



BLA 103949/5263

SUPPLEMENT APPROVAL

Merck & Co., Inc
Attention: Ursula Marek, Pharm.D.
Global Regulatory Affairs
2015 Galloping Hill Road
K-15-3, MS 3175
Kenilworth, NJ 07033-0530

Dear Dr. Marek:

Please refer to your Supplemental Biologics License Application (sBLA), dated November 30, 2012, received November 30, 2012, submitted under section 351(a) of the Public Health Service Act for PegIntron[®] (peginterferon alfa-2b).

We acknowledge receipt of your amendments dated April 26 and May 8, 2013.

This “Prior Approval” sBLA proposes the following changes:

1. Deletion of all references to ribavirin as a potential carcinogen from the prescribing information (PI) in response to FDA’s Prior Approval Supplement Request letter dated November 2, 2012.
2. Revisions to the dose modification guideline table in the Dosage and Administration section of the PI for further clarity and better readability.
3. Revisions to the Medication Guide pregnancy warning information for better consistency with the PI for PegIntron and the Medication Guides for REBETOL and VICTRELIS.

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.

CONTENT OF LABELING

As soon as possible, but no later than 14 days from the date of this letter, submit, via the FDA automated drug registration and listing system (eLIST), the content of labeling [21 CFR 601.14(b)] in structured product labeling (SPL) format, as described at <http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/DataStandards/StructuredProductLabeling/default.htm>, that is identical to the enclosed labeling (text for the package insert, Medication Guide) and include the labeling changes proposed in any pending “Changes Being Effectuated” (CBE) supplements.

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/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM072392.pdf>.

The SPL will be accessible via publicly available labeling repositories.

Also within 14 days, amend all pending supplemental applications that includes labeling changes for this BLA, including pending “Changes Being Effected” (CBE) supplements, for which FDA has not yet issued an action letter, with the content of labeling [21 CFR 601.12(f)] in MS Word format that includes the changes approved in this supplemental application.

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(s) to:

Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
Office of Prescription Drug Promotion
5901-B Ammendale Road
Beltsville, MD 20705-1266

As required under 21 CFR 601.12(f)(4), you must submit final promotional materials, and the package insert(s), 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 Office of Prescription Drug Promotion (OPDP), see <http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/CentersOffices/CDER/ucm090142.htm>.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

We remind you that you must comply with reporting requirements for an approved BLA (in 21 CFR 600.80 and in 21 CFR 600.81).

If you have any questions, call Kyong Hyon, Safety Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 796-0734.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Kendall A. Marcus, M.D.
Deputy Director of Safety
Division of Antiviral Products
Office of Antimicrobial Products
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

ENCLOSURE(S):
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/

KENDALL A MARCUS
05/15/2013