



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration
Rockville, MD 20857

ANDA 202026

Spear Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Attention: David J. Christ
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs
15016 Pratolino Way
Naples, FL 34110

Dear Sir:

This is in reference to your abbreviated new drug application (ANDA) dated July 7, 2010, and submitted pursuant to section 505(j) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the Act), for Tretinoin Gel USP, 0.1% (Microsphere).

Reference is also made to your amendments dated December 10, 2010; April 11, August 5, and October 6, 2011; January 26, 2012; and April 30, June 13, June 14, June 18, and July 3, 2013. In addition, we acknowledge receipt of your correspondences dated March 1, and April 7, 2011, addressing patent issues associated with this ANDA.

We have completed the review of this ANDA and have concluded that adequate information has been presented to demonstrate that the drug is safe and effective for use as recommended in the submitted labeling. Accordingly the ANDA is approved, effective on the date of this letter. The Division of Bioequivalence has determined your Tretinoin Gel USP, 0.1% (Microsphere) to be bioequivalent and, therefore, therapeutically equivalent to the reference listed drug (RLD), Retin-A Micro Gel, 0.1%, of Valeant International (Barbados) SRL (Valeant).

The RLD upon which you have based your ANDA, Valeant's Retin-A Micro Gel, is subject to a period of patent protection. As noted in the agency's publication titled Approved Drug Products with Therapeutic Equivalence Evaluations (the "Orange Book"), U.S. Patent No. 5,955,109 (the '109 patent), is scheduled to expire on September 21, 2016.

Your ANDA contains a paragraph IV certification under section 505(j)(2)(A)(vii)(IV) of the Act stating that the '109 patent is invalid, unenforceable, or will not be infringed by your manufacture, use, or sale of Tretinoin Gel USP, 0.1% (Microsphere), under this ANDA. You have notified the agency that Spear Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Spear) complied with the requirements of section 505(j)(2)(B) of the Act, and that no action for infringement was brought against Spear within the statutory 45-day period.

With respect to 180-day generic drug exclusivity, we note that Spear was the first ANDA applicant to submit a substantially complete ANDA with a paragraph IV certification to a listed patent. Therefore, with this approval, Spear is eligible for 180 days of generic drug exclusivity for Tretinoin Gel USP, 0.1% (Microsphere). This exclusivity, which is provided for under section 505(j)(5)(B)(iv) of the Act, will begin to run from the date of the commercial marketing identified in section 505(j)(5)(B)(iv). Please submit correspondence to this ANDA informing the agency of the date the exclusivity begins to run.

Under section 506A of the Act, certain changes in the conditions described in this ANDA require an approved supplemental application before the change may be made.

Please note that if FDA requires a Risk Evaluation & Mitigation Strategy (REMS) for a listed drug, an ANDA citing that listed drug also will be required to have a REMS. See section 505-1(i) of the Act.

Postmarketing reporting requirements for this ANDA are set forth in 21 CFR 314.80-81 and 314.98. The Office of Generic Drugs should be advised of any change in the marketing status of this drug.

Promotional materials may be submitted to FDA for comment prior to publication or dissemination. Please note that these submissions are voluntary. If you desire comments on proposed launch promotional materials with respect to compliance with applicable regulatory requirements, we recommend you submit, in draft or mock-up form, two copies of both the promotional materials and package insert directly to:

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

We call your attention to 21 CFR 314.81(b)(3) which requires that all promotional materials be submitted to the Office of Prescription Drug Promotion with a completed Form FDA 2253 at the time of their initial use.

You have been requested to provide information after the ANDA has been approved. Any information submitted to meet the conditions requested in this letter is considered a "Post Approval Commitment Response." To alert the Office of Generic Drug staff to the fact that you are providing post approval commitment information, please designate your submission in your cover letter as "POST APPROVAL COMMITMENT RESPONSE."

The Generic Drug User Fee Amendments of 2012 (GDUFA) (Public Law 112-144, Title III) established certain provisions with respect to self-identification of facilities and payment of annual facility fees. Your ANDA identifies at least one facility that is subject to the self-identification requirement and payment of an annual facility fee. Self-identification must occur by June 1 of each year for the next fiscal year. Facility fees must be paid each year by the date specified in the Federal Register notice announcing facility fee amounts. All finished dosage forms (FDFs) or active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) manufactured in a facility that has not met its obligations to self-identify or to pay fees when they are due will be deemed misbranded. This means that it will be a violation of federal law to ship these products in interstate commerce or to import them into the United States. Such violations can result in prosecution of those responsible, injunctions, or seizures of misbranded products. Products misbranded because of failure to self-identify or pay facility fees are subject to being denied entry into the United States.

As soon as possible, but no later than 14 days from the date of this letter, submit, using the FDA automated drug registration and listing system (eLIST), the content of labeling [21 CFR 314.50(1)] in structured product labeling (SPL) format, as described at <http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/DataStandards/StructuredProductLabeling/default.htm>, that is identical in content to the approved labeling (including the package insert, and any patient package insert and/or Medication Guide that may be required). 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 via publicly available labeling repositories.

Sincerely yours,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Kathleen Uhl, M.D.
Acting Director
Office of Generic Drugs
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

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 WEST

07/17/2013

Deputy Director, Office of Generic Drugs, for
Kathleen Uhl, M.D.