
Expanded Access to Investigational Drugs for Treatment Use Questions and Answers Guidance for Industry

DRAFT GUIDANCE

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For questions regarding this draft document, contact (CDER) Dat Doan, 240-402-8926, or (CBER) Office of Communication, Outreach and Development, 800-835-4709 or 240-402-8010.

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)
Office of Clinical Policy (OCLiP)
Oncology Center for Excellence (OCE)**

**November 2022
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Revision 1**

Expanded Access to Investigational Drugs for Treatment Use Questions and Answers Guidance for Industry

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1 **Expanded Access to Investigational Drugs for Treatment Use**
2 **Questions and Answers**
3 **Guidance for Industry¹**
4

5
6 This draft guidance, when finalized, will represent the current thinking of the Food and Drug
7 Administration (FDA or Agency) on this topic. It does not establish any rights for any person and is not
8 binding on FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if it satisfies the requirements of the
9 applicable statutes and regulations. To discuss an alternative approach, contact the FDA staff responsible
10 for this guidance as listed on the title page.
11

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15 **I. INTRODUCTION**
16

17 This guidance provides information for industry, researchers, physicians, institutional review
18 boards (IRBs), and patients about the implementation of FDA’s regulations on expanded access
19 to investigational drugs² for treatment use under an investigational new drug application (IND)
20 (21 CFR part 312, subpart I), which went into effect on October 13, 2009.³ FDA received
21 numerous questions concerning implementation of the regulatory requirements for expanded
22 access. As a result, FDA issued the guidance for industry *Expanded Access to Investigational*
23 *Drugs for Treatment Use — Questions and Answers* (June 2016, updated October 2017) (the
24 2017 guidance), providing recommendations in a question-and-answer format, addressing the
25 most frequently asked questions. Since 2017, FDA has received additional questions concerning
26 implementation of the regulatory and statutory requirements of expanded access to
27 investigational drugs, including those added by the 21st Century Cures Act (Cures Act)⁴ and the
28 FDA Reauthorization Act of 2017 (FDARA).⁵ When finalized, this guidance will replace the
29 2017 guidance. Significant changes from the 2017 version include additional recommendations
30 related to IRB review, informed consent, and new requirements established by the Cures Act and
31 FDARA related to sponsors making their policies for evaluating and responding to expanded
32 access requests (i.e., expanded access policy) public and readily available.

¹ This guidance has been prepared by the Office of Medical Policy in the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER) in cooperation with the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER), the Office of Clinical Policy (OCLiP), and the Oncology Center for Excellence (OCE) and in consultation with the Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH) at the Food and Drug Administration.

² In this guidance, the terms *investigational new drug*, *investigational drug*, *drug*, and *drug product* refer to both human drugs and biological products regulated by CDER and CBER.

³ *Federal Register* of August 13, 2009 (74 FR 40900).

⁴ 21st Century Cures Act (Cures Act), Public Law 114-255; 130 STAT.1033, December 13, 2016, Sec. 3032.

⁵ See the FDA Reauthorization Act of 2017 (FDARA), Public Law 115-52; 131 STAT.1005, August 18, 2017, Sec. 610.

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33 In a separate guidance,⁶ FDA provides answers to questions concerning the implementation of
34 the regulation on charging for investigational drugs under an IND (21 CFR 312.8).⁷ Also, in a
35 separate guidance, FDA describes Form FDA 3926 (Individual Patient Expanded Access—
36 Investigational New Drug Application (IND)) and the process for submitting expanded access
37 requests for individual patient INDs.⁸

38
39 In general, FDA’s guidance documents do not establish legally enforceable responsibilities.
40 Instead, guidances describe the Agency’s current thinking on a topic and should be viewed only
41 as recommendations, unless specific regulatory or statutory requirements are cited. The use of
42 the word *should* in Agency guidance means that something is suggested or recommended, but
43 not required.

44
45

46 **II. BACKGROUND**

47
48 Expanded access refers to the use of an investigational drug when the primary purpose is to
49 diagnose, monitor, or treat a patient’s disease or condition rather than to obtain the kind of
50 information about the drug that is generally derived from clinical trials. FDA has a long history
51 of facilitating expanded access to investigational drugs for treatment use for patients with serious
52 or immediately life-threatening diseases or conditions⁹ who lack satisfactory therapeutic
53 alternatives. Still, a patient cannot receive an investigational drug through the expanded access
54 pathway unless the sponsor¹⁰ of the investigational drug agrees to provide such access.
55

⁶ See the revised draft guidance for industry *Charging for Investigational Drugs Under an IND: Questions and Answers* (August 2022). When final, this guidance will represent FDA’s current thinking on this topic. We update guidances periodically. For the most recent version of a guidance, check the FDA guidance web page at <https://www.fda.gov/RegulatoryInformation/Guidances/>.

⁷ See also 74 FR 40872, *Federal Register* of August 13, 2009.

⁸ See the guidance for industry *Individual Patient Expanded Access Applications: Form FDA 3926* (June 2016, updated June 2017).

⁹ For the purpose of expanded access to investigational drugs for treatment use, immediately life-threatening disease or condition means a stage of disease in which there is reasonable likelihood that death will occur within a matter of months or in which premature death is likely without early treatment. Serious disease or condition means a disease or condition associated with morbidity that has substantial impact on day-to-day functioning. Short-lived and self-limiting morbidity will usually not be sufficient, but the morbidity need not be irreversible, provided it is persistent or recurrent. Whether a disease or condition is serious is a matter of clinical judgment, based on its impact on such factors as survival, day-to-day functioning, or the likelihood that the disease, if left untreated, will progress from a less severe condition to a more serious one (21 CFR 312.300(b)).

¹⁰ The sponsor of an investigational drug (existing IND) typically is the pharmaceutical company or manufacturer of the drug.

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56 FDA revised its IND regulations in 2009¹¹ by removing the existing regulations on treatment use
57 and creating subpart I of part 312 to consolidate and expand the various provisions regarding
58 expanded access to treatment use of investigational drugs.

59
60 Under FDA’s current regulations, there are three categories of expanded access:

- 61
- 62 • Expanded access for individual patients, including for emergency use (21 CFR
63 312.310)
- 64
- 65 • Expanded access for intermediate-size patient populations (generally smaller than
66 those typical of a treatment IND or treatment protocol — a treatment protocol is
67 submitted as a protocol to an existing IND by the sponsor of the existing IND)¹² (21
68 CFR 312.315)
- 69
- 70 • Expanded access for widespread treatment use through a treatment IND or
71 treatment protocol (designed for use in larger patient populations) (21 CFR
72 312.320)
- 73

74 The regulations describe criteria that must be met to authorize expanded access use, requirements
75 for expanded access submissions, and safeguards that are intended to protect patients and
76 preserve the ability to develop meaningful data about the safety and effectiveness of the drug
77 through clinical trials or drug development. The regulations were also intended to facilitate the
78 availability, when appropriate, of investigational new drugs for treatment use while protecting
79 patient safety and avoiding interference with the development of investigational drugs for
80 marketing under approved applications.

81
82 The Cures Act added section 561A to the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) to
83 include new requirements regarding expanded access. Under section 561A of the FD&C Act,
84 the manufacturer or distributor of one or more investigational drugs for the diagnosis,
85 monitoring, or treatment of one or more serious diseases or conditions is required to make its
86 policy for evaluating and responding to expanded access requests (expanded access policy)
87 public and readily available, such as by posting the policy on a publicly available website.¹³ The
88 manufacturer or distributor is required to include their contact information, procedures for
89 submission of expanded access requests, general criteria for evaluation and response, the
90 anticipated time frame for acknowledgement of such requests, and a hyperlink or other reference
91 to the record in ClinicalTrials.gov that contains information about availability of the drug under
92 expanded access.¹⁴

93

¹¹ *Federal Register* of August 13, 2009 (74 FR 40900).

¹² For information on the types of regulatory submissions that can be used to obtain expanded access, including treatment INDs or treatment protocols, see Q6 in this guidance.

¹³ 21 U.S.C. 360bbb-0(b).

¹⁴ 21 U.S.C. 360bbb-0(c).

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94 FDARA amended the FD&C Act to require that the expanded access policy for an
95 investigational drug be posted by the earlier of (1) the first initiation of a phase 2 or phase 3
96 study with respect to such investigational drug or (2) within 15 days after the drug receives a fast
97 track, breakthrough, or regenerative advanced therapy designation.¹⁵ However, the posting of
98 the expanded access policy does not guarantee access to the investigational drug under expanded
99 access.¹⁶ When a sponsor provides expanded access to its drug, it does so voluntarily. FDA
100 cannot compel a sponsor to provide expanded access to its drug.

101
102 FDA expects that the public availability of this guidance will increase awareness and knowledge
103 of the availability of expanded access and the procedures for obtaining investigational drugs for
104 treatment use for patients with serious or immediately life-threatening diseases or conditions who
105 lack satisfactory therapeutic alternatives.

106

107

108 III. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

109

110 A. Expanded Access for Treatment Use

111

112 Q1. What is expanded access?

113

114 The terms expanded access, access, and treatment use are used interchangeably to refer to the use
115 of an investigational drug when the primary purpose is to diagnose, monitor, or treat a patient's
116 disease or condition. The terms compassionate use and preapproval access are also occasionally
117 used in the context of the use of an investigational drug to treat a patient. Although the terms
118 compassionate use and preapproval access have been used informally in the United States and
119 are also used outside the United States, they are not defined or described in FDA regulations.
120 This has led to some confusion or lack of clarity about the meaning of the terms (e.g., whether
121 they refer to all expanded access or to a type of expanded access, such as individual patient
122 expanded access). For this reason, the terms compassionate use and preapproval access will not
123 be used in this document.

124

125 The main distinction between expanded access and the use of an investigational drug in the usual
126 studies covered under an IND is that expanded access uses are not primarily intended to obtain
127 information about the safety or effectiveness of a drug. Expanded access, access, and treatment
128 use may also refer to (1) use in situations when a drug has been withdrawn for safety reasons but
129 there exists a patient population for whom the benefits of the withdrawn drug continue to
130 outweigh the risks; (2) use of a similar, but unapproved drug (e.g., foreign-approved drug
131 product) to provide treatment during a drug shortage of the approved drug; (3) use of an
132 approved drug where availability is limited by a risk evaluation and mitigation strategy (REMS)
133 for diagnostic, monitoring, or treatment purposes by patients who cannot obtain the drug under
134 the REMS; or (4) use for other reasons.

135

¹⁵ 21 U.S.C. 360bbb-0(f).

¹⁶ 21 U.S.C. 360bbb-0(d).

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136 Q2. Are there safeguards in place for expanded access use of an unapproved drug?

137
138 A licensed physician under whose immediate direction an investigational drug is administered or
139 dispensed for an expanded access use is considered an investigator (§ 312.305(c)(1)). An
140 individual or entity that submits an expanded access IND or protocol under 21 CFR part 312,
141 subpart I, is considered a sponsor (§ 312.305(c)(2)). A licensed physician who submits an IND
142 for expanded access use and under whose immediate direction an investigational drug is
143 administered or dispensed is considered a sponsor-investigator (§ 312.305(c)(3)). The sponsors,
144 investigators, and sponsor-investigators must comply with the responsibilities set forth in 21
145 CFR part 312, subpart D, to the extent they are applicable to the expanded access use
146 (§ 312.305(c)). For all expanded access INDs, investigators are responsible for reporting adverse
147 events to the sponsor, ensuring that the informed consent requirements in part 50 (21 CFR part
148 50) are met, ensuring that an IRB review of the expanded access use is obtained in a manner
149 consistent with the requirements of part 56 (21 CFR part 56), and maintaining accurate case
150 histories and drug disposition records and retaining records in a manner consistent with the
151 requirements of § 312.62 (§ 312.305(c)(4)). For all expanded access INDs, sponsors are
152 responsible for:

- 153 • complying with expedited IND safety reporting requirements under § 312.32
- 154 • submitting to FDA annual reports (when the IND or protocol continues for 1 year or
155 longer) under § 312.33
- 156 • ensuring that licensed physicians are qualified to administer the investigational drug for
157 the expanded access use
- 158 • providing licensed physicians with the information needed to minimize the risk and
159 maximize the potential benefits of the investigational drug
- 160 • maintaining an effective IND for the expanded access use, and
- 161 • maintaining adequate drug disposition records and retaining records in a manner
162 consistent with the requirements of § 312.57 (§ 312.305(c)(5))

163 B. Expanded Access Submission

164 Q3. What types of regulatory submissions can be used to obtain expanded access to a 165 **166 drug under the three expanded access categories?** 167 168

169 For each category of expanded access, there are two types of regulatory submissions that can be
170 made: (1) an expanded access protocol submitted as a protocol amendment to an existing IND
171 (i.e., an expanded access protocol) or (2) a new IND submission, which is separate and distinct
172 from any existing INDs and is intended only to make a drug available for treatment use under
173 expanded access (i.e., an expanded access IND).
174

175 A sponsor or physician may contact the appropriate FDA review division for consultation
176 regarding the most appropriate type of submission. Additional information about expanded
177 access, including contact information for review divisions, may be found on FDA's website at
178 <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/expanded-access/fdas-expanded-access-contact-information>.
179

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180 Q4. When should an expanded access protocol submission be used?

181
182 An expanded access protocol submission should be used only if the sponsor seeking expanded
183 access has an existing IND in effect — typically, such a sponsor is a pharmaceutical company or
184 manufacturer of the drug with an existing IND under which the sponsor is developing the drug
185 for marketing. When there is an existing IND in effect, FDA generally encourages the
186 submission of an expanded access protocol rather than a new expanded access IND because
187 having all expanded access use and clinical trial use consolidated under a single IND may
188 facilitate the administrative and review processes, making it less burdensome for sponsors and
189 FDA.

190 Q5. When should a new expanded access IND submission be used?

191
192 A new expanded access IND submission for expanded access generally should be used when (1)
193 there is no existing IND in effect for the drug or, more commonly, (2) there is an existing IND in
194 effect for the drug, but the sponsor of the existing IND is not seeking to be the sponsor of the
195 expanded access use (e.g., for an individual patient use, the sponsor of the existing IND may
196 prefer that a patient's physician take on the role of sponsor-investigator and submit a separate
197 individual patient IND).

198 Q6. How does FDA categorize and subcategorize expanded access submissions?

199
200 FDA categorizes expanded access submissions as either expanded access INDs or expanded
201 access protocols. In addition, there are three different sub-categories of expanded access, and for
202 individual patient expanded access, FDA distinguishes between emergency and non-emergency
203 individual patient expanded access.

204
205 This results in the following sub-categorization of expanded access submissions:
206

207
208 Individual Patient Expanded Access, Including for Emergency Use

- 209
210
- 211 (1) Individual patient expanded access IND
 - 212 (1a) Individual patient expanded access IND for emergency use
 - 213
 - 214 (2) Individual patient expanded access protocol
 - 215 (2a) Individual patient expanded access protocol for emergency use
 - 216

217 Intermediate-Size Patient Populations

- 218
- 219 (1) Intermediate-size patient population expanded access IND
 - 220 (2) Intermediate-size patient population expanded access protocol
 - 221

222 Treatment IND or Treatment Protocol (expanded access for widespread use)

- 223
- 224 (1) Treatment IND
 - 225 (2) Treatment protocol

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Individual Patient Expanded Access, Including for Emergency Use (also referred to as single patient expanded access)

(1) Individual patient expanded access IND (also referred to as single patient IND):

Expanded access to an investigational drug for treatment use by a single patient submitted under a new IND. Unless FDA notifies the sponsor (e.g., the patient's physician¹⁷) that treatment may begin earlier, there is a 30-day period from the date FDA receives the IND before treatment with the drug may begin (§ 312.305(d)(1)). See Q9 for IRB requirements.

(1a) Individual patient expanded access IND for emergency use: A subset of individual patient INDs that provides expanded access to an investigational drug for treatment use by a single patient in an emergency situation (e.g., a situation that requires a patient to be treated before a written submission can be made, treatments expected to have a rapid effect in resolving an acute clinical emergency) submitted under a new IND (§ 312.310(d)). Treatment uses intended for chronic administration to slow progression of disease generally are not appropriate as emergency expanded access requests. For emergency access to a single patient IND, treatment is initially requested and authorized by telephone (or other means of electronic communication) and may start immediately upon FDA authorization, and the licensed physician or sponsor must agree to submit a written submission (IND) within 15 working days of the initial authorization (§ 312.310(d)(2)).

(2) Individual patient expanded access protocol (also referred to as single patient protocol): Expanded access to an investigational drug for treatment use by a single patient, submitted as a protocol to an existing IND by the sponsor of the existing IND. There is no 30-day period before treatment with the drug may begin, but the protocol must be submitted to FDA and have IRB approval consistent with 21 CFR part 56 (see § 312.305(c)(4)) before treatment may begin.¹⁸ Additionally, FDA may put the protocol on clinical hold if any issues (e.g., safety issue with use of investigational drug) are identified during FDA's review of the protocol.

(2a) Individual patient expanded access protocol for emergency use: An emergency use protocol is a subset of individual patient protocols that provides expanded access to an investigational drug for treatment use by a single patient in an emergency situation where authorization to treat is being requested before written submission of a protocol to an existing IND by the sponsor of the existing IND (§ 312.310(d)). Treatment is initially requested and authorized by telephone (or other rapid means of communication) and may start immediately upon FDA authorization, with a requirement for a written submission (protocol) to FDA within 15 working days of the initial authorization (§ 312.310(d)(2)).

¹⁷ Both physicians and sponsors can submit individual patient expanded access INDs. However, in FDA's experience, licensed physicians typically submit these requests.

¹⁸ See §§ 312.305(d)(2) and 312.30(a).

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268
269 In an emergency situation (either an individual patient expanded access IND for emergency
270 use (1a) or individual patient expanded access protocol for emergency use (2a)) when there
271 is not sufficient time to secure IRB review before beginning treatment, the emergency use of
272 the investigational drug must be reported to the IRB within 5 working days of emergency
273 use, as required under § 56.104(c). However, the sponsor-investigator should also be aware
274 of their institution’s policy regarding IRB review before administration of drug in such cases.
275

276 Contact information for emergency use INDs and protocols is located on FDA’s expanded
277 access website at [https://www.fda.gov/news-events/expanded-access/fdas-expanded-access-](https://www.fda.gov/news-events/expanded-access/fdas-expanded-access-contact-information)
278 [contact-information](https://www.fda.gov/news-events/expanded-access/fdas-expanded-access-contact-information).
279

Intermediate-Size Patient Population Expanded Access

281 Expanded access to an investigational drug can be provided under an intermediate IND or
282 protocol if FDA determines that there is enough evidence that the drug is safe at the dose
283 and duration proposed for expanded access use to justify a clinical trial of the drug in the
284 approximate number of patients expected to receive the drug under expanded access, and
285 there is at least preliminary clinical evidence of effectiveness of the drug, or of a plausible
286 pharmacologic effect of the drug to make expanded access use a reasonable therapeutic
287 option in the anticipated patient population (§ 312.315(b)).
288

289 **(1) Intermediate-size patient population expanded access IND:** Expanded access to an
290 investigational drug for use by more than one patient, but generally fewer patients
291 than are treated under a typical treatment IND or protocol, submitted under a new
292 IND. Unless FDA notifies the sponsor that treatment may begin earlier, there is a 30-
293 day period from the date FDA receives the IND before treatment with the drug may
294 begin (§ 312.305(d)(1)). IRB approval must also be obtained before treatment with
295 the drug may begin (§ 56.103(a)).
296

297 **(2) Intermediate-size patient population expanded access protocol:** Expanded access
298 to an investigational drug for use by more than one patient, but generally fewer
299 patients than are treated under a typical treatment IND or protocol, submitted as a
300 protocol to an existing IND by the sponsor of the existing IND. There is no 30-day
301 period before treatment with the drug may begin, but the protocol must be submitted
302 to FDA and have IRB approval before treatment with the drug may begin. See
303 §§ 312.305(d)(2) and 312.30(a).
304

305 For more information about intermediate-size patient population expanded access, see Q22
306 and Q23.
307

Treatment IND or Treatment Protocol

309 Expanded access to an investigational drug can only be provided under a treatment IND or
310 protocol if the drug is being investigated in a controlled clinical trial under an IND designed
311 to support a marketing application for the expanded access use, or all clinical trials of the
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313 drug have been completed, and the sponsor is actively pursuing, with due diligence,
314 marketing approval of the drug for the expanded access use (§ 312.320(a)).

315
316 **(1) Treatment IND:** Expanded access to an investigational drug for treatment use by a
317 large (widespread) population, submitted under a new IND. Unless FDA notifies the
318 sponsor that treatment may begin earlier, there is a 30-day period from the date FDA
319 receives the IND before treatment with the drug may begin (§ 312.305(d)(1)). IRB
320 approval must also be obtained, consistent with 21 CFR part 56, before treatment
321 with the drug may begin.

322
323 **(2) Treatment protocol:** Expanded access to an investigational drug for treatment use
324 by a large (widespread) population, submitted as a protocol to an existing IND by the
325 sponsor of the existing IND. Unlike other expanded access protocols submitted to
326 existing INDs, there is a 30-day period from the date FDA receives the protocol
327 before treatment with the drug may begin unless FDA notifies the sponsor that
328 treatment may begin earlier (§ 312.305(d)(2)(ii)). IRB approval must also be obtained
329 before treatment with the drug may begin (§ 312.30(a)).

330
331 FDA recommends that the expanded access submission identify the relevant subcategory. For
332 clarity, the time frames mentioned previously for when treatment can begin under the different
333 subcategories of expanded access are based on the sponsor having agreed to provide the drug for
334 such use under expanded access. See also Q24, Q25, and Q26.

Q7. What information should be included in an expanded access submission?

335
336
337
338 An expanded access submission must include all information required by § 312.305(b) and any
339 additional information required for the particular category of expanded access (described in
340 § 312.310(b) for individual patient submissions, in § 312.315(c) for intermediate-size patient
341 population submissions, and in § 312.320(b) for treatment submissions), either within the
342 submission itself or by reference to an existing IND.

343
344 In cases where the sponsor of an existing IND for the drug is not seeking to be the sponsor of the
345 expanded access use, the sponsor of that existing IND may give the sponsor of the expanded
346 access IND permission to reference content in the existing IND to satisfy certain requirements
347 for an expanded access IND submission. If permission is obtained, the expanded access IND
348 sponsor should then provide to FDA a letter of authorization (LOA) from the existing IND
349 sponsor (e.g., pharmaceutical company or drug manufacturer) that permits FDA to reference that
350 IND.

351
352 FDA expects that reference to an existing IND will typically be used by an expanded access IND
353 sponsor to satisfy the requirements to submit the information described in § 312.305(b)(2)(v)
354 (description of the manufacturing facility); in § 312.305(b)(2)(vi) (chemistry, manufacturing, and
355 controls information); and in § 312.305(b)(2)(vii) (pharmacology and toxicology information).

356
357 IND submissions that reference an existing IND generally will include the information described
358 in §§ 312.305(b)(2)(ii), (iii), (iv), and (viii) and 312.305(b)(3) in the expanded access IND

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359 submission. As noted, the expanded access submission must also include the additional
360 information, consistent with 21 CFR part 312, subpart I, that may be required for the specific
361 category of expanded access.

362
363 See Q8 for information on the forms that are available to use for expanded access submissions.
364

Q8. What forms are used for expanded access submissions?

365
366
367 The licensed physician¹⁹ acting as a sponsor-investigator may submit an individual patient IND
368 using Form FDA 3926 (Individual Patient Expanded Access—Investigational New Drug
369 Application (IND)), which when completed (including attachments, if appropriate), constitutes
370 the individual patient IND submission.

371
372 Individual patient INDs, including for emergency use, may also be submitted by a licensed
373 physician acting as a sponsor-investigator using Form FDA 1571 (Investigational New Drug
374 Application (IND)), which is a transmittal form that accompanies the IND and provides
375 information to identify the type of submission and its contents.

376
377 For individual patient protocols submitted to an existing IND, to intermediate-size patient
378 population INDs and protocols, and to treatment INDs and protocols, Form FDA 1571 should
379 accompany the submission. The most current version of all FDA forms can be downloaded from
380 the FDA website at <https://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/ReportsManualsForms/Forms/default.htm>.

381
382 The following table illustrates which form may be used for each type of submission:
383
384

¹⁹ A licensed physician who submits FDA Form 3926 to request emergency expanded access for a patient is considered to be acting as a sponsor-investigator. Licensed physician and physician are used interchangeably in this guidance.

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	Form FDA 3926	Form FDA 1571
Individual patient IND submitted by a licensed physician [#]	✓	✓
*Individual patient IND for emergency use submitted by a licensed physician [#]	✓	✓
Individual patient protocol		✓
Individual patient protocol for emergency use		✓
Intermediate-size patient population IND		✓
Intermediate-size patient population protocol		✓
Treatment IND		✓
Treatment protocol		✓

[#] In these cases, the licensed physicians may use either one of these forms to submit the IND to FDA

* When using Form FDA 3926 for individual INDs for emergency use, the box in Field 10.b (Request for authorization to use alternative IRB review procedures) should not be selected.

385
386
387
388
389
390

Q9. Is IRB review and approval required for all expanded access categories?

391 Except for emergency expanded access use when there is not sufficient time to secure
392 prospective IRB review (see Q6), an investigator treating a patient with an investigational drug
393 under expanded access is responsible for obtaining IRB review²⁰ and approval consistent with 21
394 CFR part 56 before treatment with the investigational drug may begin, regardless of whether the
395 protocol is submitted in a new IND or to an existing IND (§ 312.305(c)(4)). Part 56 requires,
396 among other things, that the IRB review the expanded access use at a convened IRB meeting at
397 which a majority of the members are present (full IRB review) (§ 56.108(c)).

398
399 **Non-emergency individual patient expanded access IND:** Upon request, FDA intends to
400 allow for waivers of the requirement for review and approval at a convened IRB meeting for
401 individual patient expanded access INDs where the IRB chairperson or another designated IRB
402 member provides concurrence before treatment use begins. In this case, the review of individual
403 patient expanded access use by an IRB chairperson (or designated IRB member) would follow a

²⁰ An institutional review board (IRB) means any board, committee, or other group formally designated by an institution to review, to approve the initiation of, and to conduct periodic review of biomedical research involving human subjects. The primary purpose of IRB review is to ensure that the rights and welfare of human subjects are protected, including by determining that informed consent is obtained in accordance with and to the extent required by Federal requirements. Institutions may have their own IRB to oversee human subjects research conducted within the institution or by the staff of the institution. If the patient's physician does not have access to a local IRB, an independent IRB may be used. The Department of Health and Human Services' Office for Human Research Protections maintains a database of registered IRBs. Go to <https://ohrp.cit.nih.gov/search/irbsearch.aspx?styp=bsc> and click on "Advanced Search." Enter your state to find registered IRBs in your area. For more information, see <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/public-health-focus/expanded-access>.

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404 different review pathway that is neither full board nor expedited, but rather one in which the IRB
405 chair or designee reviews the relevant documents (as determined by the IRB), and then the
406 decision to concur or not (and/or any questions and responses) is documented by the IRB chair or
407 designee. FDA concludes that such a waiver is appropriate for individual patient expanded
408 access INDs for the initial submission, any amendments (e.g., for change in the use or duration
409 of treatment) to the IND, and, if applicable, continuing review. FDA intends to consider a
410 completed Form FDA 3926 with the box in Field 10.b selected and the form signed by the
411 physician to be a request for a waiver under § 56.105 of the requirements in § 56.108(c), which
412 relates to full IRB review. When a waiver is requested in this manner, the physician does not
413 receive notice from FDA indicating that the waiver is granted. Alternatively, the physician may
414 request a waiver separately in an amendment to the IND. When the request for waiver is
415 accomplished by submission of a separate waiver request, FDA issues a response to the waiver
416 request.

417
418 If a physician submits an individual patient expanded access IND using Form FDA 1571 and
419 wishes to request a waiver from full IRB review, a separate waiver request under § 56.105 of the
420 requirements in § 56.108(c) should be submitted with the application. FDA issues a response to
421 the waiver request in this situation.

422
423 If the initial protocol under an individual patient expanded access IND was reviewed and
424 approved by the full IRB but the physician would like any amendments or the continuing review
425 to be conducted by the IRB chairperson or the chairperson's designee instead, the physician may
426 amend the IND with a correspondence that clearly indicates the intent of the amendment (to
427 change the approach for continuing IRB review of the expanded access protocol) and that
428 includes a request for waiver under § 56.105 of the requirements in § 56.108(c). As described
429 previously, FDA intends to consider a completed Form FDA 3926 with the box in Field 10.b
430 selected and the form signed by the physician to be a request for such a waiver. Alternatively,
431 the physician may amend the IND with a separate request for waiver of continuing IRB review
432 by the full IRB if Form 3926 is not used or if Field 10.b was not checked.

433
434 **Emergency individual patient expanded access IND:** FDA authorization is required before
435 initiation of treatment (§ 312.310(d)). However, emergency expanded access use is exempted
436 from obtaining full IRB approval before initiation of treatment (§ 56.104(c)) provided that the
437 IRB is notified of the emergency expanded access use within 5 working days of emergency use.
438 Following receipt of notification of such emergency use, the IRB should follow its documented
439 standard operating procedure for review of emergency expanded access use. A physician may
440 choose to use Form FDA 3926 for submitting the emergency expanded access application. In
441 such emergency expanded access cases, the box in Field 10.b on Form FDA 3926 should be left
442 *unchecked* because Field 10.b is intended for requesting a waiver to obtain concurrence by the
443 IRB chairperson or by a designated IRB member, in lieu of full IRB review, *before the treatment*
444 *use* begins for non-emergency individual patient expanded access.

445
446 **Intermediate IND/Protocol and Treatment IND/Protocol:** The Agency believes a waiver is
447 not appropriate for intermediate and treatment INDs and protocols. FDA Form 1571 requires a
448 commitment that an IRB will be responsible for the initial and continuing review of the studies
449 under an IND. See § 312.23(a)(1)(iv).

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450

451 **Q10. Is a physician participating in an expanded access protocol sponsored by another**
452 **entity (e.g., manufacturer of the drug) required to obtain local IRB review and**
453 **approval?**

454

455 If the sponsor of the expanded access protocol (e.g., manufacturer of the drug) has obtained IRB
456 review and approval of the protocol, the physician may not be required to obtain local IRB
457 review and approval. A physician associated with an institution should verify that the sponsor
458 has obtained IRB approval of the protocol, and the physician should consult their institution on
459 their policy in these situations. Some institutions may require that their physicians obtain
460 approval from the institution’s IRB as well.

461

462 **Q11. Can the same drug be used in an emergency situation at the same institution more**
463 **than once? If so, is prospective IRB review required for the subsequent expanded**
464 **access emergency use?**

465

466 There can be more than one expanded access emergency use of the same drug at the same
467 institution. For expanded access use authorized under the emergency procedures, the emergency
468 use must be reported to the responsible IRB within 5 working days of initiation of treatment
469 (§ 56.104(c)). Generally, once an investigational drug is used in an emergency situation without
470 prior IRB approval, any subsequent uses of the investigational drug at that same institution
471 would require prior IRB review and approval (§ 56.104(c)). An institution or physician that
472 expects subsequent use of the investigational drug should request review and approval by the
473 appropriate IRB after the initial emergency use. However, when prior IRB review and approval
474 is not feasible for a subsequent expanded access emergency use at a particular institution, FDA
475 does not intend to deny²¹ the subsequent request for emergency use based on lack of time to
476 obtain prospective IRB review, provided that use will be reported to the IRB within 5 working
477 days of initiation of treatment (§ 56.104(c)).

478

479 **Q12. Are expanded access submissions subject to the informed consent requirements?**

480

481 Yes. FDA’s informed consent requirements apply to clinical investigations as described in 21
482 CFR 50.1(a). The term clinical investigation is defined in 21 CFR 50.3(c) to include “any
483 experiment that involves a test article and one or more human subjects and that is subject to
484 requirements for prior submission to the Food and Drug Administration under section 505(i) or
485 520(g) of the act” FDA considers expanded access use of an investigational drug to meet
486 the definition of clinical investigation in 21 CFR 50.3(c) since an IND or protocol to an existing
487 IND must be submitted to provide investigational drugs under expanded access (§ 312.305(b)).
488 Therefore, expanded access to an investigational drug for treatment use, including emergency
489 use, requires informed consent as described in 21 CFR part 50, unless one of the exceptions
490 found in part 50 applies.²² Investigators treating a patient or patients with an investigational

²¹ In this guidance, reference to a request being denied means that such a request is put on clinical hold (§ 312.42(b)(3)).

²² See 21 CFR part 50.

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491 drug under expanded access are responsible for ensuring that the informed consent requirements
492 of part 50 are met (§ 312.305(c)(4)). One of the purposes of informed consent is to ensure that
493 patients are informed that they will be treated with an investigational product and that there may
494 be uncertainty about the safety and effectiveness of the product.
495

496 **Q13. What information should be included in the informed consent document for**
497 **obtaining a patient’s consent for treatment under individual patient expanded**
498 **access?**
499

500 The consent form must contain information set out in §§ 50.20 and 50.25 to allow the patient to
501 make an informed decision about receiving experimental treatment. For further information, see
502 FDA’s draft information sheet guidance for IRBs, clinical investigators, and sponsors *Informed*
503 *Consent — Information Sheet* (July 2014).²³ FDA is sharing a template (see the appendix) that
504 investigators may find helpful for obtaining informed consent from patients for individual patient
505 expanded access. Physicians and institutions may use this template to model their forms for
506 obtaining consent from patients under expanded access.
507

508 **Q14. Under the informed consent regulations, informed consent documents must include**
509 **“[a] statement that the study involves research.” Is that appropriate for informed**
510 **consent documents used for expanded access?**
511

512 It is acceptable for informed consent documents used for expanded access to contain a statement
513 that treatment under expanded access “involves research.” As an alternative and given that the
514 drug used under expanded access is investigational, FDA considers a statement in the informed
515 consent document indicating that although the primary use of the drug is for treatment, the drug
516 is investigational and FDA has not determined that the drug is safe or effective for use in treating
517 the disease or condition, to also satisfy the requirement under § 50.25(a)(1) that the informed
518 consent provide a statement that the use of the product “involves research.”
519

C. Individual (or Single) Patient Expanded Access

520
521
522 **Q15. Who can make a submission for individual patient expanded access?**
523

524 The sponsor of an existing IND under which a drug is being developed (e.g., a pharmaceutical
525 company or manufacturer of the investigational drug) or a licensed physician may make an
526 individual patient expanded access submission (§ 312.310(b)(1)).
527

528 The sponsor of an existing IND can submit an individual patient expanded access protocol to its
529 existing IND. In this scenario, the sponsor of the existing IND is also the sponsor of the
530 expanded access protocol, and the patient’s physician is the investigator for the expanded access

²³ When final, this guidance will represent FDA’s current thinking on this topic.

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531 protocol.²⁴ The term investigator is used because the drug is investigational, but the term does
532 not denote the licensed physician's or patient's involvement in a clinical trial.

533
534 Although a sponsor of an existing IND could submit a new individual patient expanded access
535 IND and cross reference the information in its existing IND, it is preferable for sponsors to
536 submit an individual patient expanded access protocol to an existing IND. Having all clinical
537 trials and expanded access for a drug under a single IND eases the administrative burden and
538 facilitates the review process, making it less burdensome for sponsors and FDA. In this scenario,
539 the sponsor of the existing IND is also the sponsor of the expanded access IND, and the patient's
540 physician is the investigator for the expanded access IND.

541
542 An individual patient's physician can submit an individual patient expanded access IND for their
543 patient. In this scenario, when the patient's physician submits an expanded access IND, the
544 physician is both the sponsor and the investigator—in other words, the physician is considered a
545 sponsor-investigator²⁵ for the purposes of part 312. The physician may satisfy some of the
546 expanded access submission requirements by referring to information in an existing IND if the
547 physician obtains permission from the sponsor of the existing IND (see Q7). If the physician
548 obtains this permission from the sponsor of the existing IND, the physician should provide to
549 FDA the letter of authorization from the sponsor of the IND that permits FDA to reference the
550 sponsor's IND.

551
552 In cases where it is not possible to obtain a letter of authorization (e.g., the entity supplying the
553 drug does not have an IND filed with FDA), the physician should contact the relevant FDA
554 review division to determine what information is needed per § 312.305 to support the expanded
555 access submission. The physician should also contact the FDA review division if the individual
556 patient expanded access IND is for an approved drug where availability is limited by a REMS.
557 The physician should then submit an individual patient expanded access IND to the appropriate
558 FDA review division and may choose to use Form FDA 3926.²⁶ Contact information for review
559 divisions may be found on FDA's website at [https://www.fda.gov/news-events/expanded-
560 access/fdas-expanded-access-contact-information](https://www.fda.gov/news-events/expanded-access/fdas-expanded-access-contact-information).

561
562 If the sponsor of the existing IND (e.g., the pharmaceutical company or drug manufacturer) does
563 not authorize reference to the IND, the physician sponsoring the expanded access IND must
564 include in the IND all the information (e.g., relevant preclinical and chemistry, manufacturing,
565 and controls information) required to support the expanded access IND (§§ 312.305 and
566 312.310).

²⁴ For the purposes of this guidance, it is assumed that the patient's physician is the same person as the investigator. The pharmaceutical company or drug manufacturer may designate the investigator role to a physician who may not be the physician of the patient. In this scenario it is the responsibility of the sponsor-appointed investigator to collect all necessary information from the patient's physician to make decisions about treatment and to fulfill the responsibilities of an investigator.

²⁵ See § 312.305(c)(3).

²⁶ Form FDA 3926 and accompanying instructions are available on FDA's website at <https://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/ReportsManualsForms/Forms/default.htm>.

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567
568 A patient's physician may not submit an individual patient expanded access protocol to an
569 existing IND for which the physician is not the sponsor.

570
571 Regardless of who sponsors an individual patient expanded access protocol or expanded access
572 IND, the patient can obtain expanded access to the investigational drug only through treatment
573 by a licensed physician (§ 312.310).

574
575 **Q16. What are the roles of the patient's physician and FDA in determining if expanded**
576 **access for an individual patient is appropriate?**

577
578 FDA may permit expanded access to a drug for an individual patient when the criteria in
579 § 312.305(a) (applicable to all types of expanded access) and the criteria in § 312.310(a)
580 (specific to individual patient expanded access) are met. For these criteria to be met, both the
581 patient's physician and FDA must make certain determinations.

582
583 The patient's physician must determine that the probable risk to the patient from the
584 investigational drug is not greater than the probable risk from the disease or condition
585 (§ 312.310(a)(1)). The physician should make this determination based on the information about
586 the drug available to the physician and the physician's knowledge of the patient's clinical
587 situation. FDA acknowledges that there is often limited information available to physicians
588 about the risks and benefits of an investigational drug and no practical way to provide the
589 physician the information at FDA's disposal (information is typically proprietary and generally
590 can only be disclosed to a member of the public on consent of the pharmaceutical company or
591 drug manufacturer).

592
593 Therefore, as with all types of expanded access, FDA must determine, based on the information
594 available to FDA, that the potential benefit justifies the potential risks of the treatment use with
595 the drug and that those risks are not unreasonable in the context of the disease or condition to be
596 treated (§ 312.305(a)(2)). FDA has access to considerably more information about the
597 investigational drug than does the patient's physician and evaluates the potential benefits and
598 risks of therapy considering the information provided by the physician. Therefore, FDA may
599 reach a different conclusion than the physician, based on the information available to the Agency
600 about the investigational drug. As noted previously, in most cases, FDA will not be able to share
601 the information about the investigational drug on which its conclusion is based.

602
603 To authorize the expanded access use, FDA must also determine (1) that the patient has a serious
604 or life-threatening disease or condition and has no other comparable or satisfactory therapeutic
605 options (§ 312.305(a)(1)); (2) that providing expanded access will not interfere with
606 development of the drug for the expanded access use (§ 312.305(a)(3); see Q28)); and (3) that
607 the patient cannot obtain the drug under another IND or protocol (e.g., in a clinical study of the
608 drug) (§ 312.310(a)(2)).

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610 **Q17. What are some of the reasons for FDA to deny a request for individual patient**
611 **expanded access when previous requests for the same drug for the same or a similar**
612 **use have been permitted?**
613

614 Each request for individual patient expanded access to a drug should be treated as a unique
615 clinical situation, and the risks and benefits should be evaluated based on that clinical situation.
616 Even when there are two (or more) individual patient expanded access requests for patients with
617 the same disease or condition, there may be significant differences in the clinical presentation of
618 the disease or condition that make the risks acceptable for one patient, but not for another. For
619 example, a patient may have a different stage of the disease or different tumor type than previous
620 patients who were permitted expanded access to the drug and, therefore, may have a different
621 benefit-risk assessment. Similarly, a patient may have a comorbid condition not present in
622 previous patients who obtained expanded access that would make the risk unacceptable. FDA
623 may also become aware of new safety signals or information about effectiveness that changes the
624 benefit-risk assessment such that the risk is no longer acceptable for the patient. In cases such as
625 these, individual patient expanded access for additional patients might be denied.
626

627 There also may be other reasons for denying expanded access. For example, a patient seeking
628 expanded access may be able to enroll in a clinical trial that was not accessible to a previous
629 patient who was granted expanded access (e.g., because the previous patient did not meet the
630 inclusion criteria for the trial, or the trial was geographically inaccessible to the previous patient).
631

632 FDA could also have become aware since authorizing previous requests for expanded access that
633 expanded access is impeding the clinical development of the drug and, on that basis, place further
634 requests for expanded access on clinical hold (§ 312.42(b)(3)).
635

636 **Q18. How does FDA address individual patient expanded access applications for**
637 **treatment with multiple courses of therapy or treatment of a chronic condition?**
638

639 Under § 312.310(c)(1), individual patient expanded access is generally limited to a single course
640 of therapy for a specified duration. However, as reflected in § 312.310(c)(1), FDA may
641 authorize multiple courses of therapy or chronic therapy for individual patient expanded access,
642 including authorizing individual patient expanded access to treat a chronic disease or condition
643 that requires extended treatment. FDA generally authorizes such individual patient expanded
644 access when the circumstances of the treatment are well defined and reasonable considering the
645 available evidence to support use of the drug. The patient's physician (as the investigator)
646 proposes the full course of treatment when filing the request for expanded access. To fairly
647 weigh the risks and benefits of a drug for use for individual patient expanded access, FDA
648 believes the planned course of therapy should be well defined because it will usually be
649 necessary to consider the planned dose and duration of therapy in relation to what is known
650 about the occurrence of toxicity for that dose and duration of therapy.
651

652 FDA does not usually authorize expanded access for an unspecified duration at the discretion of
653 the patient's physician. FDA typically authorizes expanded access for an extended duration for
654 the treatment of a chronic condition when the patient's condition and the information available
655 about the safety of the drug supports an extended duration of treatment. For example, FDA may

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656 authorize expanded access of extended duration for a drug being developed to treat multiple
657 sclerosis or other types of progressively debilitating neuromuscular disease if it is critical that the
658 drug be administered chronically to slow the progression of the disease and if the information
659 available about the safety of the drug supports an extended duration of treatment. If expanded
660 access use is authorized for an extended duration, FDA may require the sponsor to continue to
661 monitor the individual patient expanded access use through the extended duration (see
662 § 312.310(c)(3)).

663
664 **Q19. When should individual patient expanded access using the emergency procedures in**
665 **§ 312.310(d) be requested?**

666
667 Section 312.310(d) states that FDA may authorize expanded access for an individual patient
668 without a written submission if there is “an emergency that requires the patient to be treated
669 before a written submission can be made.” The licensed physician or sponsor, however, must
670 agree to submit an expanded access IND or protocol within 15 working days of FDA’s
671 authorization of the use (§ 312.310(d)(2)). Under this regulation FDA considers it appropriate to
672 request individual patient expanded access using the emergency procedures described in
673 § 312.310(d) when treatment of the patient must occur within a very limited number of hours or
674 must occur before the next business day after regular business hours. FDA intends to authorize
675 expanded access using the emergency procedures only when the situation is a true emergency. If
676 FDA determines that the situation is not a true emergency but qualifies for expanded access, FDA
677 will accept it as a non-emergency individual patient IND once the application is officially
678 submitted. In such case, the sponsor can treat the patient when the IND goes into effect 30 days
679 after FDA receives the IND (unless the IND is put on clinical hold, i.e., is not allowed to
680 proceed) or on earlier notification by FDA (§§ 312.40 and 312.305(d)(1)).

681
682 **Q20. Can a pharmaceutical company or the drug manufacturer that is developing the**
683 **drug for marketing request individual emergency expanded access to its**
684 **investigational drug to treat multiple patients?**

685
686 Yes. A separate emergency use IND or protocol would need to be submitted for each patient to
687 be treated. The pharmaceutical company or drug manufacturer can submit multiple such
688 emergency use INDs or protocols to its existing IND. An amendment to a single patient IND to
689 treat additional patients is not acceptable. However, if multiple emergency expanded access
690 requests for similarly situated patients are anticipated, FDA may request that a sponsor submit an
691 intermediate-size patient population expanded access IND or protocol, as appropriate.

692
693 **D. Intermediate-Size Patient Population and Treatment INDs and Protocols**

694
695 **Q21. Can there be more than one intermediate-size patient population expanded access**
696 **IND or protocol for a particular drug for the same disease or condition?**

697
698 When multiple patients with the same disease or condition seek expanded access to a particular
699 drug and the relevant criteria for expanded access are met, FDA believes that it is generally most
700 efficient to consolidate expanded access in a single intermediate-size patient population IND or
701 protocol. If the drug is being developed, FDA believes it is most efficient if the pharmaceutical

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702 company or the drug manufacturer that is developing the drug for marketing is the sponsor of a
703 single intermediate-size patient population expanded access protocol. However, the regulations
704 do not preclude the possibility of authorizing more than one intermediate-size patient population
705 expanded access IND or protocol, with different sponsors or sponsor-investigators, for a drug for
706 the same disease or condition. Thus, there may be situations in which there are multiple
707 intermediate-size patient population expanded access INDs or protocols for a drug for the
708 treatment of the same disease or condition. FDA expects these situations to arise infrequently.

709

710 **Q22. When is it appropriate to request expanded access for multiple patients using an**
711 **intermediate-size patient population expanded access IND or protocol rather than a**
712 **treatment IND or protocol?**

713

714 FDA regulations do not impose specific numerical limitations for when an intermediate-size
715 patient population expanded access IND or protocol (as opposed to a treatment IND or protocol)
716 may be appropriate. This determination generally depends on the following two factors:

717

718 1. *Whether the drug is under development for marketing for the expanded access use*

719

720 If the drug is not being developed for marketing and the expanded access IND or protocol
721 is intended to treat more than a single patient, expanded access would be provided under
722 an intermediate-size patient population expanded access IND or protocol rather than a
723 treatment IND or protocol. Expanded access to an investigational drug can only be
724 provided under a treatment IND or protocol if the drug is being developed for marketing
725 for the expanded access use. When the investigational drug is being developed,
726 intermediate-size patient population expanded access is used earlier in development than
727 treatment INDs or protocols. Also, if FDA determines clinical development of the drug
728 is essentially complete (i.e., the clinical trials to support marketing approval of the
729 investigational drug have ended) and the intent of the expanded access is to bridge the
730 gap between completion of the clinical trials and marketing of the drug (to ensure that
731 treatment is not interrupted and to expand treatment to additional patients), the expanded
732 access, regardless of the number of patients expected to be treated, would generally be
733 designated as a treatment IND or protocol.

734

735 2. *Size of the patient population*

736

737 The second factor important to a determination of whether expanded access is provided
738 under an intermediate-size patient population expanded access IND or protocol (as
739 opposed to a treatment IND or protocol) is the size of the patient population. In general,
740 intermediate-size patient population expanded access is intended to accommodate
741 population sizes smaller than the large populations typical of treatment INDs or
742 protocols. However, as noted in the preceding paragraph, if FDA determines clinical
743 development is complete and the intent of the expanded access IND or protocol is to
744 bridge the gap between the completion of clinical trials and marketing, expanded access
745 would generally be provided under a treatment IND or protocol, regardless of the
746 intended size of the patient population. Similarly, if the drug is not being developed for
747 marketing for the expanded access use, expanded access would generally be provided

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748 under an intermediate-size patient population IND or protocol, regardless of the size of
749 the patient population (as long as it is intended to treat more than a single patient).
750

751 Separate single patient INDs may be combined into a single intermediate-size patient
752 population protocol when feasible and practical, at the request of the sponsor or the FDA.
753 Adding patients to an intermediate-size patient population protocol can reduce paperwork
754 and simplify IRB review. In such cases, any number beyond one patient might be
755 reasonable. FDA may be consulted on how to consolidate single patient expanded access
756 under an intermediate-size patient population expanded access protocol. When a growing
757 number of eligible patients might benefit from treatment access under an intermediate-
758 size patient population protocol, a treatment IND may be appropriate. (See Q23.)
759

760 **Q23. The regulations in § 312.315(d)(1)(iii) state that as enrollment in an intermediate-
761 size patient population expanded access IND or protocol increases, FDA may ask
762 the sponsor to submit an IND or protocol for the use under § 312.320 (i.e., to
763 transition the intermediate-size patient population expanded access IND or protocol
764 to a treatment expanded access IND or protocol). When and how would FDA make
765 such a determination and how would such a transition be carried out?**
766

767 FDA anticipates that there would ordinarily be a seamless transition from intermediate-size
768 patient population expanded access to expanded access under a treatment IND or protocol at the
769 point when the evidence is sufficient to support the treatment IND or protocol, when there is
770 adequate progress with drug development, and when the sponsor is willing to make the drug
771 available to a potentially larger patient population under a treatment IND or protocol. Although
772 there will be a 30-day period for initiation of the new treatment IND or protocol, as required by
773 the regulations, the review division can act sooner, and FDA may notify the sponsor that
774 treatment may begin earlier (§§ 312.40 and 312.305(d)).
775

776 For such a transition, all patients currently receiving treatment with the investigational drug
777 would continue treatment under the intermediate-size patient population expanded access IND or
778 protocol, as appropriate, until they transition to the treatment IND or protocol (to ensure that
779 treatment is not interrupted). Once all patients in the intermediate-size patient population
780 expanded access IND or protocol are receiving their treatment under the new treatment IND or
781 protocol, the sponsor should request that the intermediate-size patient population expanded
782 access IND or protocol be withdrawn.
783

E. Time Frame for Beginning Treatment Use Under an Expanded Access IND 784 or Protocol 785 786

787 For clarity, the time frames mentioned here for when treatment use can begin under the different
788 subcategories of expanded access are based on the sponsor having agreed to provide the drug for
789 such use under expanded access.
790

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791 **Q24. When can treatment begin under emergency use expanded access INDs or**
792 **protocols?**

793
794 For an emergency use, treatment may begin immediately upon authorization (usually provided
795 by telephone or other rapid means of communication) by the FDA reviewing official
796 (§§ 312.310(d) and 312.305(d)(2)(i)), with a requirement for a written submission
797 (IND/protocol) to FDA within 15 working days of the initial authorization (§ 312.310(d)(2)). As
798 explained in Q6 and Q9, FDA anticipates that for expanded access uses authorized under the
799 emergency procedures, there typically will not be time to obtain prior IRB approval of the use.
800 In such cases, the emergency use must be reported to the IRB within 5 working days of initiation
801 of treatment (§ 56.104(c)).
802

803 **Q25. When can treatment begin under expanded access INDs not for emergency use?**
804

805 When an expanded access IND (not for emergency use) is submitted, the treatment use of the
806 drug may begin when the IND goes into effect and IRB approval has been obtained consistent
807 with 21 CFR part 56 (see § 312.305(c)(4)). As is true for any new IND, an expanded access IND
808 goes into effect 30 days after FDA receives the IND (unless the IND is put on clinical hold, i.e.,
809 is not allowed to proceed) or on earlier notification by FDA (§§ 312.40 and 312.305(d)(1)).
810

811 **Q26. When can treatment begin under expanded access protocols not for emergency use?**
812

813 For an individual patient or intermediate-size patient population expanded access protocol,
814 expanded access to the drug can begin once the expanded access protocol has been submitted to
815 FDA and has been approved by an IRB (§ 312.305(d)(2)). For a treatment protocol, however,
816 expanded access may not begin until 30 days after FDA receives the protocol (or on earlier
817 notification by FDA (§ 312.305(d)(2)(ii)) and IRB approval has been obtained consistent with 21
818 CFR part 56 (see § 312.305(c)(4)).
819

820 **F. General Questions**
821

822 **Q27. Can FDA require a sponsor to provide expanded access to its drug if FDA**
823 **authorizes the expanded access?**
824

825 No. FDA cannot compel a sponsor to provide expanded access to its drug. A sponsor provides
826 expanded access to its drug voluntarily.
827

828 **Q28. How does FDA determine that authorizing expanded access to a drug will not**
829 **interfere with clinical trials or drug development?**
830

831 Under § 312.305(a)(3), to authorize any category of expanded access, FDA must determine that
832 expanded access to the drug for the requested use will not interfere with the initiation, conduct,
833 or completion of clinical investigations that could support marketing approval of the expanded
834 access use or otherwise compromise the potential development of the drug for the expanded
835 access use. Generally, to receive the drug under an expanded access IND or protocol, patients

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836 should be ineligible or otherwise unable (e.g., geographically unable to access a study site) to
837 enter ongoing clinical trials.

838
839 FDA believes that expanded access INDs or protocols that treat larger patient populations
840 generally have high potential to interfere with clinical investigations or drug development
841 because of their greater potential to interfere with recruiting patients for the clinical investigation
842 or investigations. For FDA to determine whether an expanded access use will interfere with
843 clinical investigations or drug development, FDA may ask the sponsor to provide additional
844 information if FDA cannot make a determination based on the information the sponsor
845 previously provided. For example, before authorizing a treatment IND for a drug for which
846 clinical trials are ongoing, FDA may ask the sponsor to explain (1) how the sponsor will ensure
847 that the treatment IND will not interfere with accrual of patients in the clinical trials and (2) how
848 the sponsor will determine whether interference with clinical development is occurring, if such
849 information is not provided in the expanded access submission. More specifically, FDA may ask
850 the sponsor to submit to its IND a comprehensive investigational plan with a timetable and
851 milestones (if it has not done so already) so that FDA can periodically assess whether the
852 treatment IND is affecting accrual of patients in the clinical trials or other parameters related to
853 the pace of drug development. If FDA then determines that the ongoing treatment IND is
854 interfering with clinical trials or drug development or that the sponsor is not pursuing, with due
855 diligence, marketing approval for the expanded access use, FDA could place the treatment IND
856 on clinical hold (§ 312.42(b)(3)(ii)).

857
858 The potential for expanded access to interfere with clinical trials/drug development is also high
859 for rare disease drug development programs, where the number of subjects available for
860 participation in a clinical trial are limited. This potential is highest early in development and
861 decreases as development progresses. In general, for rare disease drug development, well-
862 controlled clinical trials should be initiated before patients are treated with the drug under
863 expanded access, and expanded access should be sought only for those patients who are truly not
864 eligible for or are unable to participate in those well-controlled trials. Sponsors developing drugs
865 for the treatment of a rare disease should consider study designs that help to minimize barriers to
866 trial participation such as broad inclusion criteria, virtual or at-home visits, or utilizing health
867 facilities that may be closer in proximity to potential subjects. Once the trials required by FDA to
868 support a marketing application have been completed, there is little risk for interference with
869 drug development, and broader expanded access may be considered.

870
871 **Q29. What data and information must sponsors submit as follow-up for active expanded**
872 **access INDs or protocols?**

873
874 As with any IND, in all cases of expanded access, sponsors are responsible for complying with
875 expedited IND safety reporting requirements under § 312.32 and for submitting annual reports
876 (when the IND or protocol continues for 1 year or longer) under § 312.33 (see § 312.305(c)). To
877 comply with expedited IND safety reporting requirements under § 312.32(c)(1)(i), the sponsor
878 must report a serious adverse event that occurs during treatment as a suspected adverse reaction
879 only if there is evidence to suggest a causal relationship between the drug and the adverse event.
880 Data and information on expanded access protocols submitted to an existing IND may be
881 provided in the annual report for the IND. At the conclusion of treatment for individual patient

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882 expanded access, the regulations in § 312.310(c)(2) specify that the sponsor must provide to
883 FDA a written summary of the results of the expanded access use, including adverse effects.
884 FDA considers adverse effects to have the same meaning as adverse events as defined in
885 § 312.32(a).²⁷
886

Q30. Why does FDA review adverse event data for expanded access INDs?

887
888
889 From a public health perspective, early identification of important adverse events is beneficial.
890 For example, a relatively rare adverse event might be detected during expanded access use, or
891 such use might contribute safety information for a population not exposed to the drug in clinical
892 trials. FDA is aware of a small number of cases in which clinical safety data from expanded
893 access treatment were used to help assess the risks and benefits of the drug. In a very small
894 number of cases, adverse event information from expanded access has contributed to safety
895 information reflected in the FDA-approved labeling for a drug product. FDA is not aware of
896 instances in which adverse event information from expanded access has prevented FDA from
897 approving a drug. FDA reviewers of these adverse event data understand the context in which
898 the expanded access use was permitted and will evaluate any adverse event data obtained from
899 an expanded access submission within that context. For example, FDA reviewers recognize that:
900

- 901 (1) expanded access treatment generally occurs outside a controlled clinical trial setting
- 902
- 903 (2) patients who receive a drug through expanded access may have a more advanced stage of
904 the disease or condition than patients participating in a clinical trial
- 905
- 906 (3) patients who receive a drug through expanded access may be receiving other therapies for
907 their disease or condition at the same time as the drug they are receiving through
908 expanded access
- 909
- 910 (4) patients who receive a drug through expanded access may have one or more
911 comorbidities
- 912

913 All of these factors make it difficult to attribute a particular adverse event to the expanded access
914 treatment. Moreover, it is very rare for FDA to place an IND on clinical hold due to adverse
915 events observed in expanded access treatment.
916

Q31. Can FDA consider an IND or protocol submission to be an expanded access submission and identify and review it as such, even though the applicant does not identify it as an expanded access submission?

917
918
919
920
921 Yes. For example, FDA intends to evaluate whether proposals for studies described as open-
922 label safety studies should be considered treatment INDs or protocols. The goal of an open-label
923 safety study is to better characterize the safety of a drug late in its development.
924

²⁷ Adverse event means any untoward medical occurrence associated with the use of a drug in humans, whether or not considered drug related.

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925 However, in practice, many studies that are described as open-label safety studies have
926 characteristics that appear to be more consistent with treatment INDs or protocols. If an IND or
927 protocol describes an open-label study that provides for broad expanded access to an
928 investigational drug in the later stages of development, but lacks planned, systematic data
929 collection and a design adequate to meaningfully evaluate a safety issue, FDA will generally
930 consider the submission to be a treatment IND or protocol. In the event that a protocol is not
931 submitted as an expanded access protocol but is designated as such by FDA, the review division
932 will notify the sponsor of the designation.

933

934 **Q32. What is the difference between an expanded access protocol and a continuation or**
935 **open-label safety protocol?**

936

937 A continuation protocol (also referred to as an extension trial) describes a trial in which patients
938 are allowed to remain on an investigational drug or to cross over to an investigational drug from
939 placebo or active control following conclusion of the randomized phase of a trial. An open-label
940 safety study is an unblinded study in which safety data are collected. The primary purpose of
941 both continuation and open-label safety protocols, in contrast to expanded access protocols, is to
942 obtain safety data on the investigational drug. The conduct of continuation and open-label safety
943 protocols differs from that of expanded access protocols in that (1) participation in open-label
944 safety and continuation protocols is usually limited to specific, named institutions/centers; (2)
945 participating investigators in continuation or open-label safety protocols are already identified
946 and trained to collect appropriate safety data; and (3) in the case of a continuation trial,
947 participants are typically limited to those in the original randomized, controlled trial.

948

949 A protocol for which the primary intent is treatment of patients and for which enrollment is
950 limited to patients who participated in the clinical trials to support approval of the investigational
951 drug is considered a continuation protocol and not an expanded access protocol, even though the
952 primary intent is treatment. For such protocols, access to the investigational drug is not
953 *expanded* beyond those patients who participated in the clinical trials. The design and
954 requirements for a continuation protocol for which the primary purpose is treatment of patients—
955 and not collection of additional safety or other data—will generally be much simpler with fewer
956 requirements than those for a continuation protocol for which the primary purpose is collection
957 of additional safety or other data.

958

959 **Q33. If a sponsor continues to provide its investigational drug for treatment use under its**
960 **IND to a patient who was enrolled in a clinical trial but who does not continue to**
961 **meet inclusion criteria, is that considered expanded access (i.e., is the sponsor**
962 **expected to make an expanded access submission to continue to provide the drug to**
963 **that patient)?**

964

965 In general, if a patient is already enrolled in a clinical trial (designed to further the development
966 of or determine the safety and/or effectiveness of an investigational drug) and the patient's
967 results are to be included in the analysis of the investigational drug, the continued treatment of
968 that patient with the investigational drug is not considered expanded access, even if the patient
969 does not continue to meet all the study inclusion criteria or the patient's treatment deviates from

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970 the study protocol. This is commonly known as a protocol exception and would be covered
971 under the existing IND.

972

973 **Q34. If a sponsor provides its investigational drug for treatment use under its IND to a**
974 **patient who does not meet inclusion criteria for their trial and is not enrolled in the**
975 **trial, is that considered expanded access?**

976

977 In general, if a patient is not enrolled in a clinical trial but is provided access to the
978 investigational drug for the purposes of treating the patient, treatment of that patient with the
979 investigational drug is considered expanded access to the investigational drug, and the
980 requirements for expanded access apply.

981

982 **Q35. How can manufacturers and distributors comply with the requirement to make**
983 **their expanded access policies readily available to the public?**

984

985 The enactment of the Cures Act added section 561A to the FD&C Act.²⁸ This section requires a
986 manufacturer or distributor of one or more investigational drugs for the diagnosis, monitoring, or
987 treatment of one or more serious diseases or conditions to make its policy for evaluating and
988 responding to expanded access requests submitted under section 561(b) of the FD&C Act (i.e.,
989 expanded access policy) readily available to the public, such as by posting the policy on a
990 publicly available website (e.g., the manufacturer's website, the Reagan-Udall Foundation
991 Expanded Access Navigator web page (see Q37)).²⁹ Manufacturers and distributors of
992 investigational medical devices are not required to comply with section 561A of the FD&C Act.

993

994 The expanded access policy must include all of the following:³⁰

995

996 • Contact information for the manufacturer or distributor to facilitate communication about
997 expanded access requests submitted under section 561(b) of the FD&C Act

998

999 • Procedures for submitting expanded access requests

1000

1001 • The general criteria the manufacturer or distributor will use to evaluate individual
1002 patients' expanded access requests and for responses to such requests

1003

1004 • The length of time the manufacturer or distributor expects will be needed to acknowledge
1005 receipt of such requests

1006

²⁸ See 21 U.S.C. 360bbb-0.

²⁹ See 21 U.S.C. 360bbb-0(a) and (b).

³⁰ See 21 U.S.C. 360bbb-0(c).

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- 1007 • A hyperlink or other reference to the clinical trial record containing information about
1008 expanded access availability for the drug that is required to be submitted to
1009 ClinicalTrials.gov³¹
1010

1011 FDA recommends that the pharmaceutical company or the drug manufacturer that is developing
1012 the drug for marketing make its expanded access policy publicly available, rather than the
1013 distributor. Posting the expanded access policy on its own website will fulfill the requirement of
1014 making the policy available to the public.³² If a pharmaceutical company or the drug
1015 manufacturer is developing multiple investigational drugs, it may have one general expanded
1016 access policy that applies to all applicable products and should make such general policy
1017 publicly available. However, if it has different expanded access policies for different
1018 investigational drugs, each expanded access policy should be made publicly available with
1019 reference to the products to which the policy applies.
1020

1021 If a pharmaceutical company or the drug manufacturer that is developing the drug for marketing
1022 makes its expanded access policy publicly available and mentions specific drugs for which
1023 expanded access is available and provides a link to the relevant information on ClinicalTrials.gov
1024 to comply with the requirements of the Cures Act, FDA does not intend to consider this to be
1025 promotion of an investigational drug or evidence of a new intended use unless the posted policy
1026 represents in a promotional context that the investigational new drug is safe or effective for a use
1027 for which it is under investigation.³³
1028

1029 **Q36. When is the manufacturer or distributor required to make its expanded access**
1030 **policy publicly available?**
1031

1032 FDARA amended section 561A(f) of the FD&C Act³⁴ to require that the manufacturer or
1033 distributor of investigational drugs for the diagnosis, monitoring, or treatment of one or more
1034 serious diseases or conditions make the expanded access policy public and readily available by
1035 *one* of the following timelines, whichever is *earlier*:
1036

- 1037 • At the first initiation of a phase 2 or phase 3 study; or
1038
1039 • Fifteen days after the drug receives a designation as a breakthrough therapy, fast track
1040 product, or regenerative advanced therapy

³¹ A reference to the record in ClinicalTrials.gov may not be available if the trial is not required to be registered at ClinicalTrials.gov. In addition, if the party responsible for registering that clinical trial is not *both* the sponsor of the applicable trial and the manufacturer of the investigational drug product being studied, that responsible party is not required to submit information on the availability of its investigational drug product for expanded access. For further information, refer to the “Frequently Asked Questions” section on the ClinicalTrials.gov website (<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/manage-recs/faq>).

³² See 21 U.S.C. 360bbb-0(b).

³³ See 21 CFR 201.128 and 21 CFR 312.7(a).

³⁴ See 21 U.S.C. 360bbb-0(f).

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1041
1042 FDA recommends that the pharmaceutical company or the drug manufacturer that is developing
1043 the drug for marketing, rather than the distributor, make its expanded access policy publicly
1044 available. FDA interprets “initiation of a phase 2 or phase 3 study” to be when enrollment
1045 begins. At the initiation of the phase 2 or 3 trial, it is the responsibility of the pharmaceutical
1046 company or the drug manufacturer that is developing the drug for marketing to identify whether
1047 the investigational drug is intended to treat a serious disease or condition and to make the
1048 expanded access policy public and readily available to comply with the requirement. An FDA
1049 designation of fast track, breakthrough therapy, or regenerative advanced therapy indicates that
1050 the drug is intended to treat a serious disease or condition. The requirement of making
1051 expanded access policies public and readily available by the specified timelines does not
1052 preclude posting the policies at an earlier point in time.

1053
1054 **Q37. Where can patients and health care providers get information about the availability**
1055 **of drugs under expanded access?**
1056

1057 Information about the availability of expanded access to an investigational drug may be found
1058 on the website of the relevant drug manufacturer or distributor. The information may also be
1059 found on other publicly available websites. The Reagan-Udall Foundation’s (RUF)³⁵ Expanded
1060 Access Navigator website (<https://navigator.reaganudall.org/expanded-access-navigator>) has a
1061 Company Directory web page (<https://navigator.reaganudall.org/company-directory>) that
1062 includes (1) a list of pharmaceutical companies and drug manufacturers developing
1063 investigational drugs for marketing and (2) information about the availability of their drugs
1064 under expanded access (e.g., hyperlinks to the company’s own publicly available website
1065 describing its expanded access policy, contact information, and information on the expected time
1066 frame for acknowledgement of such requests).

1067
1068 Information about the availability of investigational drugs under expanded access may also be
1069 available at ClinicalTrials.gov under certain circumstances. If the party responsible for
1070 registering that trial is both the sponsor of the trial and the manufacturer of the investigational
1071 drug product being studied, that responsible party is also required to submit certain information
1072 on the availability of its investigational product for expanded access, including the type of
1073 expanded access being offered, to ClinicalTrials.gov.³⁶ This information on expanded access is
1074 then included on the ClinicalTrials.gov website. However, not all clinical trials must be
1075 registered on ClinicalTrials.gov. If information about expanded access availability for a
1076 particular investigational drug is not included on ClinicalTrials.gov, physicians or patients may

³⁵ The Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration is an independent 501(c)(3) organization created by Congress “to advance the mission of the FDA to modernize medical, veterinary, food, food ingredient, and cosmetic product development, accelerate innovation, and enhance product safety.” See <https://reaganudall.org/about-us>.

³⁶ See 42 CFR 11.28(a)(2)(ii)(H) and (c). In general, a sponsor-investigator of a single patient IND who obtains a letter of authorization from another sponsor to cross-reference manufacturing information would not be considered responsible for submitting information on the availability of the product for expanded access on ClinicalTrials.gov because the sponsor-investigator is not the manufacturer of the investigational product.

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1077 wish to contact the sponsor (or manufacturer of the investigational drug, if different from the
1078 sponsor) about possible availability.

1079
1080 **Q38. May treatment with two or more investigational drugs be requested and authorized**
1081 **under a single expanded access IND or protocol, or may an individual patient**
1082 **participate in more than one expanded access IND or protocol (e.g., be enrolled in**
1083 **two different treatment INDs)?**

1084
1085 Yes. A single expanded access IND or protocol may involve treatment with more than one
1086 investigational drug, and a patient may be enrolled in more than one expanded access IND or
1087 protocol. When expanded access to two or more investigational drugs is appropriate to treat a
1088 single disease and the relevant criteria are met, it is most efficient to provide expanded access to
1089 the multiple investigational drugs under a single expanded access IND or protocol, rather than to
1090 provide expanded access by having a patient enroll in two or more separate expanded access
1091 INDs or protocols (one for each drug). Management of the patient's disease, treatment, and the
1092 collection of information about the therapy is likely to be better coordinated under a single
1093 expanded access IND or protocol.

1094

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1095 **APPENDIX: INFORMED CONSENT TEMPLATE FOR INDIVIDUAL PATIENT** 1096 **EXPANDED ACCESS¹**

1097
1098 **Disclaimer:** The purpose of this informed consent template is to assist investigators with
1099 preparing an informed consent document for the treatment of a single patient with an
1100 investigational drug under the expanded access program. However, this template is not a
1101 substitute for the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) or the Code of Federal
1102 Regulations (CFR) and does not necessarily contain all information required to ensure
1103 compliance in a given situation. Investigators are responsible for ensuring that the informed
1104 consent requirements of 21 CFR part 50 are met (21 CFR 312.305(c)(4)) unless one of the
1105 exceptions found in part 50 applies.

1106 1107 **1. Introduction**

1108
1109 *Provide the following information:*

- 1110
1111 • *The name of the disease or condition for which the investigational drug will be provided*
1112 *for treatment.*
- 1113
1114 • *A statement that the patient does not have any alternative Food and Drug Administration*
1115 *(FDA)-approved medical product (e.g., drug/biologic)² available to them for treatment.*
- 1116
1117 • *The name of the investigational drug/biologic.*
- 1118
1119 • *An explanation that the product is investigational, is not approved by FDA as safe and*
1120 *effective, and that the treatment will be considered an experimental treatment. A statement*
1121 *that the treatment may only proceed under FDA's expanded access program, with FDA*
1122 *authorization.*
- 1123
1124 • *A statement that the patient's participation in the program is voluntary and that the patient*
1125 *may change their decision to participate. Provide the name of the person the patient may*
1126 *contact in case the patient changes their decision.*
- 1127
1128 • *A statement that refusal to participate will involve no penalty or loss of benefits to which*
1129 *the patient is otherwise entitled and that the patient may discontinue participation at any*
1130 *time without penalty or loss of benefits to which the patient is otherwise entitled.*
- 1131
1132 • *A recommendation to read the form carefully and discuss with others before making any*
1133 *decision.*
- 1134
1135 • *The name of the staff whom the patient can contact if the patient has questions.*
1136

¹ This template consists of instructions (in italics) to create the template and includes some example language (below the instructions) for each element. Once the template is finalized, delete the instructions from the template.

² In these examples, *drug* is used as a reference. In your document, use drug or biologic, as appropriate.

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1137 Examples:

1138

1139 • You are diagnosed with disease X.

1140

1141 • For your condition, there is no drug approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
1142 for use in routine medical care in the United States. **OR** The Food and Drug
1143 Administration (FDA)-approved drug or drugs available for your treatment did not work
1144 for you. **OR** You cannot tolerate the side-effects of the drug or drugs approved by the
1145 Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for treatment of your condition.

1146

1147 • Your doctor would like to treat you with drug Y.

1148

1149 • Drug Y is an investigational drug. It is *NOT* approved by FDA for the treatment of your
1150 disease. However, for your case, FDA authorized Dr. Z to treat you with the
1151 investigational drug Y under FDA's expanded access program, OR Dr. Z has requested or
1152 will request FDA's permission to treat you with the investigational drug Y under FDA's
1153 expanded access program.

1154

1155 • Whether or not you take this investigational drug is up to you. If you choose not to receive
1156 the investigational drug, it will not result in penalty or loss of benefits to which you are
1157 otherwise entitled.

1158

1159 • You can choose to take the investigational drug now but change your mind later. Tell your
1160 doctor right away about your decision if you change your mind later. It will not result in
1161 any penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

1162

1163 Read this document carefully. You may want to discuss your options with your doctors, family,
1164 friends, and others before deciding on whether to receive the treatment. Please ask questions about
1165 anything you do not understand. You will find a contact information table at the end of the
1166 document.

1167

2. What are the potential benefits of receiving the treatment?

1168

1169 *List potential benefits of the investigational drug/biologic, if any. Include a statement to reflect*
1170 *that the anticipated benefit may be uncertain or that the disease may worsen with the treatment.*

1171

1172 Examples:

1173

1174 • There is a chance that the investigational drug Y may (1) improve . . . , (2) reduce . . . , etc.
1175 However, there is no guarantee that it will happen in your case.

1176

1177 • Dr. Z would like to treat you with the investigational drug because she believes that it may
1178 benefit you. However, there is no guarantee that you will benefit from this investigational
1179 treatment. It is possible that you will receive no benefit other than receiving the standard
1180 care (regularly seen by a doctor, evaluated for your condition, etc.) associated with
1181 receiving this treatment, or it could worsen your condition.

1182

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- 1183 • We do not know if this investigational drug will help you. Your condition may get better,
1184 stay the same, or possibly get worse.
1185

3. What are the potential risks of this treatment?

1187
1188 *Provide a list of reasonably foreseeable risks or side effects of the investigational drug/biologic.*
1189 *Include frequency, if known. Include information on risks that are more likely to occur and those*
1190 *that are serious. Discuss any potential risks from the medical procedures necessary to administer*
1191 *the drug/biologic, if appropriate. Provide specific instructions for whom the patient should*
1192 *contact if experiencing serious side effects.*
1193

1194 Examples:

- 1195
- 1196 • There is a risk that the investigational drug Y makes your condition worse.
1197
 - 1198 • The following are serious side effects that have been reported for the investigational
1199 drug Y:
1200 – Serious injury to your kidneys that could lead to dialysis
1201 – Significant disability
1202
 - 1203
 - 1204 • The following are side effects that are more likely to occur:
1205 – Vomiting
1206 – Diarrhea
1207 – Lack of appetite
1208
 - 1209
 - 1210 • The investigational drug needs to be administered via [W] route of administration during
1211 [X procedure]. Risks of [X procedure] may include headache, pain or numbness in the legs
1212 and lower back, and bleeding into the spinal canal where the main nerve that goes down
1213 your back is located. The doctors who will perform the [X procedure] are specifically
1214 trained and very experienced in performing this procedure.
1215
 - 1216 • There may be side effects of the investigational drug Y that we do not know about.
1217 – These effects could be immediate and short term, or your future health may be
1218 affected in ways that we currently do not understand.
1219
 - 1220
 - 1221 • If you experience side effects listed above or any other adverse effects, contact the staff
1222 listed in the contact information table.
1223
 - 1224 • In case of emergency, contact the staff listed in the contact information table or get
1225 emergency medical help immediately.
1226
 - 1227

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1228 4. How long will you be treated with the investigational drug/biologic?

1229
1230 *Describe the length of time the treatment will last (e.g., hours, days, weeks, months, years, or until*
1231 *a certain event), as well as long-term follow-up, if appropriate. Include number of visits or*
1232 *treatments as applicable.*

1233
1234 Examples:

- 1235
- 1236 • You will receive the investigational drug approximately every 2 months (6–8 weeks) for up
1237 to 1 year.
- 1238
- 1239 • After you complete this treatment, you will still need to come to the clinic for follow-up
1240 visits for at least the next year.
- 1241

1242 5. If you do not accept this treatment, what are the other choices?

1243
1244 *Explain that to provide an investigational drug/biologic under expanded access, the doctor should*
1245 *determine there is no available comparable or satisfactory alternative therapy to diagnose,*
1246 *monitor, or treat the disease or condition and that the doctor has made such a determination.*

1247
1248 Examples:

- 1249
- 1250 • Dr. Z determined that there are no other drugs approved to treat your disease.
- 1251
- 1252 • There are no other drugs approved for your disease or clinical trials that you could enroll
1253 in. However, you can discuss other options with Dr. Z, such as not taking any
1254 investigational drug.
- 1255

1256 6. What are the procedures associated with the treatment?

1257
1258 *Describe in chronological order the procedures that are necessary as part of receiving the*
1259 *treatment. Use a table, if needed, to organize the information. If describing every procedure will*
1260 *make the document too lengthy or detailed, include the information as an addendum.*

1261

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1262 Examples:

1263

Date (chronological order)/Frequency	Description of therapy; dose, route of administration	Duration
Approximately every 2 months (i.e., 6–8 weeks)	Administer drug Y in your vein (10 mg/kg)	90 minutes

1264

Date (chronological order)/Frequency	Procedure for assessment	Purpose
Day 1	Collect blood samples	Routine laboratory tests
Month 4	CT scan to take a picture of your X	If there is any change in the size of the tumor

1265

1266 7. Can your doctor stop the treatment without your permission?

1267

1268 *Provide a list of reasons for which the doctor may stop the treatment without the patient's consent.*

1269 *Explain that the patient will be notified if this happens.*

1270

1271 Examples:

1272

1273 In certain situations, your doctor may need to stop the investigational drug without your permission
1274 if:

1275

1276 • Your condition gets worse.

1277

1278 • The investigational drug is no longer safe for you.

1279

1280 • New information suggests that this investigational drug does not work.

1281

1282 • You become pregnant.

1283

1284 • New information suggests that another investigational drug is better.

1285

1286 • FDA tells your doctor that your treatment should be stopped. This may happen if FDA
1287 receives new information about the investigational drug that your doctor may not know
1288 because it is confidential.

1289

1290 • The investigational drug is no longer available from the manufacturer.

1291

1292 If your doctor stops your treatment, we will tell you as soon as possible.

1293

1294 8. What is the cost of the treatment?

1295

1296 *Explain that the patient may incur expenses for the treatment with the investigational*
1297 *drug/biologic. Explain to the best of your knowledge what costs the patient is likely to need to*

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1298 *cover and that insurance may not cover all costs. Because the coverage of treatment with an*
1299 *investigational drug/biologic could be complex, it may be appropriate to recommend that the*
1300 *patient consult their insurer about reimbursement before initiating the treatment.*

1301

1302 Examples:

1303

1304 • You or your insurance company will be charged for the treatment. You will be responsible
1305 for any costs your insurance does not cover. Contact your insurance company if you have
1306 any questions about these costs or what out-of-pocket expenses you may have.

1307

1308 • The [INSTITUTION] will pay for the treatment, including treatment of any side effect,
1309 adverse reaction, illness, or injury to you resulting from the treatment.

1310

1311 • If you receive this treatment, your insurance may not cover the cost of some of the tests and
1312 visits to see your doctor that are related to receiving this investigational drug. Contact your
1313 insurance company to learn more about the coverage if you decide to receive the treatment.

1314

1315 • Dr. Z's research funds will pay for some items and services related to your treatment.
1316 However, you and your insurer will be responsible for the remaining costs. Please contact
1317 the person listed in the contact information table to learn more about the coverage by
1318 research fund.

1319

1320 • If you need financial assistance to cover the cost of your treatment, please contact the
1321 staff listed in the contact information table for more information.

1322

9. What happens if you are injured from the treatment?

1324

1325 *Provide the following information about treatment-related injuries:*

1326

1327 *Describe any compensation and medical treatments available to the patient if injury occurs.*

1328

1329 *Provide the names and contact information of the staff whom the patient should contact if further*
1330 *information is needed. The available compensation and medical treatments may vary depending*
1331 *on the medical circumstances of the patient or the policies of the institution.*

1332

1333 Examples:

1334

1335 • If this treatment results in an injury, [INSTITUTION] will provide you with medical care.

1336

1337 • Cost for care related to treatment-related injuries will be billed in the ordinary manner to
1338 you or your insurance company.

1339

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10. Who may see, use, or share your health information?

1341
1342 *Provide information about the confidentiality policy of the clinic/hospital/sponsor OR include the*
1343 *list of your policies. Include a statement that the data from this investigational treatment will be*
1344 *shared with FDA and note the possibility that FDA may inspect the records related to the*
1345 *investigational treatment.*

1346
1347 Examples:

- 1348
- 1349 • If you receive this investigational drug, certain information about your treatment may be
1350 shared with the following entities, but every effort will be made to keep your identity
1351 private:
1352
 - 1353 – The manufacturer of the drug
 - 1354 – The Food and Drug Administration
 - 1355 – The institutional review board
 - 1356
 - 1357 • In addition, the following people/institutions may have access to your identity and
1358 information about your use of the investigational drug:
1359
 - 1360 – Your insurance company or health benefits program
 - 1361 – The clinic staff directly involved in your medical care
 - 1362
 - 1363 • If you stop treatment, information that was already collected may still be shared with
1364 FDA.
 - 1365
 - 1366 • If the result of this treatment is published, your personal identifying information will not
1367 be used.
 - 1368
 - 1369 • Although it is unlikely to happen, there is a possibility that your personal information will
1370 be disclosed accidentally.

11. What other important information do you need to know?

1372
1373 *Provide a list of other important information not covered in the sections above.*

1374
1375
1376 Examples:

- 1377
- 1378 • During your treatment, if we learn any new information about the risks or benefits of the
1379 investigational drug Y, Dr. Z will let you know.
 - 1380
 - 1381 • You will not receive any payment as compensation to take the investigational drug Y.
 - 1382
 - 1383 • You may review our web-based, interactive educational program for patients with your
1384 disease at the following link: [insert URL link].

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1385 **Whom should I contact?**

1386

1387 *Provide consolidated contact information, as appropriate. If the contact information changes at*
1388 *any time, provide the new contact information to the patient.*

1389

1390 Examples:

1391

Name (Name of the doctor/clinical staff/board/IRB/advocate, etc.)	Contact information (Phone number, email, or address, etc., as appropriate)	For questions about... (Provide a consolidated list of issues for which a patient may have questions)
Name of the staff	Phone: E-mail: Address:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment, including any injury from the treatment • Emergency contact information, including 24-hour contact information, if appropriate
Name of the staff/board/IRB	Phone: E-mail: Address:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative concerns (e.g., patient rights, billing)

1392

1393

1394 **12. Permission Signatures**

1395

1396 *Include the list of signatories who should provide consent for the treatment. Provide instructions*
1397 *for the assent process, if you have any specific policies.*

1398

1399 Examples:

1400

1401 Your signature below provides your consent to take part in this investigational treatment.

1402

1403 _____

1404 Name of patient

1405

1406 _____

1407 Signature of patient

Date

Time

1408

1409 _____

1410 Name of legally authorized representative (if needed)

1411

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1412	_____	_____	_____
1413	Signature of legally authorized representative (if needed)	Date	Time
1414			
1415	_____		
1416	Legally authorized representative's relationship to patient (if needed)		
1417			
1418	<i>Add any other signatures, following your institutional policy.</i>		