

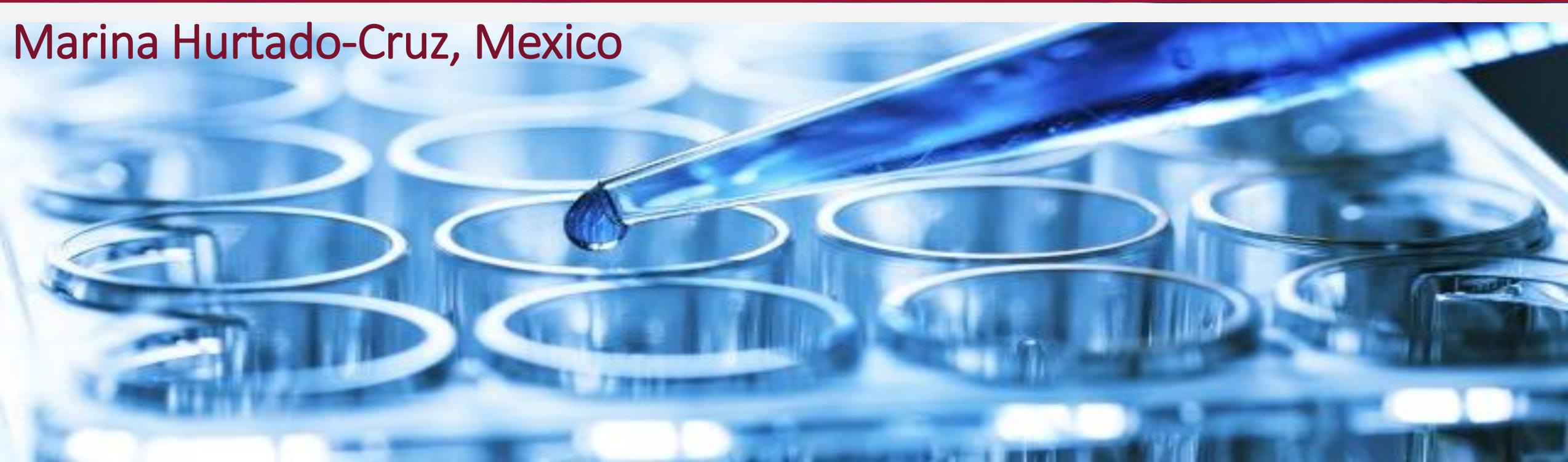
**Baker  
McKenzie.**

Examining the  
United States – Mexico – Canada Agreement  
(USMCA):

A Closer Look at Patent Term Adjustment and Test Data  
Exclusivity

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# Overview

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2	From NAFTA to USMCA
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4	Test Data Exclusivity Protection in the USMCA
5	Patent Linkage Changes in Mexico
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# Mexico Before NAFTA

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- Economic crisis in the 80's
- International Monetary Fund (IMF) recommended Mexico to accede to GATT
- Negotiations began for a Free Trade Agreement with USA and Canada
- Beginning of economic liberalism for Mexico



# From NAFTA to USMCA: General Overview



January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1994  
*North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)*  
between Canada, Mexico and the United States.

- From 1993-2017 trade under NAFTA increased almost four times from 297 billion to 1.17 trillion USD
- Each day, the US conducts more than US \$ 3.6 billion in trade with Canada and Mexico

# From NAFTA to USMCA: General Overview

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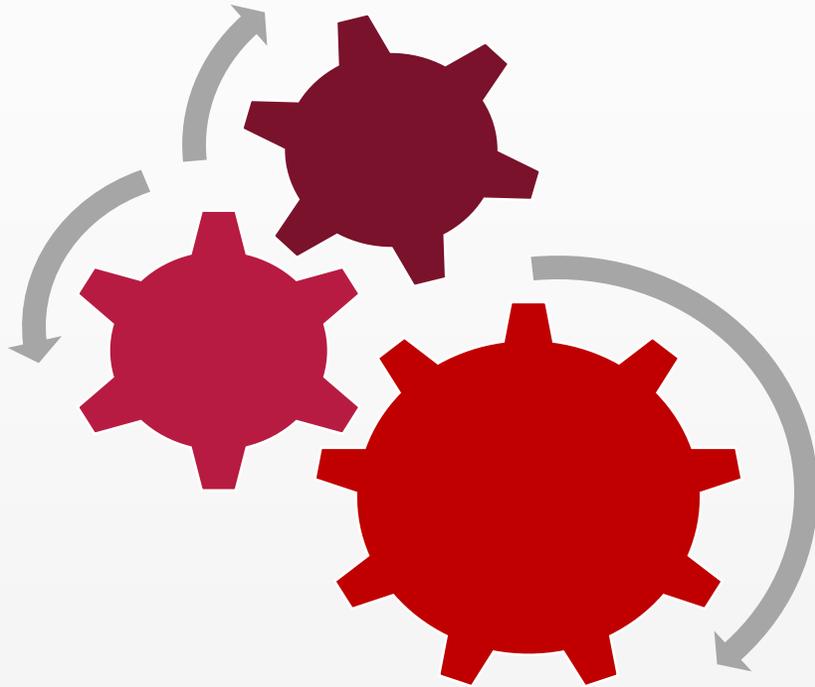
- USMCA negotiations concluded on September 30, 2018.
- Agreement signed on November 30, 2018.
- Currently being ratified by all parties.
- USMCA reinforces regulatory systems, e-commerce and protection of intellectual property.



# Patent Term Adjustment in the USMCA

# USMCA: Impact on the Pharmaceutical Industry

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## Patent Term Adjustment - In general

Each country shall:

- **Process patent applications** in an efficient and timely manner, avoiding unreasonable or unnecessary delays.
- Provide procedures for a patent applicant to request to **expedite the examination of its patent application.**
- If there are unreasonable delays in the issuance of a patent, that Party shall provide the **means to adjust the term of the patent to compensate for those delays.**



An **unreasonable delay** shall include (at least) a delay in the issuance of a patent of more than:  
**5 years** from the date of filing of the application or  
**3 years** after a request for examination of the application, whichever is later.

# USMCA: Impact on the Pharmaceutical Industry

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## Additional Patent Term Adjustment for Pharmaceutical Products

Each country shall

- Process applications for marketing approval of pharmaceutical products in an **efficient and timely manner, avoiding unreasonable or unnecessary delays.**
- Make an **adjustment** of the **patent term** for unreasonable curtailment of the effective patent term as a **result of the marketing approval process.**



# Patent Term Adjustment - Mexico

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## CURRENT LEGISLATION

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**Non-renewable term of 20 years**, starting from the date on which the application is filed.

No provision of patent term adjustment to compensate the patent owner for unreasonable delay to obtain **marketing approval by the Health Authority**.

## CHANGES TO BE IMPLEMENTED

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Patent term adjustment process may be implemented to compensate Mexican Patent Office (MPO) delays.  
*No announcement yet on this point.*

Patent term adjustment process may be implemented to compensate the patent owner for unreasonable delay to obtain **marketing approval**.  
*No announcement yet on this point.*

*Time allowed for adjustments is 4.5 years.*

# Patent Term Adjustment - Canada

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## CURRENT LEGISLATION

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Some human and veterinary drugs patents qualify for up to **two additional years of patent protection** from expiry of original patent via Certificate of Supplementary Protection (CSP) under CETA

Issuance of a CSP will grant the same rights as a patent, but only as they relate to a drug that contains a medicinal ingredient.

## CHANGES TO BE IMPLEMENTED

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No change in relation to pharmaceutical patents.

No announcement on patent term adjustment about non-pharmaceutical patents.

# Patent Term Adjustment - United States

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## CURRENT LEGISLATION

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If the issue of a patent is delayed to more than 3 years after filing date of the application, the term of the patent shall be extended 1 day for each day of delay.  
35 U.S.C. § 154(b)(1)(B).

U.S. law currently provides term extensions for pharmaceutical patents to compensate for marketing time lost after the patent has issued, but before receiving FDA marketing authorization.  
35 U.S.C. § 156.

## CHANGES TO BE IMPLEMENTED

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No changes to patent term adjustment.

# Test Data Exclusivity Protection

# USMCA: Impact on the Pharmaceutical Industry

## Test Data Exclusivity Protection

**Undisclosed test or other data concerning the safety and efficacy of the product** filed as a condition for granting **marketing approval for a new pharmaceutical product or biologic**, shall not be used by third persons on the basis of that information for:

### **NEW PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCT**

(a chemical entity that has not been previously approved)

- **At least 5 years** from the date of marketing approval.
- **At least 3 years** with respect to new clinical information submitted as required in support of a marketing approval covering new indication, new formulation, or a new method of administration.

### **BIOLOGIC**

(“A product that is produced using biotechnology processes and that is, or alternatively, contains, a virus, therapeutic serum, toxin, antitoxin, vaccine blood, blood component”, among others).

- **At least 10 years**

# Test Data Exclusivity - Mexico

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## CURRENT LEGISLATION

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No current laws. However, recent internal guidelines, encouraged by NAFTA and TPP, cover small molecule drugs for 5 years.

Biologics also have a 5 year protection, but only through litigation.

## CHANGES TO BE IMPLEMENTED

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Small molecules will have 5 years protection.

Biologics will have 10 years protection .

*Time allowed for adjustments is 5 years.*

# Test Data Exclusivity - Canada

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## CURRENT LEGISLATION

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The Food and Drugs Act, currently has an 8-year data protection term for pharmaceutical products that contain new chemical entities, which includes biologics.

## CHANGES TO BE IMPLEMENTED

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No change for small molecule pharmaceuticals .

Upon implementation of the USMCA, Canada's 8 year term will be extended to 10 years for biologics.

*Time allowed for adjustments is 5 years.*

# Test Data Exclusivity - United States

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## CURRENT LEGISLATION

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The United States currently provides a 5-year data exclusivity period for new pharmaceutical chemical entities and a 3-year data exclusivity period for new indications of pharmaceutical drugs.

21 USC § 355(c)(3)(E)(ii,iii).

The law currently includes a 12-year data protection term for biologics.

## CHANGES TO BE IMPLEMENTED

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No changes are required.

# Possible Patent Linkage Changes in Mexico

# Patent Linkage in Mexico



# Possible Patent Linkage Changes in Mexico

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USMCA states that if a Party permits third parties to rely on the safety and efficacy information that was previously approved by a reference medicinal product, that Party shall provide:

- A system to provide notice to a patent holder, prior to the marketing of such pharmaceutical product, that a third person is seeking the marketing approval for that product.
- Adequate time for the patent holder to seek remedies prior to the marketing of the product that may infringe a patent.

# Conclusions

## Patent Term Adjustment Test Data Exclusivity Protection

Main changes to be implemented in local legislation derived from the USMCA

Mexico	Canada	USA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Patent term adjustment to compensate Mexican Patent Office (MPO) delays.</li><li>• Patent term adjustment to compensate for unreasonable delay to obtain marketing approval.</li><li>• 10 years Test Data Exclusivity protection for biologics.</li><li>• Possible changes to the Patent Linkage to provide notice to a patent holder about an application for marketing authorization that may infringe a patent.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Patent term adjustment for non-pharmaceutical patents.</li><li>• Canada's 8 year Test Data Exclusivity term will be extended to 10 years for biologics.</li></ul>	<p>No changes are required.</p>

THANK YOU