOB) 10 years
- PI at US FDA 4 years

#### **FDA**

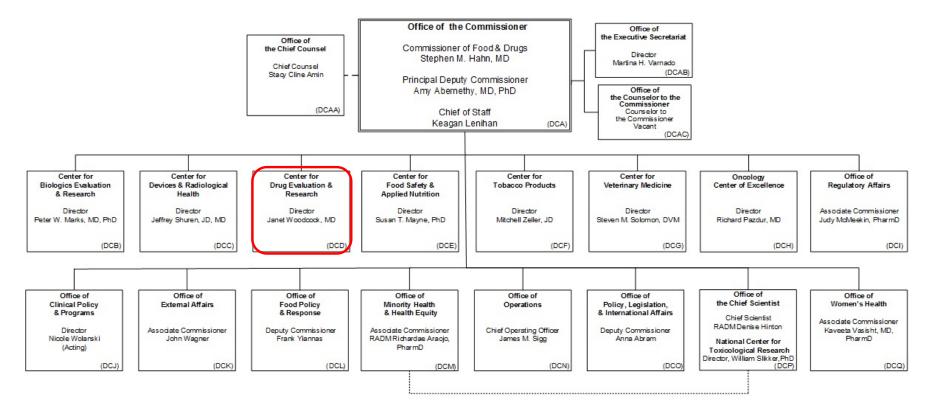
#### FDA is responsible for

- Protecting the public health by assuring that foods are safe, wholesome, sanitary and properly labeled; human and veterinary drugs, and vaccines and other biological products and medical devices intended for human use are safe and effective
- Protecting the public from harmful, counterfeit, adulterated drugs
- Assuring cosmetics and dietary supplements are safe and properly labeled
- Regulating tobacco products
- Advancing the public health by helping to speed product innovations
- Helping the public get the accurate science-based information they need to use medicines, devices, and foods to improve their health

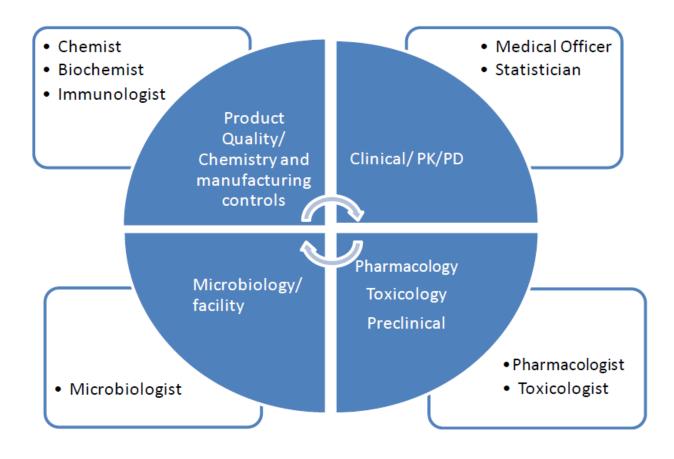
## FDA/CDER

#### Department of Health and Human Services Food and Drug Administration

July 2020



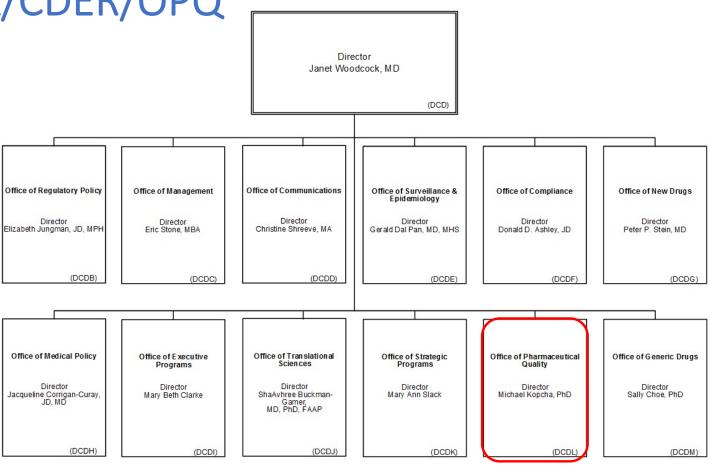
## A multidisciplinary review process



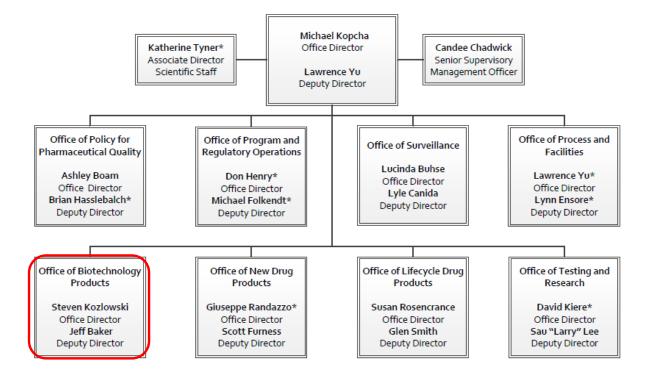
Dependent on the phase of development and Center. An FDA project manager is usually the primary liaison.

## FDA/CDER/OPQ

#### Department of Health and Human Services Food and Drug Administration Center for Drug Evaluation and Research



### FDA/CDER/OPQ/OBP



#### **OBP** personnel

#### Full time Assessor

- Performs review of regulatory submissions: PreIND, IND, BLA, PMA, IDE, NDA
- Evaluates biotechnology protein product quality issues and perform risk assessments for quality, safety, and efficacy
- Review includes the manufacturing of the drug substance and product, characterization (analytical methods), mechanism of action, and immunogenicity
- Inspections

#### Full time Researcher

- Primary research on novel topics related to regulatory research (including manufacturing processes, infectious diseases, cancer, biochemistry, immunology, protein characterization,...)
- FTE, contractors (e.g. ORISE fellows)

#### Researcher/Assessor

- Splits time between review work and research
- FTE, IOTF fellows

## What do I do? The PI job in OBP/CDER

Regulatory – 30%	Research – 70%
Primary assessor Train/oversee lab members Participation to SC, WGs Communication (conferences, outreach etc)	Run a research program Team/Lab management Writing: Grants, reports and consults Communication (conferences, outreach etc) Participation to SC, WGs, COEs

- Research : mission relevance
- Regulatory work (public health impact)

#### What is mission-relevant research?

Developing bioassays that can support manufacturing quality, advanced manufacturing technologies, compliance investigations and biosimilar development.

Insulin products bioassays

Advanced manufacturing and control strategies;

<u>Defining mechanism of action</u> and critical quality
attributes to enable sensor-based quality control and real
time release strategies.

Ir-endocrinopathies

ICIs on RCC metabolism

Electrochemical microsensors for continuous manufacturing (Bill Bentley- UMD)

#### How did I get to FDA?

Traditional PI application process – Science Job ad

Phone interview, followed by on-site interview with research presentation and chalk talk

- Skills
  - ✓ Research expertise that could be translated to regulatory issues (immunology, virology, metabolism, oncology, etc...)
  - ✓ Leadership experience (participation to WG, committees such as the SSSC)
  - ✓ Communication skills, scientific writing, and ability to work with others

#### Some final thoughts...

#### Where to look for PI positions at FDA?

• Centers: mostly CBER Title 42

https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/center-biologics-evaluation-and-research-cber/principal-investigator-viral-vaccines

## Any Questions?