Practical LC-MS/MS Method Development (Saturday one-day course)  
AND Bioanalytical Method Validation (Sunday one-day course)

These two one-day courses are related so we bundled them as a two-day course, there is a cost savings in purchasing a two-day course versus two one-day courses. If you are interested in attending just one of the days, please register for the one-day course version.

Instructor

Perry G. Wang, Ph.D.  
LC-MS Technical Expert

Course Description

Both LC-MS method development and bioanalytical method validation play a crucial role for successfully conducting regulatory studies including, but not limited to, nonclinical, biopharmaceutics, and clinical pharmacology studies. This short course offers practical training for practicing scientists in the analytical field. It focuses on practical LC-MS method development and bioanalytical method validation. It takes participants step-by-step through the concepts and techniques to develop and validate bioanalytical methods. The emphasis is on day-to-day issues associated with LC-MS method development and validation. Participants will learn the essentials of method development and validation. After this course, participants will be able to independently develop and validate their own LC-MS methods. How to apply the validated methods for routine assays and typical case studies will be presented.

Intended Audience

This course will benefit analytical chemists and researcher using LC-MS, lab supervisors, QA/QC managers, regulators, GLP auditors, and CRO consultants who work in GLP-regulated labs and the pharmaceutical industry. This course will also benefit all levels of management as a refresher course for staying current with the LC-MS techniques and GLP regulations.

Detailed Outline

1. Key Concepts
   - Retention time (tR),
   - Retention factor (k’)
   - Separation factor (α)
   - Column efficiency (N)
   - Chromatographic resolution (R)
   - pKₐ/pKₐ of analytes
van Deemter Equation
Fundamentals of mass spectrometry
Atmospheric pressure ionization (API) in mass spectrometry
Common ionization modes: ESI, APCI and APPI
Mass analyzers: quadrupole, time of flight, ion trap and orbitrap
Mass resolution and mass accuracy
Matrix effects

2. What you need to know to develop a successful LC-MS method

What kind of columns should be selected
How column physical property affects the resolution
How column chemical property affects the resolution
How pH affects the separation
How to transfer HPLC methods to UHPLC/UPLC methods
Which mode should be selected – isocratic or gradient
How to select the best solvents for LC-MS
How to optimize a gradient profile
Separation mechanism: reversed-phase or HILIC or normal-phase
Mobile phase selection and organic modifiers
How pK_a/pK_b affect separation
MS Fundamental – charged species, mass resolution and mass accuracy
What kind of ionization should be selected – ESI, APPI or APCI
Mass analyzer and their functions: single/triple quadrupole, TOF, ion trap, Q-exactive and hybrid MS-MS
How to build up LC-MS and LC-MS/MS methods
How to eliminate and compensate for matrix effects of MS

3. Validation guidance/guidelines

ICH
AOAC
IUPAC
Eurachem
EMA
FDA
SANCO
Nordtest guide for measurement uncertainty

4. What questions do the validated methods answer?

Does the method measure the intended analyte?
Does anything interfere with the measurement?
Is the method specific or selective for the analyte?
What variability is associated with these measurements? - What are the accuracy and precision of each method?
What is the LLOQ? What is the ULOQ?
How do sample collection, handling, and storage affect the reliability of the data?
Do the samples need to be frozen during shipping?
What temperatures are required to store the samples, and for how long can the samples be stored?

5. Bioanalytical method validation

- How to design an accuracy & precision (A&P) run
- What are the acceptance criteria for an A&P run?
- Requirements for accuracy, precision, recovery, selectivity, and specificity
- How to design a calibration curve - LLOQ, ULOQ, and weighting factor
- How to prepare quality control (QC) samples
- Acceptance criteria for standards and QCs
- How to design selectivity and specificity tests
- How to design matrix effect and recovery tests
- How to design dilution effect tests
- How to design stability tests for autosampler, benchtop, extracted samples, stock solutions, and long-term storage
- When do I need partial or cross-validation?
- How to report bioanalytical method validation

6. How to apply the validated methods for routine bioanalysis

- Recommendations for routine drug analysis
- Design an analytical run/batch
- How to arrange samples - by subject or by period?
- Evaluation of LLOQ, ULOQ, and QCs
- Criteria for approving or rejecting results
- Evaluation of unknown study samples
- Deviations and remedial actions
- Re-assay and incurred sample reanalysis (ISR)
- How to select re-assay results
- How to report bioanalytical data

7. Case studies and GXP discussion

- Validation bottlenecks and challenges
- How to prepare for bioanalytical inspections
- How to measure and minimize matrix effects
- How to harmonize the various global bioanalytical guidance documents
- How to deal with urine samples
- How to improve throughput

Instructor Qualifications and Experience
Dr. Perry G. Wang has been a chemist at US FDA since 2008. Prior to joining FDA, he worked in the pharmaceutical and medical-device industry for more than 10 years. He received his Ph.D. from Oregon State University. In addition to over 30 peer-reviewed publications, he has edited or co-edited five books: "High-Throughput Analysis in the Pharmaceutical Industry"; "Monolithic Chromatography and Its Modern Applications"; "Hydrophilic Interaction Liquid Chromatography (HILIC) and Advanced Applications"; "Counterfeit Medicines"; and "High-Throughput Analysis for Food Safety". He specializes in LC-MS method development and validation for drugs, cosmetics, foods, and dietary supplements. He has been invited to teach this course at the American Society for Mass Spectrometry (ASMS) since 2015. He has also taught courses on LC-MS method development for the American Chemical Society (ACS), Pittsburgh Conference (PittCon), Eastern Analytical Symposium (EAS) and HPLC for more than 10 years. He teaches these courses in his own capacity as a scientist, but not as an employee of the FDA.