Vectora LAI

SCOPE & TAXONOMY

The LAI universe, defined

A Long-Acting Injectable (LAI) is not a keyword. Vectora defines the universe with **one defensible rule** — and holds the line where others blur it.

What qualifies as a LAI

Every asset in Vectora meets three cumulative criteria. Miss one, and it is out — regardless of how it is marketed.

1. **Injectable route.** IM, SC, slow IV, perineural, intra-articular, intra-tumoral, intravitreal, epidural. Not oral, not transdermal, not solid non-injectable implants.
2. **A deliberate duration technology.** Either a **Drug Delivery System** (the formulation releases the drug over time) or **Half-Life Extension** (the molecule is engineered to last). A long native half-life alone does not count.
3. **Duration that breaks with daily dosing.** Significantly longer than the indication's immediate-release standard, with a hard floor of **≥ 48 hours** after a single dose.

Where others blur — and Vectora holds the line

Keyword tagging pulls in molecules that are long-acting for the wrong reasons. Vectora excludes them, on purpose:

- × **Long-acting by mechanism, not technology.** Bisphosphonates, botulinum toxin, native-long-half-life antibodies — the effect comes from the biological target, not a delivery or half-life technology.
- × **Daily basal insulins.** Lantus, Levemir, Tresiba carry real HLE chemistry — but act under 48h and are injected daily. Out. Only weekly-plus HLE insulins (e.g. insulin icodec) qualify.
- × **Pure implants.** A device-and-procedure story, not drug delivery. Captured only when they compete alongside a LAI — never as standalone assets.
- × **Short or daily injectables.** Below the 48-hour floor, however "sustained" the label sounds.
- × **Vaccines, cell & gene therapy.** Out by editorial scope — unless a DDS/HLE technology carries the payload. The test is always the source of the duration: engineered delivery, not the biology itself.

Calibrated to the clinic, not a blunt cutoff

"Long-acting" means something different in post-operative pain than in schizophrenia. The rule is relative to each indication's standard of care — with the 48-hour floor underneath.

INDICATION	IMMEDIATE-RELEASE STANDARD	QUALIFYING LONG-ACTING ASSETS
Post-op pain	bupivacaine ~4–6h	**EXPAREL** (48h), **ZYNRELEF** (72h)

INDICATION	IMMEDIATE-RELEASE STANDARD	QUALIFYING LONG-ACTING ASSETS
Opioid use disorder	daily buprenorphine	**Sublocade** (monthly), **Brixadi** (weekly–monthly)
HIV / PrEP	daily oral	**Cabenuva** (1–2 monthly), **Apretude** (2-monthly), **Sunlenca** (6-monthly)
Schizophrenia	daily oral	**Invega Sustenna** (monthly), **Uzedy** (monthly), **Hafyera** (6-monthly)
Endocrine oncology	leuprolide IR	**Lupron Depot**, **Eligard**, **Zoladex**
Acromegaly / NET	octreotide ~4h	**Sandostatin LAR**, **Somatuline** (monthly)
Type-2 diabetes	exenatide BID	**Ozempic**, **Trulicity**, **Bydureon** (weekly)
Hemophilia	recombinant factor	**ALTUVIIIO**, **Adynovate**, **Elocta** (weekly–bi-weekly)

A structured technology map

Every asset is placed in a technology ontology — not a free-text tag.

Drug Delivery Systems · DDS

PLGA microspheres · in-situ depots (Atrigel, BEPO, SABER, FluidCrystal) · liposomal / DepoFoam · crystalline & nanocrystalline suspensions · solubility-modified prodrugs.

Half-Life Extension · HLE

PEGylation · Fc fusion · albumin binding · lipidation · XTEN / PASylation · glyco-engineering.

One structured, queryable map of the LAI landscape

- **Entities** — companies, assets, marketed products (trademarks), technologies, indications.
- **Two grains** — the **asset** (a molecule and its delivery technology) and the **product** (an approved brand, market by market — FDA vs EMA).
- **Provenance where it is real** — regulatory facts link back to the FDA / EMA label.

Scope as defined by Vectora · Coverage current to **July 2026**

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