The R.W. Johnson Research Institute Attention: Natasha Rogozenski Assistant Director of Regulatory Affairs 920 Route 202 South P.O. Box 300 Raritan, New Jersey 08869-0602

Dear Ms. Rogozenski:

Please refer to your supplemental new drug application dated February 23, 1999, received February 26, 1999, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Ultram (tramadol hydrochloride tablets) Tablets, 50 mg and 100 mg.

We acknowledge receipt of your submissions dated March 8 and 30; April 16; June 7; August 25; and December 2, 14, and 22, 1999.

This supplemental new drug application provides for the addition of a score to the Ultram 50 mg Tablet in order to allow a titration dosing regimen using a 25 mg dose.

We have completed the review of this supplemental application, as amended, and have concluded that adequate information has been presented to demonstrate that the drug product is safe and effective for use as recommended in the agreed upon labeling text. Accordingly, the supplemental application is approved effective on the date of this letter.

The final printed labeling (FPL) must be identical to the enclosed labeling (text for the package insert). Marketing the product with FPL that is not identical to the approved labeling text may render the product misbranded and an unapproved new drug.

Please submit 20 copies of the FPL as soon as it is available, in no case more than 30 days after it is printed. Individually mount ten of the copies on heavy-weight paper or similar material. For administrative purposes, this submission should be designated "FPL for approved supplemental NDA number 20-281/S-016." Approval of this submission by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.

Be advised that, as of April 1, 1999, all applications for new active ingredients, new dosage forms, new indications, new routes of administration, and new dosing regimens are required to contain an assessment of the safety and effectiveness of the product in pediatric patients unless this

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requirement is waived or deferred (63 FR 66632). We note that you have not fulfilled the

requirements of 21 CFR 314.55 (or 601.27). We are deferring submission of your pediatric studies until 12/02/2000. However, in the interim, please submit your pediatric drug development plans within 120 days from the date of this letter unless you believe a waiver is appropriate.

If you believe that this drug qualifies for a waiver of the pediatric study requirement, you should submit a request for a waiver with supporting information and documentation in accordance with the provisions of 21 CFR 314.55 within 60 days from the date of this letter. We will notify you within 120 days of receipt of your response whether a waiver is granted. If a waiver is not granted, we will ask you to submit your pediatric drug development plans within 120 days from the date of denial of the waiver.

Pediatric studies conducted under the terms of section 505A of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act may result in additional marketing exclusivity for certain products (pediatric exclusivity). You should refer to the Guidance for Industry on Qualifying for Pediatric Exclusivity (available on our web site at www.fda.gov/cder/pediatric) for details. If you wish to qualify for pediatric exclusivity you should submit a "Proposed Pediatric Study Request" (PPSR) in addition to your plans for pediatric drug development described above. We recommend that you submit a Proposed Pediatric Study Request within 120 days from the date of this letter. If you are unable to meet this time frame but are interested in pediatric exclusivity, please notify the division in writing. FDA generally will not accept studies submitted to an NDA before issuance of a Written Request as responsive to a Written Request. Sponsors should obtain a Written Request before submitting pediatric studies to an NDA. If you do not submit a PPSR or indicate that you are interested in pediatric exclusivity, we will proceed with the pediatric drug development plan that you submit and notify you of the pediatric studies that are required under section 21 CFR 314.55. Please note that satisfaction of the requirements in 21 CFR 314.55 alone may not qualify you for pediatric exclusivity. FDA does not necessarily ask a sponsor to complete the same scope of studies to qualify for pediatric exclusivity as it does to fulfill the requirements of the pediatric rule.

In addition, please submit three copies of the introductory promotional materials that you propose to use for this product. All proposed materials should be submitted in draft or mock-up form, not final print. Please submit one copy to this Division and two copies of both the promotional materials and the package insert directly to:

Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications, HFD-40 Food and Drug Administration 5600 Fishers Lane Rockville, Maryland 20857

If a letter communicating important information about this drug product (i.e., a "Dear Health Care Practitioner" letter) is issued to physicians and others responsible for patient care, we request that you submit a copy of the letter to this NDA and a copy to the following address:

MEDWATCH, HF-2 FDA 5600 Fishers Lane Rockville, MD 20857

Please submit one market package of the drug product when it is available.

We remind you that you must comply with the requirements for an approved NDA set forth under 21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81.

If you have any questions, contact Yoon J. Kong, Pharm.D., Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 827-2090.

Sincerely,

Karen Midthun, M.D.
Director
Division of Anti-Inflammatory, Analgesic and
Ophthalmic Drug Products
Office of Drug Evaluation V
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Attachment: Labeling