



NDA 011719/S-117

SUPPLEMENT APPROVAL

Hospira, Inc.
Attention: Kathleen G. Enger
Manager, Global Regulatory Affairs
275 N. Field Drive, D-389, Bldg. H2-2N
Lake Forest, IL 60045-5046

Dear Ms. Enger:

Please refer to your Supplemental New Drug Application (sNDA) dated September 1, 2011, received September 1, 2011, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA) for Methotrexate Sodium for Injection.

We acknowledge receipt of your amendment dated October 21, 2011.

We also refer to our letter dated August 2, 2011, notifying you, under Section 505(o)(4) of the FDCA, of new safety information that we believe should be included in the labeling for Methotrexate Sodium for Injection. This information pertains to the risk of a potential drug interaction with proton pump inhibitors causing decreased elimination of methotrexate and the potential for serious toxicity resulting from elevated serum drug levels.

This supplemental new drug application provides for revisions to the labeling for Methotrexate Sodium for Injection. The agreed upon changes to the language included in our August 2, 2011, letter are as follows (additions are noted by underline and deletion are noted by ~~striketrough~~).

WARNINGS

Use caution when administering high-dose methotrexate to patients receiving proton pump inhibitor (PPI) therapy. Case reports and published population pharmacokinetic studies suggest that concomitant use of some ~~proton pump inhibitors (PPIs)~~, such as omeprazole, esomeprazole, and pantoprazole, with methotrexate (primarily at high dose), may elevate and prolong serum levels of methotrexate and/or its metabolite hydroxymethotrexate, possibly leading to methotrexate toxicities. (b) (4)

In two of these cases, delayed methotrexate elimination was observed when high-dose methotrexate was co-administered with PPIs, but was not observed when methotrexate was co-administered with ranitidine. However, no formal drug interaction studies of methotrexate with ranitidine have been conducted.

We have completed our review of this supplemental application, as amended. It is approved, effective on the date of this letter, for use as recommended in the enclosed, agreed-upon labeling text.

We note that your October 21, 2011, submission includes final printed labeling (FPL) for your package insert. We have not reviewed this FPL. You are responsible for assuring that the wording in this printed labeling is identical to that of the approved content of labeling in the structured product labeling (SPL) format.

CONTENT OF LABELING

As soon as possible, but no later than 14 days from the date of this letter, submit the content of labeling [21 CFR 314.50(l)] in structured product labeling (SPL) format using the FDA automated drug registration and listing system (eLIST), as described at <http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/DataStandards/StructuredProductLabeling/default.htm>. Content of labeling must be identical to the enclosed labeling (text for the package insert), with the addition of any labeling changes in pending “Changes Being Effectuated” (CBE) supplements, as well as annual reportable changes not included in the enclosed labeling.

Information on submitting SPL files using eLIST may be found in the guidance for industry titled “SPL Standard for Content of Labeling Technical Qs and As” at <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/DrugsGuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM072392.pdf>

The SPL will be accessible from publicly available labeling repositories.

Also within 14 days, amend all pending supplemental applications for this NDA, including CBE supplements for which FDA has not yet issued an action letter, with the content of labeling [21 CFR 314.50(l)(1)(i)] in MS Word format, that includes the changes approved in this supplemental application, as well as annual reportable changes and annotate each change. To facilitate review of your submission, provide a highlighted or marked-up copy that shows all changes, as well as a clean Microsoft Word version. The marked-up copy should provide appropriate annotations, including supplement number(s) and annual report date(s).

PROPRIETARY NAME

If you intend to have a proprietary name for this product, the name and its use in the labels must conform to the specifications under 21 CFR 201.10 and 201.15. We recommend that you submit a request for a proposed proprietary name review. (See the guidance for industry titled, “Contents of a Complete Submission for the Evaluation of Proprietary Names”, at <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/ucm075068.pdf> and “PDUFA Reauthorization Performance Goals and Procedures Fiscal Years 2008 through 2012”.)

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

You may request advisory comments on proposed introductory advertising and promotional labeling. To do so, submit the following, in triplicate, (1) a cover letter requesting advisory comments, (2) the proposed materials in draft or mock-up form with annotated references, and (3) the package insert(s) 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

You must submit final promotional materials and package insert(s), accompanied by a Form FDA 2253, at the time of initial dissemination or publication [21 CFR 314.81(b)(3)(i)]. Form FDA 2253 is available at <http://www.fda.gov/opacom/morechoices/fdaforms/cder.html>; instructions are provided on 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>.

All promotional materials that include representations about your drug product must be promptly revised to be consistent with the labeling changes approved in this supplement, including any new safety information [21 CFR 314.70(a)(4)]. The revisions in your promotional materials should include prominent disclosure of the important new safety information that appears in the revised package labeling. Within 7 days of receipt of this letter, submit your statement of intent to comply with 21 CFR 314.70(a)(4) to the address above or by fax to 301-847-8444.

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, call Susan Jenney, Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 796-0062.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Robert L. Justice, M.D., M.S.
Director
Division of Oncology Products 1
Office of Hematology and Oncology Products
Center of Drug Evaluation and Research

ENCLOSURE:
Content of Labeling

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

/s/

ROBERT L JUSTICE
11/01/2011