



NDA 022580/S-019

## **SUPPLEMENT APPROVAL**

Vivus, Inc.  
Attention: Santosh T. Varghese, MD  
Chief Medical Officer  
900 East Hamilton Ave  
Suite 550  
Campbell, CA 95008

Dear Dr. Varghese:

Please refer to your supplemental new drug application (sNDA) dated and received January 22, 2021, and your amendments, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA) for Qsymia (phentermine and topiramate extended-release) capsules.

This Changes Being Effected supplemental new drug application provides for proposed modifications to the approved Qsymia risk evaluation and mitigation strategy (REMS).

We have completed our review of this supplemental application, as amended. It is approved effective on the date of this letter.

### **WAIVER OF ½ PAGE LENGTH REQUIREMENT FOR HIGHLIGHTS**

Please note that we have previously granted a waiver of the requirements of 21 CFR 201.57(d)(8) regarding the length of Highlights of Prescribing Information.

### **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 FDA.gov.<sup>1</sup> Content of labeling must be identical to the enclosed labeling (text for the Prescribing Information and Medication Guide), with the addition of any labeling changes in pending "Changes Being Effected" (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 *SPL Standard for Content of Labeling Technical Qs and As*.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/DataStandards/StructuredProductLabeling/default.htm>

<sup>2</sup> We update guidances periodically. For the most recent version of a guidance, check the FDA Guidance Documents Database <https://www.fda.gov/RegulatoryInformation/Guidances/default.htm>.

The SPL will be accessible from publicly available labeling repositories.

Also within 14 days, amend all pending supplemental applications that include labeling changes 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 Microsoft Word format, that includes the changes approved in this supplemental application, as well as annual reportable changes. To facilitate review of your submission(s), 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).

We request that the labeling approved today be available on your website within 10 days of receipt of this letter.

### **RISK EVALUATION AND MITIGATION STRATEGY (REMS) REQUIREMENTS**

The REMS for Qsymia was originally approved on July 17, 2012, and the most recent REMS modification was approved on September 26, 2014. The REMS consists of a Medication Guide, elements to assure safe use, an implementation system, and a timetable for submission of assessments of the REMS. Your proposed modifications to the REMS consists of replacing gender-specific language in the REMS document and REMS materials with gender-neutral language. This modification aligns the REMS document and REMS materials with changes previously made to the Qsymia prescribing information.

Your proposed modified REMS, submitted on January 22, 2021, amended and appended to this letter, is approved.

The timetable for submission of assessments of the REMS remains the same as that approved on July 17, 2012.

There are no changes to the REMS assessment plan described in our January 16, 2020 letter.

We remind you that in addition to the REMS assessments submitted according to the timetable in the approved REMS, you must include an adequate rationale to support a proposed REMS modification for the addition, modification, or removal of any goal or element of the REMS, as described in section 505-1(g)(4) of the FDCA.

We also remind you that you must submit a REMS assessment when you submit a supplemental application for a new indication for use, as described in section 505-1(g)(2)(A) of the FDCA. This assessment should include:

- a) An evaluation of how the benefit-risk profile will or will not change with the new indication;
- b) A determination of the implications of a change in the benefit-risk profile for the current REMS;
- c) *If the new indication for use introduces unexpected risks:* A description of those risks and an evaluation of whether those risks can be appropriately managed with the currently approved REMS.
- d) *If a REMS assessment was submitted in the 18 months prior to submission of the supplemental application for a new indication for use:* A statement about whether the REMS was meeting its goals at the time of that last assessment and if any modifications of the REMS have been proposed since that assessment.
- e) *If a REMS assessment has not been submitted in the 18 months prior to submission of the supplemental application for a new indication for use:* Provision of as many of the currently listed assessment plan items as is feasible.
- f) *If you propose a REMS modification based on a change in the benefit-risk profile or because of the new indication of use, submit an adequate rationale to support the modification, including:* Provision of the reason(s) why the proposed REMS modification is necessary, the potential effect on the serious risk(s) for which the REMS was required, on patient access to the drug, and/or on the burden on the health care delivery system; and other appropriate evidence or data to support the proposed change. Additionally, include any changes to the assessment plan necessary to assess the proposed modified REMS. *If you are not proposing REMS modifications, provide a rationale for why the REMS does not need to be modified.*

If the assessment instruments and methodology for your REMS assessments are not included in the REMS supporting document, or if you propose changes to the submitted assessment instruments or methodology, you should update the REMS supporting document to include specific assessment instrument and methodology information at least 90 days before the assessments will be conducted. Updates to the REMS supporting document may be included in a new document that references previous REMS supporting document submission(s) for unchanged portions. Alternatively, updates may be made by modifying the complete previous REMS supporting document, with all changes marked and highlighted. Prominently identify the submission containing the assessment instruments and methodology with the following wording in bold capital letters at the top of the first page of the submission:

#### **NDA 022580 REMS ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY**

**U.S. Food and Drug Administration**  
Silver Spring, MD 20993  
[www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov)

**(insert concise description of content in bold capital letters, e.g.,  
ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY, PROTOCOL, SURVEY METHODOLOGIES,  
AUDIT PLAN, DRUG USE STUDY)**

An authorized generic drug under this NDA must have an approved REMS prior to marketing. Should you decide to market, sell, or distribute an authorized generic drug under this NDA, contact us to discuss what will be required in the authorized generic drug REMS submission.

We remind you that section 505-1(f)(8) of FDCA prohibits holders of an approved covered application with elements to assure safe use from using any element to block or delay approval of an application under section 505(b)(2) or (j). A violation of this provision in 505-1(f) could result in enforcement action.

Prominently identify any submission containing the REMS assessments or proposed modifications of the REMS with the following wording in bold capital letters at the top of the first page of the submission as appropriate:

**NDA 022580 REMS ASSESSMENT**

*or*

**NEW SUPPLEMENT FOR NDA 022580/S-000  
CHANGES BEING EFFECTED IN 30 DAYS  
PROPOSED MINOR REMS MODIFICATION**

*or*

**NEW SUPPLEMENT FOR NDA 022580/S-000  
PRIOR APPROVAL SUPPLEMENT  
PROPOSED MAJOR REMS MODIFICATION**

*or*

**NEW SUPPLEMENT FOR NDA 022580/S-000  
PRIOR APPROVAL SUPPLEMENT  
PROPOSED REMS MODIFICATIONS DUE TO SAFETY LABELING  
CHANGES SUBMITTED IN SUPPLEMENT XXX**

*or*

**NEW SUPPLEMENT (NEW INDICATION FOR USE)  
FOR NDA 022580/S-000  
REMS ASSESSMENT  
PROPOSED REMS MODIFICATION (if included)**

Should you choose to submit a REMS revision, prominently identify the submission containing the REMS revisions with the following wording in bold capital letters at the top of the first page of the submission:

**REMS REVISIONS FOR NDA 022580**

To facilitate review of your submission, we request that you submit your proposed modified REMS and other REMS-related materials in Microsoft Word format. If certain documents, such as enrollment forms, or website screenshots are only in PDF format, they may be submitted as such, but Word format is preferred.

**SUBMISSION OF REMS DOCUMENT IN SPL FORMAT**

FDA can accept the REMS document in Structured Product Labeling (SPL) format. If you intend to submit the REMS document in SPL format, as soon as possible, but no later than 14 days from the date of this letter, submit the REMS document in SPL format using the FDA automated drug registration and listing system (eLIST).

For more information on submitting REMS in SPL format, please email [FDAREMSwebsite@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:FDAREMSwebsite@fda.hhs.gov).

**REQUIRED PEDIATRIC ASSESSMENTS**

Under the Pediatric Research Equity Act (PREA) (21 U.S.C. 355c), all applications for new active ingredients (which includes new salts and new fixed combinations), 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 in pediatric patients unless this requirement is waived, deferred, or inapplicable.

Because none of these criteria apply to your application, you are exempt from this requirement.

**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 Martin White, M.S., Regulatory Project Manager, at (240) 402-6018.

Sincerely,

*{See appended electronic signature page}*

Monika Houstoun, Pharm.D., M.P.H.  
Deputy Director for Safety (Acting)  
Division of Diabetes, Lipid Disorders, and  
Obesity  
Office of Cardiology, Hematology,  
Endocrinology, and Nephrology  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

ENCLOSURES:

- Content of Labeling
  - Prescribing Information (version approved NDA 022580/S-017 on October 19, 2020)
  - Medication Guide (included in REMS enclosure)
- REMS

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**This is a representation of an electronic record that was signed electronically. Following this are manifestations of any and all electronic signatures for this electronic record.**  
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/s/  
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MONIKA A HOUSTOUN  
03/31/2021 04:14:08 PM