



NDA 22-297

Aurobindo Pharma Limited
Attention: Roopak Sawhney, Regulatory Affairs
APL Research Center-313 Bachupally
Quthubullapur Mandal
Hyderabad-72
India

Dear Mr. Sawhney:

Please refer to your new drug application (NDA) 22-297 dated June 14, 2008, received on June 18, 2008, submitted pursuant to section 505(b)(2) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Efavirenz 100 mg Tablets.

We acknowledge receipt of your submissions dated:

January 24, 2008
February 15, 2008

April 21, 2008
July 3, 2008

August 20, 2008
September 4, 2008

This NDA provides for the use of Efavirenz 100 mg Tablets in combination with other antiretrovirals for the treatment of HIV-1 infection.

We completed our review of this application. It is **tentatively approved** under 21 CFR 314.105 for use as recommended in the agreed-upon labeling (refer to the enclosed text for the package insert, patient package insert, and immediate container, carton and bulk pack labels). Also refer to your original submission for the immediate container, carton, and bulk pack labels on January 24, 2008, and to the agreed-upon labeling emailed on December 12, 2008, for the package insert and patient package insert. Based on the data provided, the expiration dating period is 24 months for Efavirenz 100 mg Tablets in (b) (4) and (b) (4) blisters when stored at 20° - 25° C (68° - 77° F).

The tentative approval is contingent upon information available to the Agency at this time (i.e., information in your application and the status of current good manufacturing practices of the facilities used in manufacturing and testing of the drug product) and is, therefore, subject to change on the basis of any new information that may come to our attention.

The listed reference drug product upon which you base your application is subject to a period of patent protection and therefore, final approval of your application under section 505(b) may not be made effective until the period has expired. If you have questions as to when this date will be, please contact the Agency at the information provided below.

At least 180 days prior to the expiration of patent protection or when requested, submit a “**MINOR AMENDMENT – FINAL APPROVAL REQUESTED**” as an amendment to this application identifying changes, if any, in the conditions under which your product was tentatively approved. This information should include updated labeling, chemistry, manufacturing and control data, and a safety update. This amendment should include draft final printed labels and labeling which comply with all United States regulations (uniqueness of drug product appearance per 21 CFR 206; child-resistant packaging per 16 CFR 1700, etc.). This amendment should be submitted even if none of these changes were made. This amendment should be designated clearly in your cover letter as a “**MINOR AMENDMENT – FINAL APPROVAL REQUESTED.**”

Failure to submit this amendment will prompt a review of this application that may result in rescission of the tentative approval status of your application, or may result in a delay in the issuance of the final approval letter.

Any significant change in the conditions outlined in this NDA requires our review before final approval may be granted.

We remind you that you are expected to comply with the reporting requirements provided in 21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81. If the combination product is to be mass distributed in developing countries, a system of collecting and reporting adverse drug reactions by the distributor would be desirable (e.g., through governmental or nongovernmental agencies distributing the products).

We remind you that, should you intend to market this product in the United States after the period of patent protection, you are required to join the antiretroviral pregnancy registry at that time and make the appropriate labeling change that references the existence of the pregnancy registry. In addition, an updated package insert (PI) must be submitted under the Structured Product Labeling requirements (<http://www.fda.gov/oc/datacouncil/spl.html>) as defined by the Physician’s Labeling Rule [21 CFR 201.56, 201.57].

Before we issue a final approval letter, this NDA is not deemed approved. If you believe that there are grounds for issuing the final approval letter before the period of patent protection has expired, you should amend your application accordingly.

This product may be considered misbranded under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act if it is marketed in the United States before final approval.

If you have any questions, please call Monica Zeballos, Pharm.D., Senior Program Consultant, at (301) 796-0840 or via email at monica.zeballos@fda.hhs.gov.

Sincerely yours,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Jeffrey Murray, M.D., M.P.H.
Deputy Director
Division of Antiviral Products
Office of Antimicrobial Products
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Attachments: Draft PI, PPI, and immediate container, carton and bulk pack labels

Emailed CC: Blessy Johns, U.S. Agent for Aurobindo
2400 Route 130
North Dayton, NJ 08810

**This is a representation of an electronic record that was signed electronically and
this page is the manifestation of the electronic signature.**

/s/

Jeffrey Murray
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