Pharmaceutical Physical/Chemical Characterization Services

Characterization testing is used to gain an understanding of the physical and chemical properties of pharmaceutical materials. During process and drug development, these properties can have an impact on the product’s performance, ability to be processed, stability and appearance.

Eurofins BioPharma Product Testing provides cGMP compliant and non-GMP investigational characterization testing for pharmaceutical materials to support formulation, process development, quality control, GMP lot release testing, and investigational manufacturing troubleshooting. We have extensive experience with an array of product types from raw materials to active pharmaceutical ingredients and can accommodate virtually any product type.

Why Choose Eurofins BioPharma Product Testing?

- Our extensive experience with a variety of techniques and sample types lends the ability to tailor the testing to meet specific client requirements at one testing location.

- We have developed a host of in-house general methods for a variety of techniques to eliminate the need to develop a method from scratch. We can also follow compendial or client-provided methods, per cGMP, as well as develop new methods when no current method exists.

Sample Types

We have experience with a variety of sample types, including:

- Raw materials
- Development materials
- Intermediate in-process materials
- Active pharmaceutical ingredients
- Stability study samples
- Unknowns for identification or confirmation

Physical Characterization Testing Capabilities

Surface Area

- Calculates BET surface area: single or multipoint
- Determines pore size and pore size distribution within 1.7 to 500 nm for macro, micro or mesoporous samples
- Krypton capable to measure surface area as low as 0.001 m²/g
- Predicts reactivity, dissolution and compactness

Dynamic Vapor Sorption

- Measures rate and ease of water permeation, hygroscopicity, deliquescence point, water activity
- Measures water vapor sorption - desorption isotherm
- Measures effect of sample environment on crystallinity or amorphous content
- Determines changes in flow ability, compaction density and appearance

Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC)

- Determines phase and structural transition between -90 to 400°C
- Directly measures heat capacity
- Analyzes complex and overlapping thermal changes - modulated DSC capable
- Detects weak thermal changes
Physical Characterization Testing Capabilities

**Thermogravimetric Analysis (TGA)**
- Measures the change in sample mass as a function of temperature and/or time
- Monitors moisture/Solvent loss (LOD on micro scale)
- Determines rate of chemical degradation at various temperatures
- Measures gas absorption-desorption

**X-ray Powder Diffraction (XRPD)**
- Identifies crystalline or semicrystalline structure
- Analyzes degree of crystallinity, amorphicity
- Detects impurities

**Particle Size & Zeta Potential**
- Measures particle sizes from 0.01 μm to 3,500 μm, zeta potential from 60 nm to 1,000 nm
- Capable of analyzing wet emulsion, suspension and bulk dry dispersion
- Determines diverse sample types: abrasive, fragile, cohesive or agglomerated

**Physicochemical Properties**
- Determination of Acid Dissociation Constant (pKa), Partition Coefficient (Log P), Distribution Coefficient (Log D)

**Chemical Characterization Testing Capabilities**

**Fourier Transform Infrared & Near-Infrared Absorption Spectroscopy (IR [FTIR, NIR])**
- Fingerprinting identification of known scan
- Identifies functional groups within the molecular structure
- Identifies resins and opaque/colored materials using photoacoustic scans

**Ultraviolet-Visible Absorption Spectroscopy (UV/VIS)**
- Determines characteristic absorption patterns
- Used for qualitative detection, quantitative calculation and kinetic analysis
- Measures Molar Extinction Coefficient (MEC)

**Carbon, Hydrogen & Nitrogen Analysis (CHN Elemental Analysis)**
- Determines the mass fraction of Carbon, Hydrogen and Nitrogen content

**Metals Testing (ICP-MS)**
- Trace level quantitation of most elements in liquid and solids

**Mass Spectrometry (GC-MS, HPLC-MS)**
- Measures mass of parent compound or daughter ions
- Accurate mass and fragmentation patterns
- Confirms molecular weight (identification)
- Evaluation of unknown purities

**Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (NMR)**
- Solid state characterization: crystal polymorphism, ID, limit, and Impurity
- Capable of qNMR and 3D-NMR
- Compound library enables high-throughput QC, protein ligand NMR binding assays

**Instrumentation**
- Micromeritics Tristar II Confirm Surface Area
- TA Instruments Q5000 SA Dynamic Vapor Sorption
- TA Instruments TGA Q500
- TA Instruments Discovery DSC 2500
- TA Instruments Nano DSC
- Malvern Mastersizer 3000 PSD
- Zetasizer Nano Series ZS90
- Bruker D8 Advance XRD
- Agilent 7900 ICP-MS
- Bruker Alpha with Platinum Diamond ATR
- Thermo Nicolet 6700 FTIR
- Shimadzu UV-2700
- Agilent 8453/8454 UV-Vis
- 400MHz WB Avance Bruker with 19F-NMR setup
- 500MHz NMR Bruker Avance III, BBFO probe and TCI cryoprobe, SampleJet
- 400MHz NMR Bruker Avance III, BBFO probe (1H, 13C, 31P, 19F), SampleJet
- LC-SPE/NMR capability