



NDA 22-217

NDA APPROVAL

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
Attention: Lily Chan, Pharm.D.
Drug Regulatory Affairs - CVM
One Health Plaza
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Dear Dr. Chan:

Please refer to your new drug application (NDA) dated November 26, 2008, received November 26, 2008, submitted under section 505(b)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Valturna (aliskiren/valsartan) 150 mg/160 mg and 300 mg/320 mg Tablets.

We acknowledge receipt of your submissions dated November 26 and December 17, 2008, and February 9, March 17 and 24, April 1 and 17, May 11 and 22, June 3 and 4, July 7, 10, 23, 24 and 31, August 6, 24, and 25, 2009.

This new drug application provides for the use of Valturna (aliskiren/valsartan) 150 mg/160 mg and 300 mg/320 mg Tablets for the treatment of hypertension in patients not adequately controlled with monotherapy and as initial therapy in patients likely to need multiple drugs to achieve their blood pressure goals.

We have completed our review of this application, as amended, and it is approved, effective on the date of this letter, for use as recommended in the enclosed agreed-upon labeling text. However, we note that the physician sample bottle is not approved due to insufficient stability data. The data that were provided were only for one batch rather than three batches, for each strength.

CONTENT OF LABELING

As soon as possible, but no later than 14 days from the date of this letter, please submit the content of labeling [21 CFR 314.50(l)] in structured product labeling (SPL) format, as described at <http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/DataStandards/StructuredProductLabeling/ucm155657.htm> that is identical to the enclosed labeling (text for the package insert, text for the patient package insert) and/or submitted labeling (package insert submitted August 24, 2009, patient package insert submitted August 24, 2009). Upon receipt, we will transmit that version to the National Library of Medicine for public dissemination. For administrative purposes, please designate this submission, "**SPL for approved NDA 22-217.**"

CONTENT OF IMMEDIATE CONTAINER LABELS

Submit final printed carton and container labels that are identical to the enclosed carton and immediate container labels as soon as they are available, but no more than 30 days after they are printed. Please submit these labels electronically according to the guidance for industry titled *Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic Format – Human Pharmaceutical Product Applications and Related Submissions Using the eCTD Specifications (October 2005)*.

Alternatively, you may submit 12 paper copies, with 6 of the copies individually mounted on heavy-weight paper or similar material. For administrative purposes, designate this submission “**Final Printed Carton and Container Labels for approved NDA 22-217.**” Approval of this submission by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.

Marketing the product with FPL that is not identical to the approved labeling text may render the product misbranded and an unapproved new drug.

REQUIRED PEDIATRIC ASSESSMENTS

Under the Pediatric Research Equity Act (PREA) (21 U.S.C. 355c), all applications for new active ingredients, new indications, new dosage forms, new dosing regimens, or new routes of administration are required to contain an assessment of the safety and effectiveness of the product for the claimed indication(s) in pediatric patients unless this requirement is waived, deferred, or inapplicable.

We are waiving the pediatric study requirement for this application because this product does not represent a meaningful therapeutic benefit over existing therapies for pediatric patients **and** is not likely to be used in a substantial number of pediatric patients. Valturna is a combination antihypertensive agent. There are single agent products studied and labeled for use in pediatrics, and most pediatric patients are not treated with combination antihypertensives (supported by **The Fourth Report on the Diagnosis, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure in Children and Adolescents**, *Pediatrics* 2004;114;555-576).

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

You may request advisory comments on proposed introductory advertising and promotional labeling. To do so, submit, in triplicate, a cover letter requesting advisory comments, the proposed materials in draft or mock-up form with annotated references, and the package insert to:

Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications
5901-B Ammendale Road
Beltsville, MD 20705-1266

As required under 21 CFR 314.81(b)(3)(i), you must submit final promotional materials, and the package insert, at the time of initial dissemination or publication, accompanied by a Form FDA 2253. For instruction on completing the Form FDA 2253, see page 2 of the Form. For more information about submission of promotional materials to the Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications (DDMAC), see <http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/CentersOffices/CDER/ucm090142.htm>.

LETTERS TO HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

If you issue a letter communicating important safety-related information about this drug product (i.e., a “Dear Health Care Professional” letter), we request that you submit an electronic copy of the letter to both this NDA and to the following address:

MedWatch
Food and Drug Administration
Suite 12B-05
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

We remind you that you must comply with reporting requirements for an approved NDA (21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81).

If you have any questions, please call:

Lori Anne Wachter, RN, BSN
Regulatory Project Manager
(301) 796-3975

Sincerely,
{See appended electronic signature page}
Norman Stockbridge, M.D., Ph.D.
Director
Division of Cardiovascular and Renal Products
Office of Drug Evaluation I
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Enclosures: Agreed-upon labeling text
Carton and immediate container labels

Application Type/Number	Submission Type/Number	Submitter Name	Product Name
NDA-22217	ORIG-1	NOVARTIS PHARMACEUTICA LS CORP	ALISKIREN & VALSARTAN

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

/s/

Lori A WACHTER
09/16/2009

NORMAN L STOCKBRIDGE
09/16/2009