

## FDA Recommendations for Broadening Eligibility Criteria, Enrollment Practices, and Trial Design



- Examine each exclusion criterion and tailor it as narrowly as possible. For example, include patients with milder heart disease while excluding those with advanced heart failure.
- Eliminate or modify restrictive exclusion criteria as trials progress from phase II to III.
- Base exclusions on an appropriate measure of organ dysfunction that does not lead to unnecessary exclusion.
- Include children and adolescents in confirmatory clinical trials with adults.
- In early clinical development, characterize drug metabolism and clearance in populations that may metabolize or clear the drug differently, to prevent future exclusions.
- Consider utilizing adaptive clinical trials, which allow initiation with a narrow population and expansion to a broader population based on interim and external data.
- Consider including a broader participant group as part of secondary efficacy and safety analyses. This provides information on effectiveness and safety in a broader population (for example, across all disease stages or syndrome presentations) while not decreasing the chances of success on the primary endpoint with a particular stage of disease.