

# Quality by Design Process Development

Michael Lowenborg

Manager, R&D Formulation and Process Development

DPT Laboratories, LTD



Confab.  
A DPT COMPANY



# Agenda

- What is QbD and Why do we use it?
- Process Development via Quality by Design
  - Create a living Quality based Review
- Identification and testing of Critical Process Parameters (CPP's)
- Process Scale up requirements



# What is Quality by Design? (QbD)

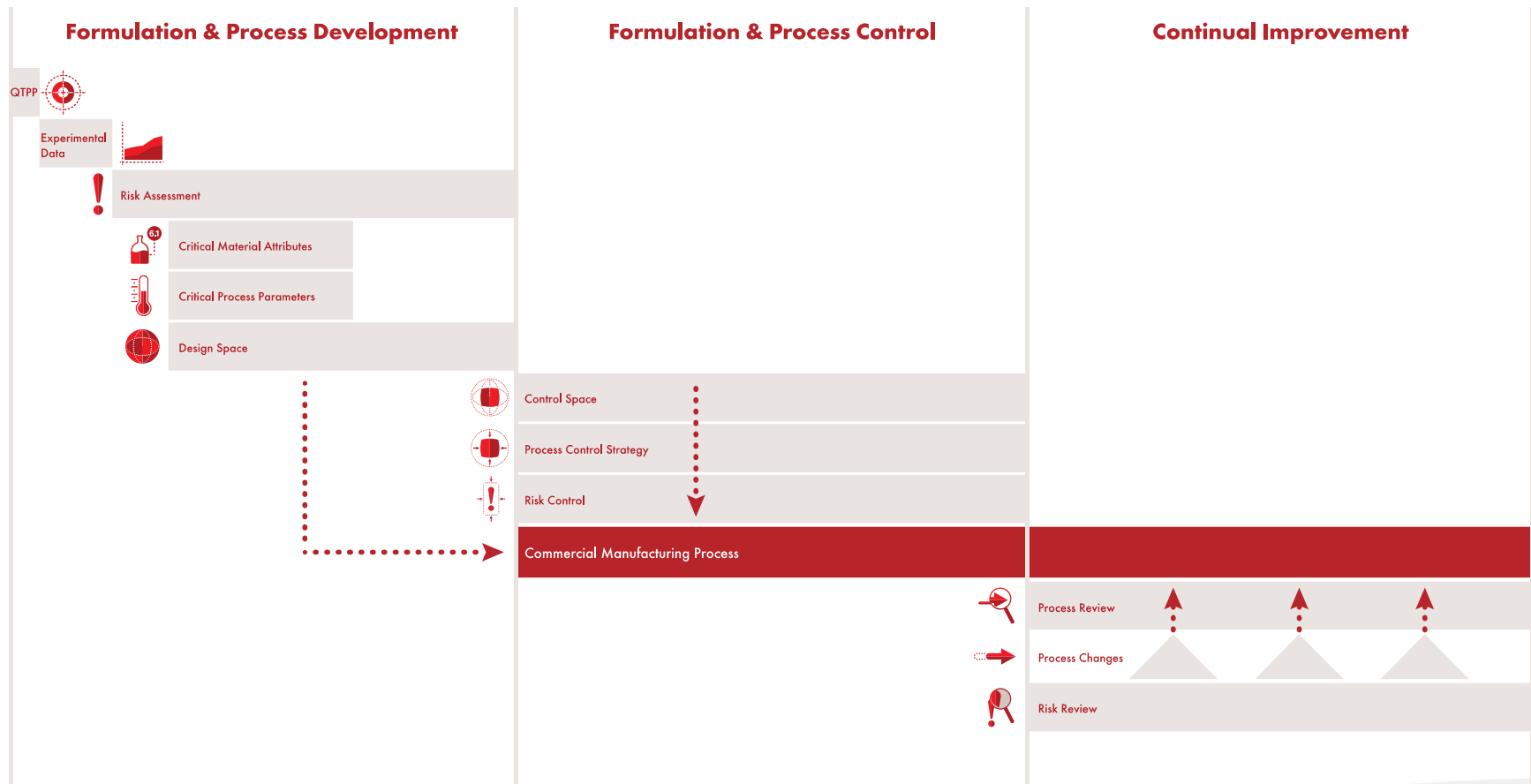
- Growing industry trend
- Regulatory agencies expectation
- Effectively incorporates ICH Q8, Q9, Q10



# The three phases of QbD

- Formulation & Process Development
- Formulation & Process Control
- Continual Improvement

# The three phases of QbD

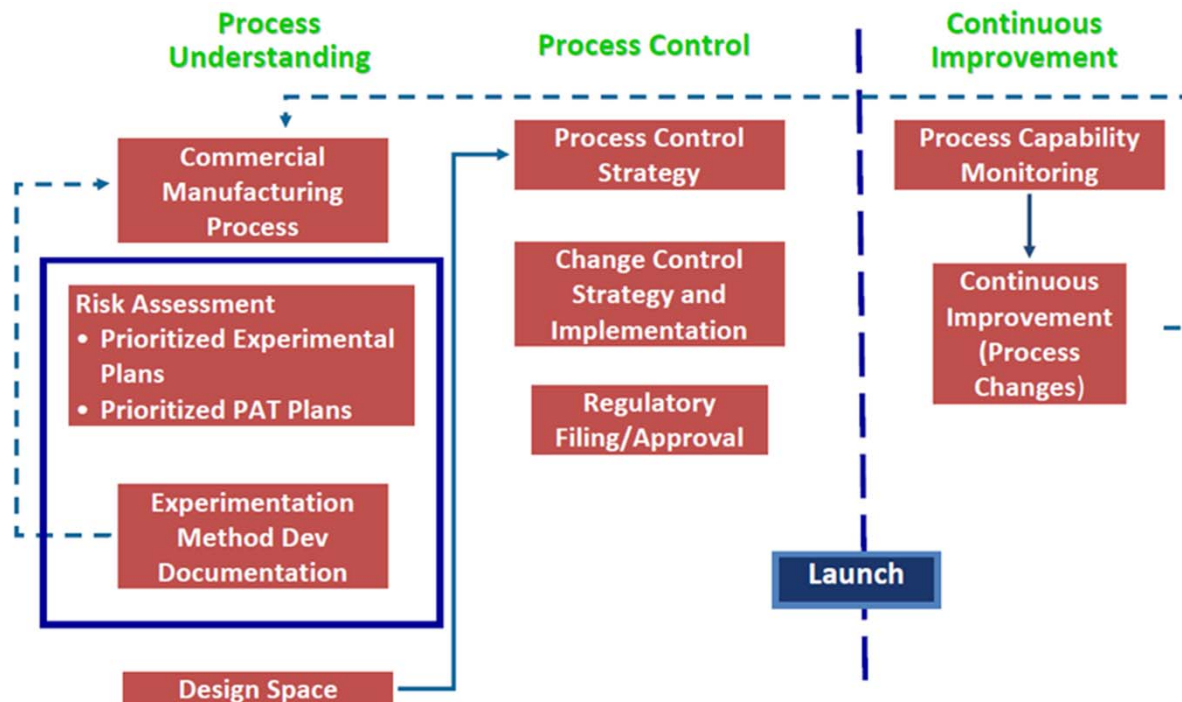


# Quality by Design

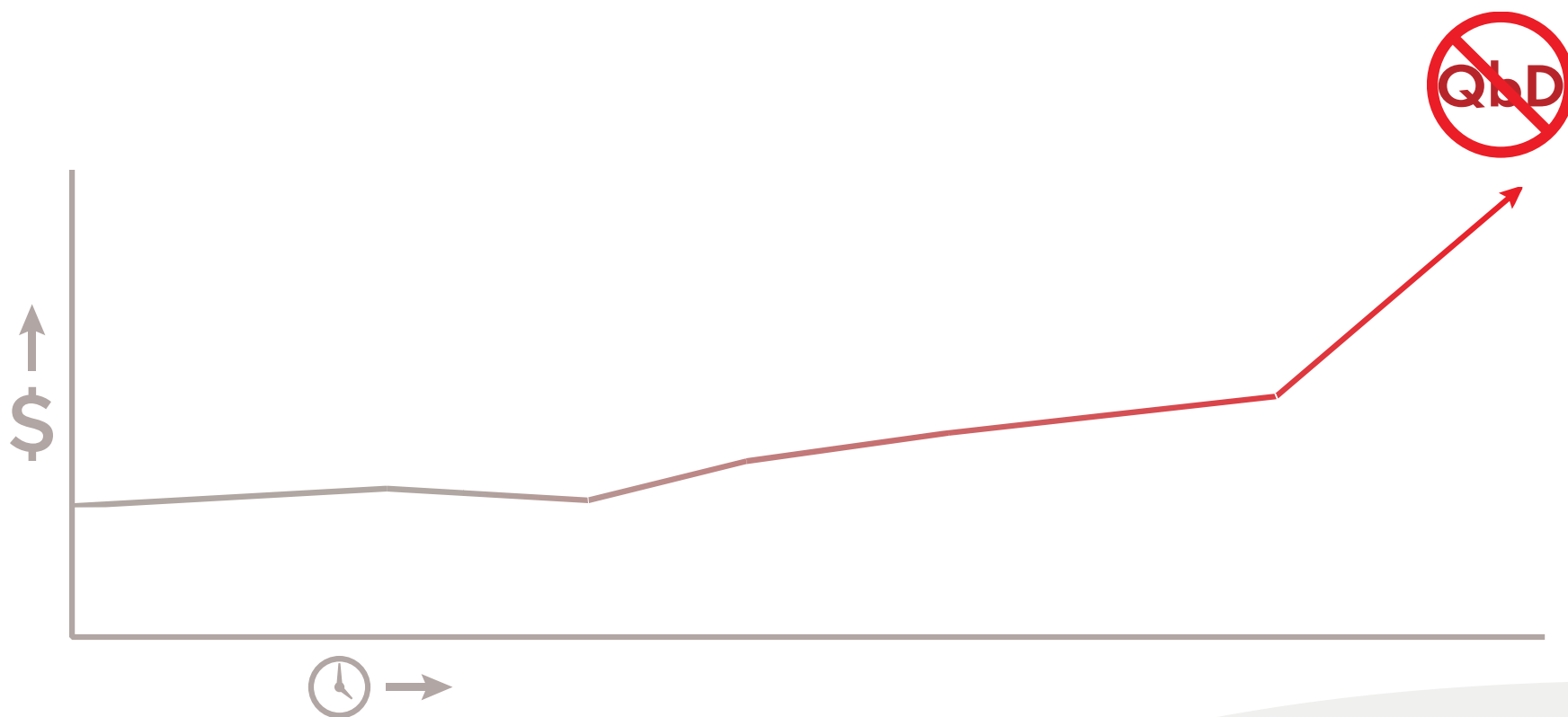


U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
Protecting and Promoting Public Health

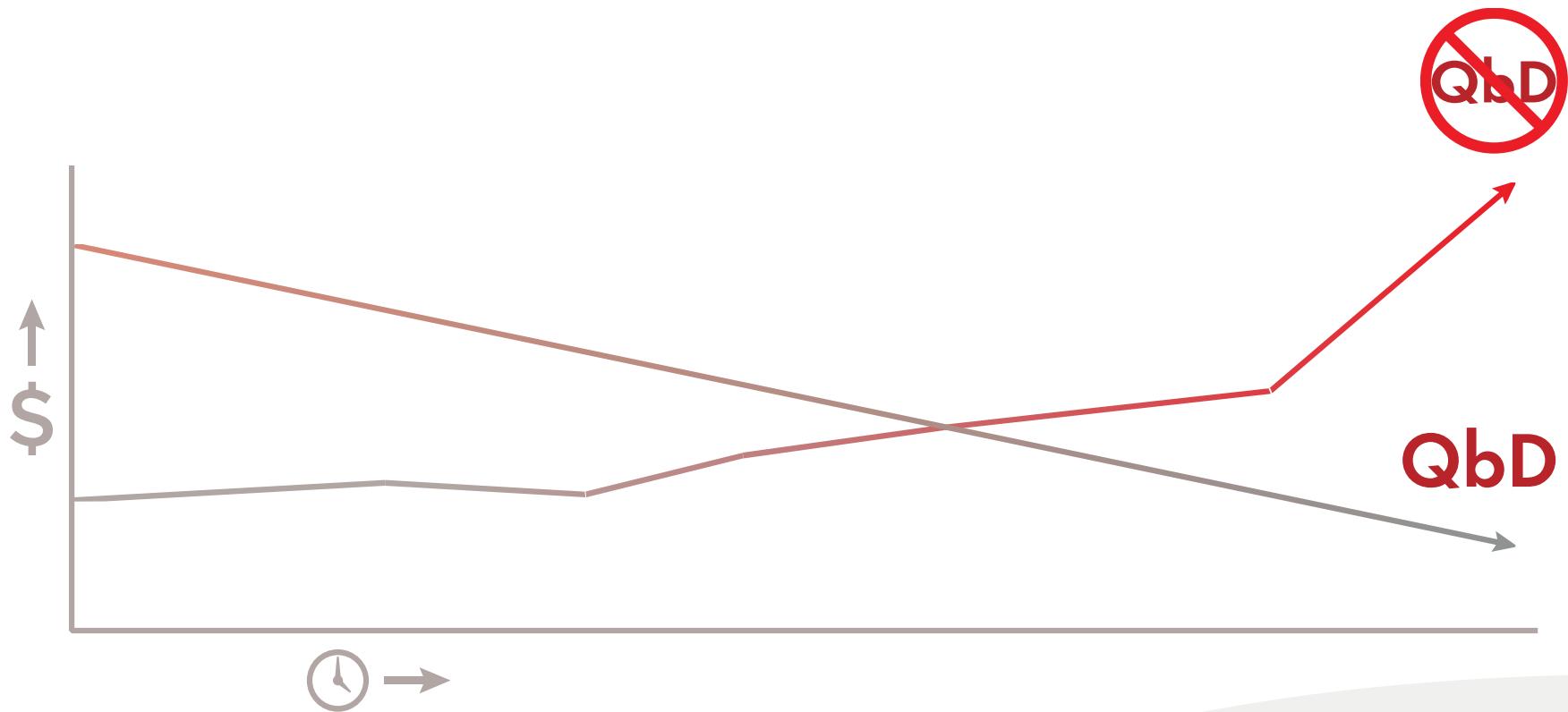
[www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov)



# The financial implications of QbD



# The financial implications of QbD







# Goals of Process Development

- Provide robust process
- Provide process appropriate for scale up
- Incorporate risk assessment
- Minimize risks



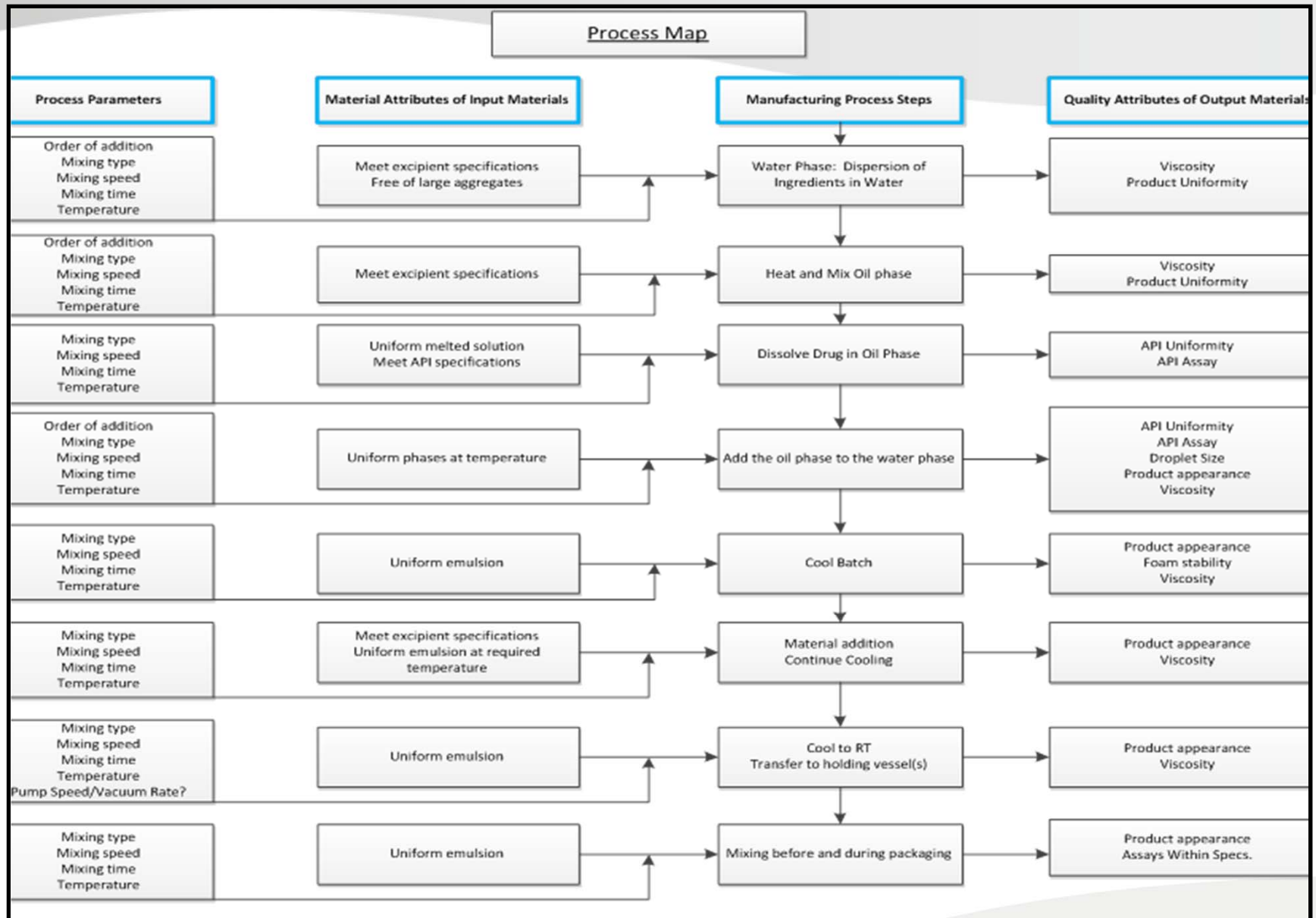
# Process Development is Important

- For Industry:
  - Enables specific scale-up and decreases variations in product quality
  - Ability to justify choice made
    - It can be used for justification of the proposed process, in-process controls, and scale-up to commercial size
- For FDA:
  - Facilitates review and risk-based supplement review
    - It may be used to justify regulatory relief in the future and build knowledge base of firms' capabilities
  - May equal less questions and comments...perhaps quicker approval

# To Begin Process Development

## Manufacturing Process Development

- Why was the manufacturing process selected for this drug product?  
**Why was the process chosen? Connect to drug substance properties.**
- How are the manufacturing steps (unit operations) related to the drug product quality?  
**Connect the process to the product and identify critical steps.**
- How were the critical process parameters identified, monitored, and/or controlled?  
**Summarize the process development studies used to do this.**
- What is the scale-up experience with the unit operations in this process?  
**Summarize the process development studies that support scale up.**



## Process Risk Assessment to identify Critical Process Parameters with the most potential to affect CQA's.

|                            | Process Steps  |                           |                               |  |   |   |  |
|----------------------------|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| <u>Drug Product CQA's</u>  | Water Phase:<br>Dispersion of<br>Ingredients in<br>Water | Heat and Mix<br>Oil Phase | Dissolve Drug<br>in Oil Phase | Add the oil<br>phase to the<br>water phase | Material<br>Addition<br>Continue<br>Cooling | Cool to RT and<br>transfer to<br>holding<br>vessel(s) | Mix Before<br>Packaging and<br>During<br>Packaging |
| API Assay                  | LOW  | LOW                       | HIGH                          | MEDIUM                                     | LOW   | LOW   | MEDIUM   |
| Identity of API            | LOW  | LOW                       | LOW                           | LOW  | LOW   | LOW   | LOW  |
| API-related Impurities     | LOW  | LOW                       | MEDIUM                        | LOW  | LOW   | LOW   | LOW  |
| Content Uniformity for API | LOW  | MEDIUM                    | MEDIUM                        | MEDIUM                                     | LOW   | LOW   | LOW  |
| Preservative Assay         | LOW  | HIGH                      | LOW                           | LOW  | LOW   | LOW   | MEDIUM   |
| Identity of Preservative   | LOW  | LOW                       | LOW                           | LOW  | LOW   | LOW   | LOW  |
| Product Appearance         | LOW  | LOW                       | LOW                           | HIGH                                       | MEDIUM                                      | LOW   | MEDIUM   |
| pH                         | LOW  | LOW                       | LOW                           | LOW  | LOW   | LOW   | LOW  |
| Viscosity                  | MEDIUM   | MEDIUM                    | LOW                           | HIGH                                       | HIGH  | HIGH  | HIGH   |
| Specific Gravity           | MEDIUM   | LOW                       | LOW                           | LOW  | LOW   | MEDIUM  | LOW  |
| Microbial Limits           | LOW  | HIGH                      | LOW                           | MEDIUM                                     | LOW   | LOW   | LOW  |

# Process Development and CPP's

Question: How were the critical process parameters identified, monitored, and/or controlled?

- Identification
  - Prior knowledge base of process/similar drug product
  - A Key Process Parameter is one that may be critical
  - Experimental work, (DOE studies, small scale batches, etc.)
    - Determines which key parameters are critical
- Monitoring
  - In-process tests and criteria
  - PAT continuous monitoring (if used)
- Control
  - Feedback control system that adapt to variability in input material or environment
  - How is data from the monitoring used to ensure quality?



# Design of Experiments

- Perform Design of Experiments for:
  - Determining potential parameters impacting product quality
  - Interactions with material attributes
  - Development of control strategy and in process controls
  - Determining and understanding Critical Process Parameters (CPP)
  - Understanding scale-dependent parameters
  - Number of batches depends on factors
  - Identify equipment design and operating principles based on process parameters and product attributes

Complex DOE performed to maximize one of CQA's of a non-traditional emulsion.

| <u>Batch</u> | <u>Primary Solubilizer</u> | <u>Secondary Solubilizer</u> | <u>Secondary Emulsifier</u> | <u>Primary Thickener</u> | <u>Primary Emulsifier</u> | <u>Secondary Thickener</u> |
|--------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1            | -1                         | +1                           | +1                          | -1                       | +1                        | +1                         |
| 2            | -1                         | 0                            | +1                          | 0                        | 0                         | 0                          |
| 3            | -1                         | +1                           | +1                          | +1                       | +1                        | -1                         |
| 4            | -1                         | 0                            | +1                          | 0                        | 0                         | 0                          |
| 5            | -1                         | +1                           | -1                          | -1                       | -1                        | -1                         |
| 6            | +1                         | +1                           | +1                          | -1                       | -1                        | -1                         |
| 7            | +1                         | -1                           | +1                          | -1                       | -1                        | +1                         |
| 8            | +1                         | +1                           | +1                          | +1                       | +1                        | +1                         |
| 9            | -1                         | +1                           | -1                          | +1                       | +1                        | +1                         |
| 10           | +1                         | -1                           | +1                          | -1                       | +1                        | -1                         |
| 11           | -1                         | +1                           | +1                          | +1                       | -1                        | +1                         |
| 12           | -1                         | -1                           | -1                          | -1                       | -1                        | +1                         |
| 13           | +1                         | -1                           | -1                          | -1                       | -1                        | -1                         |
| 14           | +1                         | -1                           | -1                          | -1                       | +1                        | +1                         |
| 15           | +1                         | -1                           | -1                          | +1                       | -1                        | +1                         |
| 16           | -1                         | -1                           | +1                          | +1                       | +1                        | +1                         |
| 17           | +1                         | -1                           | +1                          | +1                       | -1                        | -1                         |
| 18           | +1                         | +1                           | -1                          | +1                       | -1                        | -1                         |
| 19           | +1                         | -1                           | -1                          | +1                       | +1                        | -1                         |
| 20           | +1                         | +1                           | -1                          | -1                       | -1                        | +1                         |
| 21           | +1                         | +1                           | -1                          | -1                       | +1                        | -1                         |
| 22           | -1                         | -1                           | -1                          | +1                       | -1                        | -1                         |
| 23           | -1                         | 0                            | +1                          | 0                        | 0                         | 0                          |
| 24           | -1                         | -1                           | -1                          | -1                       | +1                        | -1                         |
| 25           | -1                         | -1                           | +1                          | -1                       | -1                        | -1                         |
| 26           | -1                         | -1                           | -1                          | -1                       | -1                        | -1                         |





# Critical Process Parameters

- Temperature and rates of heating and cooling
- Mixing methods and speeds
- Time
- Flow rates
- Order of addition
- Protection from degradation (UV light and O<sub>2</sub>)
- Equipment constraints



# Critical Process Parameters

## Temperature:

- Too much heat may result in chemical degradation
- Not enough heat during processing can lead to batch failures
- Too much cooling can cause precipitation

## Heating and Cooling rates:

- Heating too slowly may result in poor yields from evaporative loss
- Rapid cooling may result in precipitation/crystallization or increased viscosities

## Optimal flow rate:

- Emulsification – Rate of Oil to Water or Water to Oil
- Recirculation through a high shear mixer compared to use of internal high shear mixer
- Transfer pump at completion of process and during packaging



# Critical Process Parameters

High shear or low shear:

- What are the requirements for each?
  - Emulsification typically requires high shear
  - Mixing of a Gel may require low shear mixing

Obtaining proper mixing speeds for each phase at every batch scale:

- Development batches

Setting Time parameters:

- Mixing times
  - What is the minimum time required to obtain optimal effectiveness
  - What is the maximum time allowed before product failure
- Dissolution times for ingredients
  - Preformulation studies

# Design of Experiments to Test for Critical Process Parameters

| Batch # | Emulsification RPM | Time of Emulsification | Temperature of Emulsification | High Shear on cool down | Temperature switch to CMM | CMM Speed | Initial | 1 week  |
|---------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|
| 1       | High               | "x" minutes            | 75 - 80°C                     | Low                     | Low                       | "x" rpm   | 110,000 | 70,000  |
| 2       | High               | "x" minutes            | 75 - 80°C                     | Low                     | Medium                    | "x" rpm   | 100,000 | 80,000  |
| 3       | High               | "x" minutes            | 75 - 80°C                     | Low                     | High                      | "x" rpm   | 100,000 | 70,000  |
| 4       | High               | "x" minutes            | 75 - 80°C                     | Medium                  | Low                       | "x" rpm   | 120,000 | 110,000 |
| 5       | High               | "x" minutes            | 75 - 80°C                     | Medium                  | Medium                    | "x" rpm   | 70,000  | 60,000  |
| 6       | High               | "x" minutes            | 75 - 80°C                     | Medium                  | High                      | "x" rpm   | 60,000  | 50,000  |
| 7       | High               | "x" minutes            | 75 - 80°C                     | High                    | Low                       | "x" rpm   | 120,000 | 120,000 |
| 8       | High               | "x" minutes            | 75 - 80°C                     | High                    | Medium                    | "x" rpm   | 100,000 | 70,000  |
| 9       | High               | "x" minutes            | 75 - 80°C                     | High                    | High                      | "x" rpm   | 90,000  | 70,000  |

# Combination Raw Material and Process Study

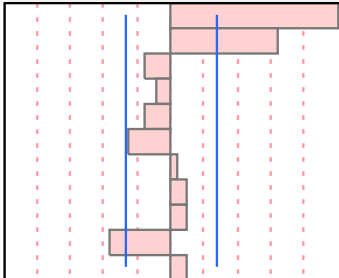
| Propylene Glycol | Acrylates Copolymer | Zinc Oxide Type | Mix Time | Viscosity | Zinc Oxide Particle Size (um) |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------|----------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| -1               | -1                  | 1               | -1       | 12000     | 60                            |
| -1               | -1                  | -1              | 1        | 10000     | 18                            |
| -1               | -1                  | -1              | -1       | 8000      | 24                            |
| 1                | 1                   | 1               | -1       | 26000     | 50                            |
| -1               | 1                   | -1              | -1       | 27000     | 26                            |
| -1               | 1                   | 1               | 1        | 20000     | 62                            |
| -1               | 1                   | 1               | 1        | 17250     | 46                            |
| 1                | -1                  | -1              | 1        | 18000     | 17                            |
| 1                | 1                   | -1              | 1        | 32000     | 15                            |
| 1                | -1                  | 1               | -1       | 19500     | 51                            |
| 1                | -1                  | 1               | 1        | 15000     | 45                            |
| 1                | 1                   | -1              | -1       | 25000     | 15                            |

# Data Analysis via:

## Screening

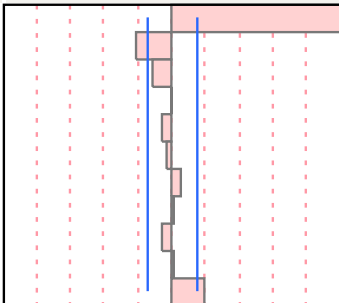
### Screening for Viscosity

#### Contrasts

| Term                                 | Contrast   |  | Lenth<br>t-Ratio | Individual<br>p-Value | Simultaneous<br>p-Value |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Acrylates Copolymer                  | 5395.83    |  | 6.41             | 0.0029*               | 0.0163*                 |
| Propylene Glycol                     | 3437.50    |  | 4.08             | 0.0113*               | 0.0696                  |
| Zinc Oxide Type                      | -854.17    |  | -1.01            | 0.2809                | 0.9747                  |
| Mix Time                             | -437.50    |  | -0.52            | 0.6510                | 1.0000                  |
| Acrylates Copolymer*Propylene Glycol | -842.55 *  |  | -1.00            | 0.2870                | 0.9777                  |
| Acrylates Copolymer*Zinc Oxide Type  | -1382.05 * |  | -1.64            | 0.1106                | 0.6143                  |
| Propylene Glycol*Zinc Oxide Type     | 215.17 *   |  | 0.26             | 0.8182                | 1.0000                  |
| Acrylates Copolymer*Mix Time         | 493.01 *   |  | 0.59             | 0.6086                | 1.0000                  |
| Propylene Glycol*Mix Time            | 529.57 *   |  | 0.63             | 0.5816                | 1.0000                  |
| Zinc Oxide Type*Mix Time             | -1952.99 * |  | -2.32            | 0.0445*               | 0.2773                  |
| Null12                               | 561.34     |  | 0.67             | 0.5002                | 1.0000                  |

### Screening for Zinc Oxide Particle Size (um)

#### Contrasts

| Term                                 | Contrast  |  | Lenth<br>t-Ratio | Individual<br>p-Value | Simultaneous<br>p-Value |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Zinc Oxide Type                      | 16.5833   |  | 12.16            | 0.0005*               | 0.0018*                 |
| Propylene Glycol                     | -3.5833   |  | -2.63            | 0.0312*               | 0.2134                  |
| Mix Time                             | -1.9167   |  | -1.41            | 0.1578                | 0.7750                  |
| Acrylates Copolymer                  | -0.0833   |  | -0.06            | 0.9562                | 1.0000                  |
| Zinc Oxide Type*Propylene Glycol     | -0.8504 * |  | -0.62            | 0.5750                | 1.0000                  |
| Zinc Oxide Type*Mix Time             | -0.5455 * |  | -0.40            | 0.7188                | 1.0000                  |
| Propylene Glycol*Mix Time            | 1.0328 *  |  | 0.76             | 0.4072                | 1.0000                  |
| Zinc Oxide Type*Acrylates Copolymer  | 0.3099 *  |  | 0.23             | 0.8368                | 1.0000                  |
| Propylene Glycol*Acrylates Copolymer | -0.9684 * |  | -0.71            | 0.4417                | 1.0000                  |
| Mix Time*Acrylates Copolymer         | 0.1961 *  |  | 0.14             | 0.8965                | 1.0000                  |
| Null12                               | 3.2660    |  | 2.39             | 0.0398*               | 0.2526                  |



# Deliverables of Process Development

- Raw material testing and supplier information
- Clinical/registration supplies of formulated product
- Validated analytical methods
- Process Development Report
- Pathway forward to validation and commercialization



# Process Development Report

- Process development report will include:
  - Every step of the process
  - Why it was done and scientific rationale
  - What went wrong that should be monitored (residual risk)
  - What went well and was critical
  - Overall results





# Goals of Scale Up

- Manufacture product at commercial scale in reliable, consistent manner
- Transition documents from clinical scale production to commercial scale production
- Confirm CMAs and CPPs
- Understand variability at larger scale
- Isolate and identify risks
- Provide robust process and parameters for validation



# Scale up Activities

- Manufacture drug product at commercial scale
- Should not exceed 10X clinical batch size
- Perform risk assessment before and after
- Manufacture feasibility batches (1-2)
- Test product uniformity
- Determine equipment size and operating principles
- Evaluate CPPs and CMAs
- Perform validation of process at target CPPs and process controls



# Process Scale up Development QbR

Question: What is the difference in size between commercial scale and the exhibit batch?

- Simply state the size difference between the commercial batch and the exhibit batch (e.g. n times)
- Indicate if any processes have a different scale-up factor
  - e.g. two phases for registration batch, but will be one in production scale batch



# Process Scale up Development QbR

Question: Does the equipment use the same design and operating principles?

- Comparison between registration batch and proposed commercial batch
- Include equipment used for development studies if used to justify limits or identify critical parameters
- Use SUPAC-SS equipment addendum if applicable



# Process Scale up Development QbR

- Identify changes in equipment, critical or quality related steps and controls
- Include rationale for changes
  - Rationale may be as simple as due to larger batch size (larger vessel) or
  - May need supportive development data in development report (change in processing parameters)



## Process Scale up Development QbR

Question: In the proposed scale-up plan what operating parameters will be adjusted to ensure the product meets all in-process and final product specifications?

- Optimized parameters can be addressed in process development report and summarized here
- No scale-up from registration batch size may be an option



# Process Scale up Development QbR

Question: What evidence supports the plan to scale up the process to commercial scale?

- Assurance must be provided that proposed process will yield product that is of high quality and purity.
  - Can use:
    - Scale-up experience from development to pilot batch
    - Prior experience with similar products/processes
    - Literature references/vendor scale-up factors
- Scale-up is tied to Process Validation and/or Evaluation - required as applicable
  - Description of relevant documentation/ data for validation of critical process steps



# Process Scale up Development QbR

Question: What is the scale-up experience with the unit operations in the process?

- Prior experience manufacturing products in similar equipment with similar process
- Pilot scale-up experience
- Literature references/vendor scale-up factors
- Summary of actual experiment runs
- Assessment of scale-up risks





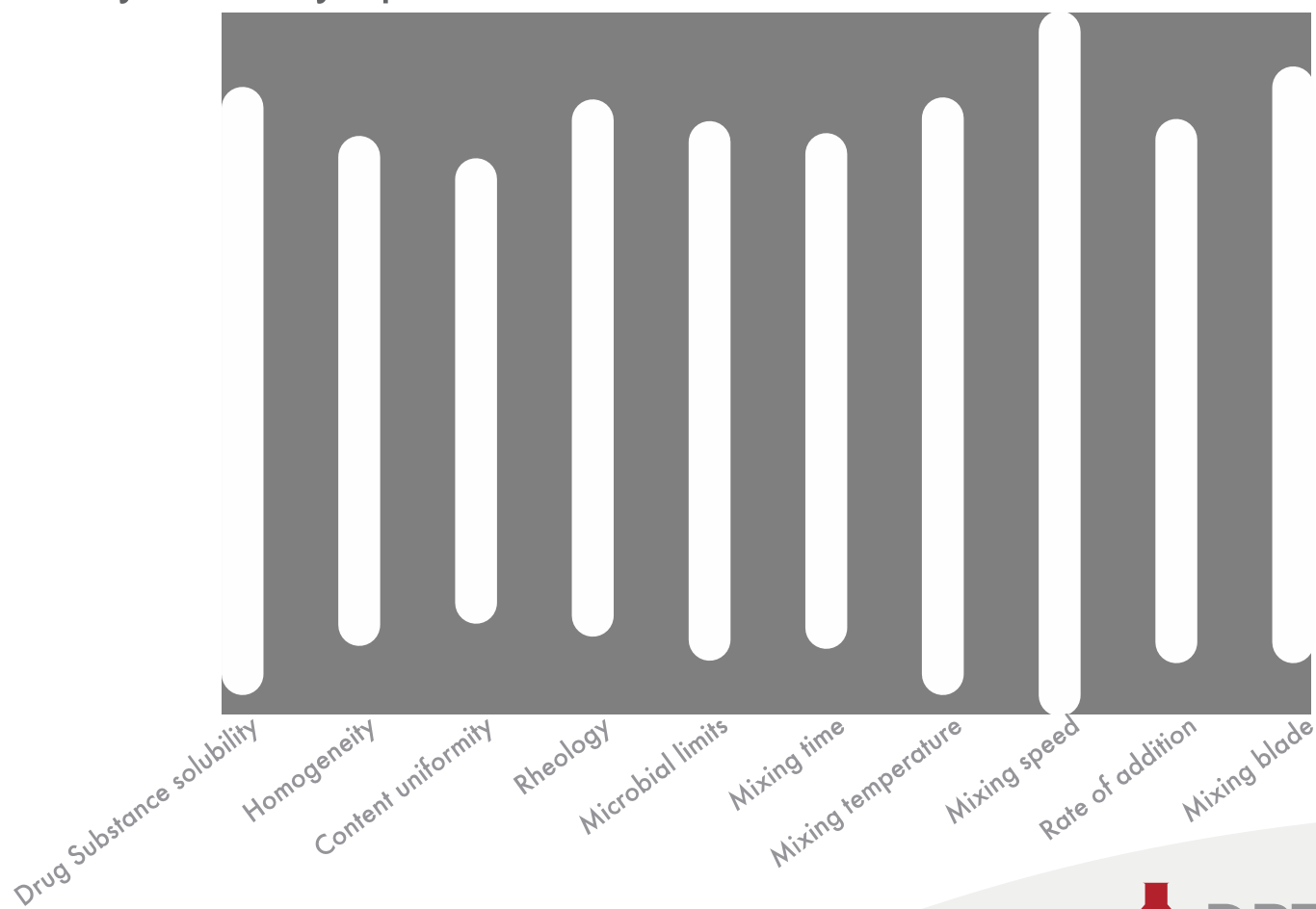
# In Summation: Why is QbD important?

There are many factors that impact the manufacturing process, such as:

- Drug Substance solubility
- Homogeneity
- Content uniformity
- Rheology/Viscosity
- Microbial limits
- Mixing time
- Mixing temperature
- Mixing speed
- Rate of addition
- Mixing blade

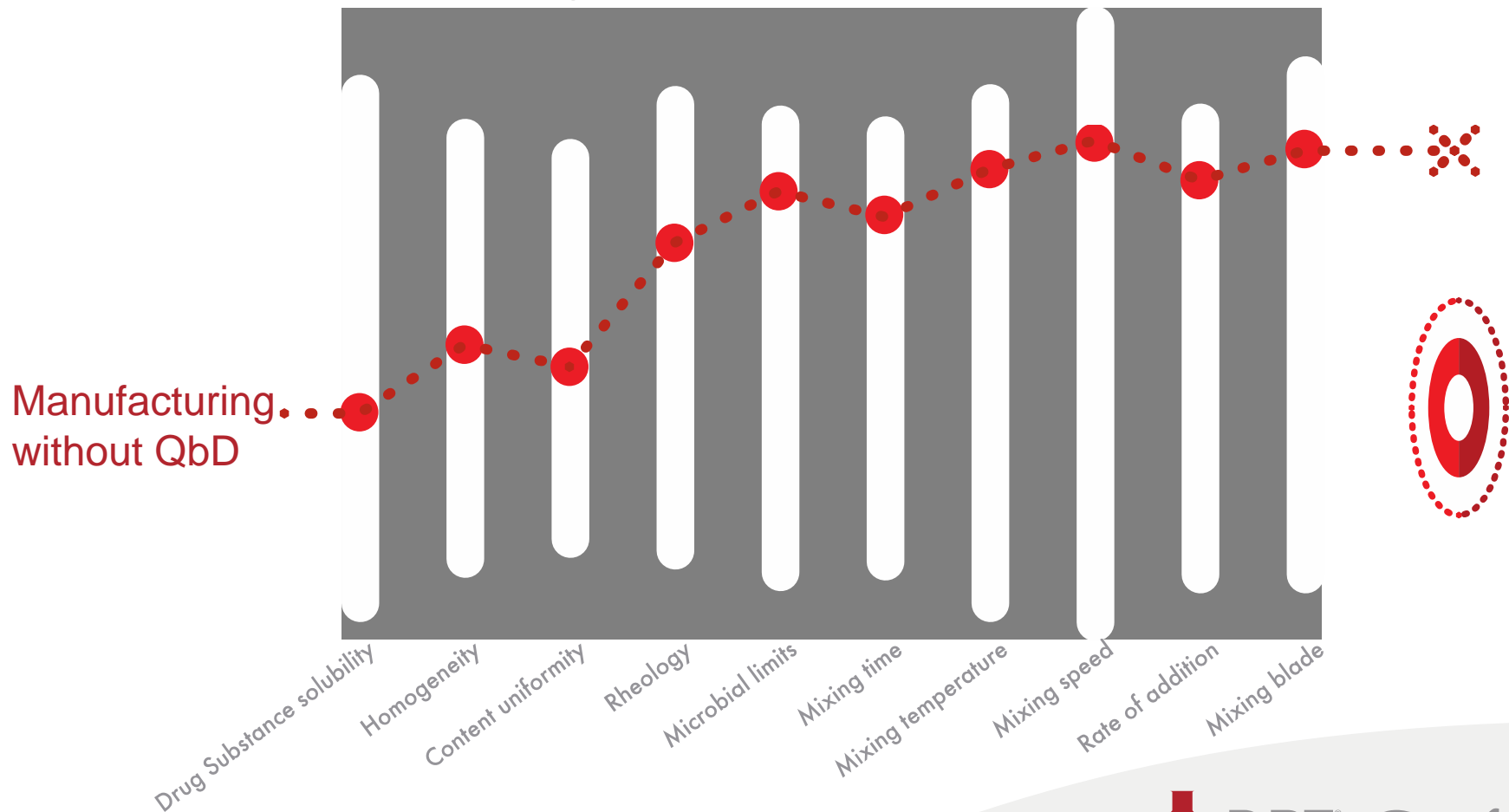
# Why is QbD important?

Variability is always present



# Why is QbD important?

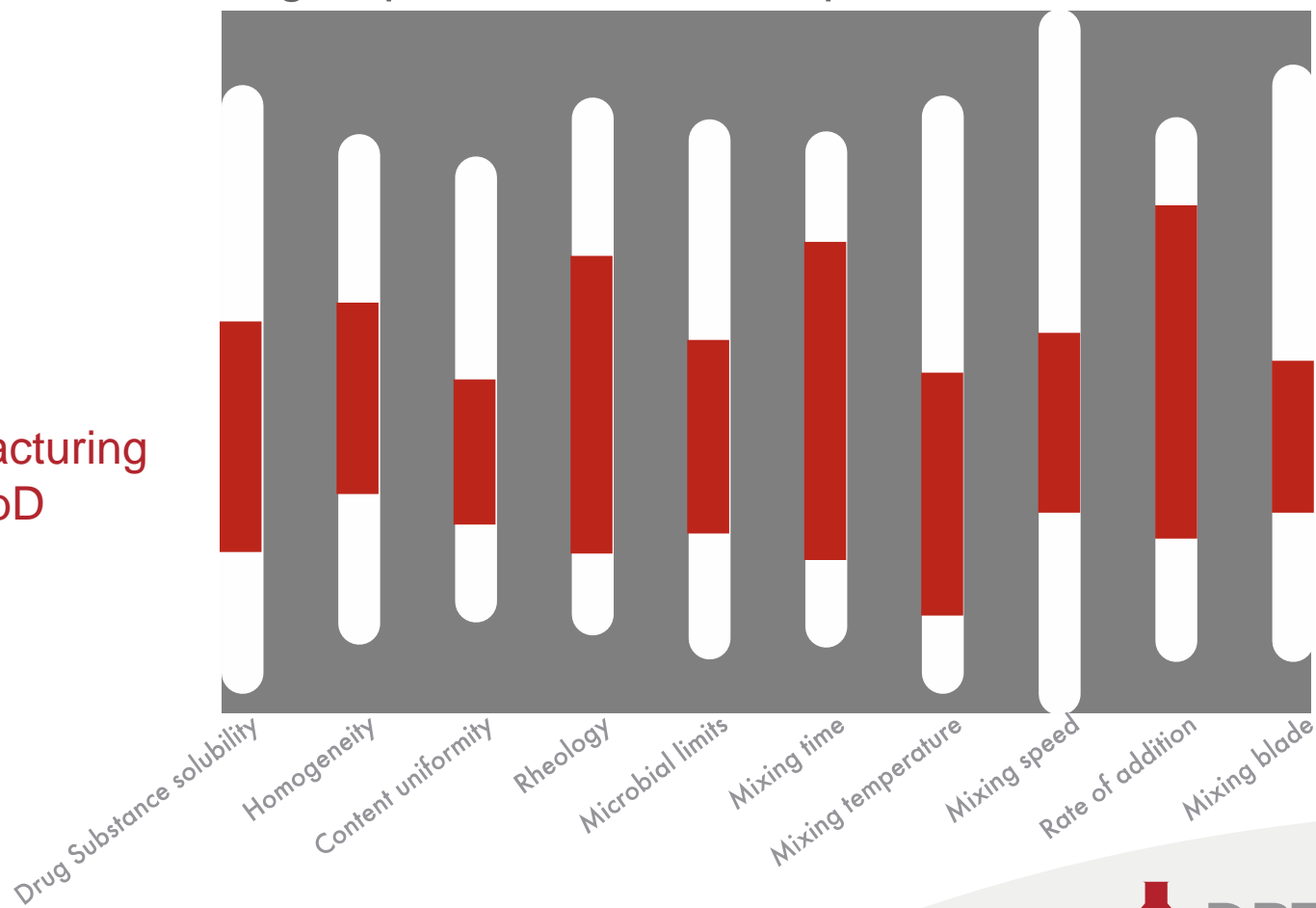
Variability can cause target to be missed



# Why is QbD important?

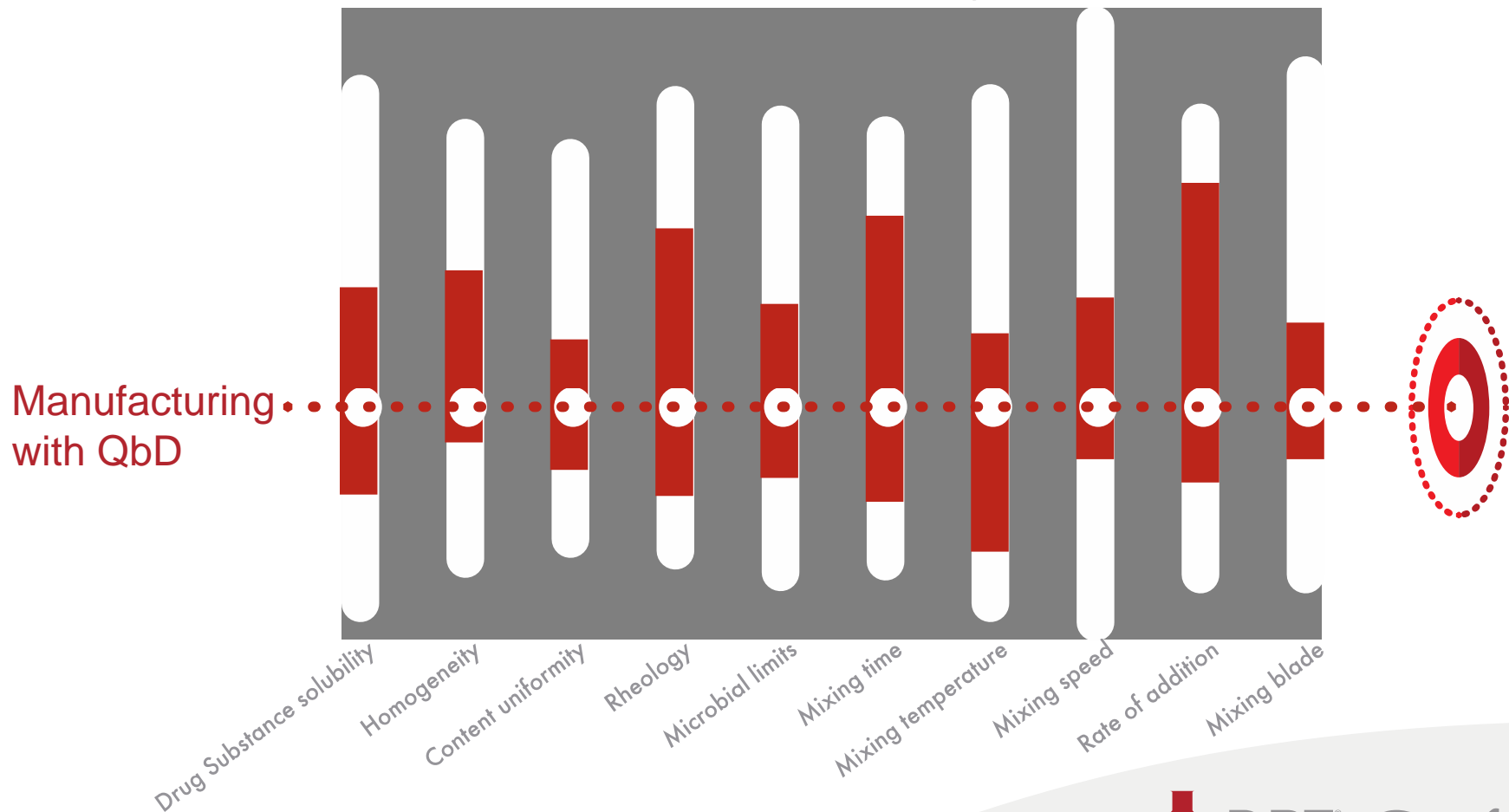
With QbD: Design Space and Control Space

Manufacturing  
with QbD



# Why is QbD important?

Controls and risk assessment zero in on target





THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

QUESTIONS?