

**CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND
RESEARCH**

APPLICATION NUMBER:

204708Orig1s000

PROPRIETARY NAME REVIEW(S)

**Department of Health and Human Services
Public Health Service
Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology
Office of Medication Error Prevention and Risk Management**

Proprietary Name Review--Final

Date: July 25, 2013

Reviewer: Carlos M Mena-Grillasca, RPh
Division of Medication Error Prevention and Analysis

Team Leader: Lubna Merchant, MS, PharmD
Division of Medication Error Prevention and Analysis

Drug Name and Strength: Mirvaso (Brimonidine) Gel, 0.33%

Application Type/Number: NDA 204708

Applicant/Sponsor: Galderma

OSE RCM #: 2013-1560

*** This document contains proprietary and confidential information that should not be released to the public.***

1 INTRODUCTION

This re-assessment of the proposed proprietary name, Mirvaso is written in response to the anticipated approval of this NDA within 90 days from the date of this review. DMEPA found the proposed name, Mirvaso, acceptable in OSE Review 2012-2904 dated March 5, 2013.

2 METHODS AND DISCUSSION

For re-assessments of proposed proprietary names, DMEPA searches a standard set of databases and information sources (see section 4) to identify names with orthographic and phonetic similarity to the proposed name that have been approved since the previous OSE proprietary name review. For this review we used the same search criteria described in OSE Review 2012-2904. We note that the strength of the product changed from 0.5% brimonidine tartrate to 0.33% brimonidine, due to the implementation of the new salt nomenclature guidance. Therefore, we re-reviewed the previously identified names in OSE Review 2012-2904. We also evaluated the previously identified names of concern considering any lessons learned from recent post-marketing experience, which may have altered our previous conclusion regarding the acceptability of the proposed proprietary name. Our re-assessment did not alter our previous conclusion regarding the acceptability of the proposed proprietary name. The searches of the databases did not yield any new names thought to look or sound similar to Mirvaso and represent a potential source of drug name confusion.

Additionally, DMEPA searched the USAN stem list to determine if the name contains any USAN stems as of the last USAN updates. The Safety Evaluator did not identify any United States Adopted Names (USAN) stems in the proposed proprietary name, as of July 24, 2013.

3 CONCLUSIONS

The re-evaluation of the proposed proprietary name, Mirvaso, did not identify any vulnerability that would result in medication errors. Thus, DMEPA has no objection to the proprietary name, Mirvaso, for this product at this time.

DMEPA considers this a final review; however, if approval of the NDA is delayed beyond 90 days from the date of this review, the Division of Dermatology and Dental Products should notify DMEPA because the proprietary name must be re-reviewed prior to the new approval date.

If you have further questions or need clarifications, please contact Janet Anderson, OSE project manager, at 301-796-0675.

4 REFERENCES

1. *Mena-Grillasca, C.M.; OSE Review 2012-2904, Proprietary Name Review; March 5, 2013.*
2. *Drugs@FDA* (<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/drugsatfda/index.cfm>)
Drugs@FDA contains most of the drug products approved since 1939. The majority of labels, approval letters, reviews, and other information are available for drug products approved from 1998 to the present. Drugs@FDA contains official information about FDA approved [brand name](#), [generic drugs](#), [therapeutic biological products](#), [prescription](#) and [over-the-counter](#) human drugs and [discontinued drugs](#) and “[Chemical Type 6](#)” approvals.
3. *USAN Stems* (<http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/physician-resources/medical-science/united-states-adopted-names-council/naming-guidelines/approved-stems.page?>)
USAN Stems List contains all the recognized USAN stems.
4. *Division of Medication Error Prevention and Analysis Proprietary Name Consultation Request*
Compiled list of proposed proprietary names submitted to the Division of Medication Error Prevention and Analysis for review. The list is generated on a weekly basis from the Access database/tracking system.

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

/s/

CARLOS M MENA-GRILLASCA
07/25/2013

LUBNA A MERCHANT
07/25/2013

**Department of Health and Human Services
Public Health Service
Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology
Office of Medication Error Prevention and Risk Management**

Proprietary Name Review

Date: March 5, 2013

Reviewer: Carlos M Mena-Grillasca, RPh
Division of Medication Error Prevention and Analysis

Team Leader: Lubna Merchant, MS, PharmD
Division of Medication Error Prevention and Analysis

Division Director: Carol Holquist, RPh
Division of Medication Error Prevention and Analysis

Drug Name and Strength: Mirvaso (Brimonidine Tartrate) Gel, 0.5%

Application Type/Number: NDA 204708

Applicant/Sponsor: Galderma

OSE RCM #: 2012-2904

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1 INTRODUCTION

This review evaluates the proposed proprietary name, Mirvaso, from a safety and promotional perspective. The sources and methods used to evaluate the proposed name are outlined in the reference section and Appendix A respectively.

1.1 PRODUCT INFORMATION

The following product information is provided in the December 7, 2012 proprietary name submission.

- Active Ingredient: Brimonidine Tartrate
- Indication of Use: Topical treatment of facial erythema of rosacea in adults
- Route of Administration: Topical
- Dosage Form: Gel
- Strength: 0.5%
- Dose and Frequency: Apply a small pea size amount to each of the five areas of the face (e.g. forehead, chin, nose, each cheek) once daily.
- How Supplied: 2 g tube (physician sample), 30 g and 45 g tubes
- Storage: Room temperature
- Container and Closure Systems: (b) (4) 30 g and 45 g tubes are fitted with a child resistant cap (i.e. push and turn).
- Intended Pronunciation: mer vay' soe

2. RESULTS

The following sections provide the information obtained and considered in the overall evaluation of the proposed proprietary name.

2.1 PROMOTIONAL ASSESSMENT

The Office of Prescription Drug Promotion OPDP determined the proposed name is acceptable from a promotional perspective. DMEPA and the Division of Dermatology and Dental Products concurred with the findings of OPDP's promotional assessment of the proposed name.

2.2 SAFETY ASSESSMENT

The following aspects of the name were considered in the safety evaluation.

2.2.1 *United States Adopted Names (USAN) SEARCH*

The February 4, 2013 search of the United States Adopted Name (USAN) stems did not identify that a USAN stem is present in the proposed proprietary name.

2.2.2 Components of the Proposed Proprietary Name

The Applicant did not indicate in their submission any derivation (i.e. blank canvas) or intended meaning for the proposed name, Mirvaso. This proprietary name is comprised of a single word that does not contain any components (i.e. a modifier, route of administration, dosage form, etc.) that are misleading or can contribute to medication error.

2.2.3 FDA Name Simulation Studies

Eighty-three practitioners participated in DMEPA's prescription studies. Thirty-seven participants interpreted the name Mirvaso correctly (inpatient n=13; outpatient n=23; voice n=1). Two of the responses in the voice study are similar to the currently marketed drug Norvasc. One participant interpreted Mirvaso as Norvaso and another participant interpreted Mirvaso as Norveso. The name Norvasc was identified by EPD, (b) (4) and in the previous FDA simulation study and was evaluated for orthographic similarity and in this evaluation, given the Rx Study results, is included in the FMEA evaluation for phonetic similarity in section 2.2.5. Sixteen participants in the voice study misinterpreted the letter 'i' as 'e'. Nine participants in the voice study misinterpreted the letter 'm' as 'n'. Eight participants in the voice study misinterpreted the letter 's' for 'z'. In the inpatient study, four participants misinterpreted the letter 's' for 't' and four participants misinterpreted the letter 'v' for 'u'. See Appendix C for the complete listing of interpretations from the verbal and written prescription studies.

2.2.4 Comments from Other Review Disciplines at Initial Stage of Name Review

In response to the OSE, January 25, 2013 e-mail, the Division of Dermatology and Dental Products (DDDP) did not forward any comments or concerns relating to the proposed name at the initial phase of the proprietary name review.

2.2.5 Failure Mode and Effects Analysis of Similar Names

Appendix B lists possible orthographic and phonetic misinterpretations of the letters appearing in the proposed proprietary name, Mirvaso. Table 1 lists the names with orthographic, phonetic, or spelling similarity to the proposed proprietary name, Mirvaso identified by the primary reviewer, the Expert Panel Discussion (EPD), and other review disciplines. We note that the product characteristics for Mirvaso have not changed from the time we initially reviewed the name in the IND phase. Therefore, Table 1 list names which were not initially identified and evaluated in (OSE Review # 2012-644, dated September 10, 2012).

Table 1: Collective List of Potentially Similar Names (DMEPA, EPD, Other Disciplines, and FDA Name Simulation Studies, if applicable)

Look Similar					
Name	Source	Name	Source	Name	Source
Marmine	FDA	Mirbetan	FDA	Neurvana	FDA
Marvaro	FDA	Mirvala	FDA	Nirvana	FDA
Mesna	FDA	Murine	FDA	Norco	FDA
Miracle Plant	FDA	Nervosa	FDA	Norcuron	FDA

Look and Sound Similar					
<i>Name</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Source</i>
Norvasc	FDA, (b) (4) Rx Study				

Our analysis of the 13 names contained in Table 1 considered the information obtained in the previous sections along with their product characteristics. We determined that none of the names pose a risk for confusion as described in Appendices D through E.

2.2.6 Communication of DMEPA’s Final Decision to Other Disciplines

DMEPA communicated our findings to the Division of Dermatology and Dental Products via e-mail on February 5, 2013. At that time we also requested additional information or concerns that could inform our review. The Division of Dermatology and Dental Products did not communicate any concerns with the proposed proprietary name, Mirvaso.

3 CONCLUSIONS

The proposed proprietary name is acceptable from both a promotional and safety perspective.

If you have further questions or need clarifications, please contact Janet Anderson, OSE project manager, at 301-796-0675.

3.1 COMMENTS TO THE APPLICANT

We have completed our review of the proposed proprietary name, Mirvaso, and have concluded that this name is acceptable. However, if any of the proposed product characteristics as stated in your December 7, 2012 submission are altered, the name must be resubmitted for review.

Additionally, the proposed proprietary name must be re-reviewed 90 days prior to approval of the NDA. The conclusions upon re-review are subject to change.

4 REFERENCES

1. ***Micromedex Integrated Index*** (<http://csi.micromedex.com>)

Micromedex contains a variety of databases covering pharmacology, therapeutics, toxicology and diagnostics.

2. ***Phonetic and Orthographic Computer Analysis (POCA)***

POCA is a database which was created for the Division of Medication Error Prevention and Analysis, FDA. As part of the name similarity assessment, proposed names are evaluated via a phonetic/orthographic algorithm. The proposed proprietary name is converted into its phonemic representation before it runs through the phonetic algorithm. Likewise, an orthographic algorithm exists which operates in a similar fashion.

3. ***Drug Facts and Comparisons, online version, St. Louis, MO***
(<http://factsandcomparisons.com>)

Drug Facts and Comparisons is a compendium organized by therapeutic course; it contains monographs on prescription and OTC drugs, with charts comparing similar products. This database also lists the orphan drugs.

4. ***FDA Document Archiving, Reporting & Regulatory Tracking System [DARRTS]***

DARRTS is a government database used to organize Applicant and Sponsor submissions as well as to store and organize assignments, reviews, and communications from the review divisions.

5. ***Division of Medication Errors Prevention and Analysis proprietary name consultation requests***

This is a list of proposed and pending names that is generated by the Division of Medication Error Prevention and Analysis from the Access database/tracking system.

6. ***Drugs@FDA*** (<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/drugsatfda/index.cfm>)

Drugs@FDA contains most of the drug products approved since 1939. The majority of labels, approval letters, reviews, and other information are available for drug products approved from 1998 to the present. Drugs@FDA contains official information about FDA approved brand name, generic drugs, therapeutic biological products, prescription and over-the-counter human drugs and discontinued drugs and “Chemical Type 6” approvals.

7. ***U.S. Patent and Trademark Office*** (<http://www.uspto.gov>)

USPTO provides information regarding patent and trademarks.

8. ***Clinical Pharmacology Online*** (www.clinicalpharmacology-ip.com)

Clinical Pharmacology contains full monographs for the most common drugs in clinical use, plus mini monographs covering investigational, less common, combination, nutraceutical and nutritional products. It also provides a keyword search engine.

9. **Data provided by Thomson & Thomson's SAEGIS™ Online Service, available at (www.thomson-thomson.com)**

The Pharma In-Use Search database contains over 400,000 unique pharmaceutical trademarks and trade names that are used in about 50 countries worldwide. The data is provided under license by IMS HEALTH.

10. **Natural Medicines Comprehensive Databases (www.naturaldatabase.com)**

Natural Medicines contains up-to-date clinical data on the natural medicines, herbal medicines, and dietary supplements used in the western world.

11. **Access Medicine (www.accessmedicine.com)**

Access Medicine® from McGraw-Hill contains full-text information from approximately 60 titles; it includes tables and references. Among the titles are: Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine, Basic & Clinical Pharmacology, and Goodman and Gilman's The Pharmacologic Basis of Therapeutics.

12. **USAN Stems (<http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/about-ama/our-people/coalitions-consortiums/united-states-adopted-names-council/naming-guidelines/approved-stems.shtml>)**

USAN Stems List contains all the recognized USAN stems.

13. **Red Book (www.thomsonhc.com/home/dispatch)**

Red Book contains prices and product information for prescription, over-the-counter drugs, medical devices, and accessories.

14. **Lexi-Comp (www.lexi.com)**

Lexi-Comp is a web-based searchable version of the Drug Information Handbook.

15. **Medical Abbreviations (www.medilexicon.com)**

Medical Abbreviations dictionary contains commonly used medical abbreviations and their definitions.

16. **CVS/Pharmacy (www.CVS.com)**

This database contains commonly used over the counter products not usually identified in other databases.

17. **Walgreens (www.walgreens.com)**

This database contains commonly used over the counter products not usually identified in other databases.

18. **Rx List (www.rxlist.com)**

RxList is an online medical resource dedicated to offering detailed and current pharmaceutical information on brand and generic drugs.

19. Dogpile (www.dogpile.com)

Dogpile is a [Metasearch](#) engine that searches multiple search engines including Google, Yahoo! and Bing, and returns the most relevant results to the search.

20. Natural Standard (<http://www.naturalstandard.com>)

Natural Standard is a resource that aggregates and synthesizes data on complementary and alternative medicine.

APPENDICES

Appendix A

FDA's Proprietary Name Risk Assessment considers the promotional and safety aspects of a proposed proprietary name. The promotional review of the proposed name is conducted by OPDP. OPDP evaluates proposed proprietary names to determine if they are overly fanciful, so as to misleadingly imply unique effectiveness or composition, as well as to assess whether they contribute to overstatement of product efficacy, minimization of risk, broadening of product indications, or making of unsubstantiated superiority claims. OPDP provides their opinion to DMEPA for consideration in the overall acceptability of the proposed proprietary name.

The safety assessment is conducted by DMEPA. DMEPA staff search a standard set of databases and information sources to identify names that are similar in pronunciation, spelling, and orthographically similar when scripted to the proposed proprietary name. Additionally, we consider inclusion of USAN stems or other characteristics that when incorporated into a proprietary name may cause or contribute to medication errors (i.e., dosing interval, dosage form/route of administration, medical or product name abbreviations, names that include or suggest the composition of the drug product, etc.). DMEPA defines a medication error as any preventable event that may cause or lead to inappropriate medication use or patient harm while the medication is in the control of the health care professional, patient, or consumer.¹

Following the preliminary screening of the proposed proprietary name, DMEPA gathers to discuss their professional opinions on the safety of the proposed proprietary name. This meeting is commonly referred to the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER) Expert Panel discussion. DMEPA also considers other aspects of the name that may be misleading from a safety perspective. DMEPA staff conducts a prescription simulation studies using FDA health care professionals. When provided, DMEPA considers external proprietary name studies conducted by or for the Applicant/Sponsor and incorporates the findings of these studies into the overall risk assessment.

The DMEPA primary reviewer assigned to evaluate the proposed proprietary name is responsible for considering the collective findings, and provides an overall risk assessment of the proposed proprietary name. DMEPA bases the overall risk assessment on the findings of a Failure Mode and Effects Analysis (FMEA) of the proprietary name and misleading nature of the proposed proprietary name with a focus on the avoidance of medication errors.

DMEPA uses the clinical expertise of its staff to anticipate the conditions of the clinical setting where the product is likely to be used based on the characteristics of the proposed product. DMEPA considers the product characteristics associated with the proposed product throughout the risk assessment because the product characteristics of the proposed may provide a context for communication of the drug name and ultimately determine the use of the product in the *usual* clinical practice setting.

Typical product characteristics considered when identifying drug names that could potentially be confused with the proposed proprietary name include, but are not limited to; established name of

¹ National Coordinating Council for Medication Error Reporting and Prevention.
<http://www.nccmerp.org/aboutMedErrors.html>. Last accessed 10/11/2007.

the proposed product, proposed indication of use, dosage form, route of administration, strength, unit of measure, dosage units, recommended dose, typical quantity or volume, frequency of administration, product packaging, storage conditions, patient population, and prescriber population. DMEPA considers how these product characteristics may or may not be present in communicating a product name throughout the medication use system. Because drug name confusion can occur at any point in the medication use process, DMEPA considers the potential for confusion throughout the entire U.S. medication use process, including drug procurement, prescribing and ordering, dispensing, administration, and monitoring the impact of the medication.²

The DMEPA considers the spelling of the name, pronunciation of the name when spoken, and appearance of the name when scripted. DMEPA compares the proposed proprietary name with the proprietary and established name of existing and proposed drug products and names currently under review at the FDA. DMEPA compares the pronunciation of the proposed proprietary name with the pronunciation of other drug names because verbal communication of medication names is common in clinical settings. DMEPA examines the phonetic similarity using patterns of speech. If provided, DMEPA will consider the Sponsor’s intended pronunciation of the proprietary name. However, DMEPA also considers a variety of pronunciations that could occur in the English language because the Sponsor has little control over how the name will be spoken in clinical practice. The orthographic appearance of the proposed name is evaluated using a number of different handwriting samples. DMEPA applies expertise gained from root-cause analysis of postmarketing medication errors to identify sources of ambiguity within the name that could be introduced when scripting (e.g., “T” may look like “F,” lower case ‘a’ looks like a lower case ‘u,’ etc). Additionally, other orthographic attributes that determine the overall appearance of the drug name when scripted (see Table 1 below for details).

Table 1. Criteria Used to Identify Drug Names that Look- or Sound-Similar to a Proposed Proprietary Name.

Type of Similarity	Considerations when Searching the Databases		
	<i>Potential Causes of Drug Name Similarity</i>	<i>Attributes Examined to Identify Similar Drug Names</i>	<i>Potential Effects</i>
Look-	Similar spelling	Identical prefix Identical infix Identical suffix Length of the name Overlapping product characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Names may appear similar in print or electronic media and lead to drug name confusion in printed or electronic communication Names may look similar when scripted and lead to drug name confusion in written communication

² Institute of Medicine. Preventing Medication Errors. The National Academies Press: Washington DC. 2006.

alike	Orthographic similarity	Similar spelling Length of the name/Similar shape Upstrokes Down strokes Cross-strokes Dotted letters Ambiguity introduced by scripting letters Overlapping product characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Names may look similar when scripted, and lead to drug name confusion in written communication
Sound-alike	Phonetic similarity	Identical prefix Identical infix Identical suffix Number of syllables Stresses Placement of vowel sounds Placement of consonant sounds Overlapping product characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Names may sound similar when pronounced and lead to drug name confusion in verbal communication

Lastly, DMEPA considers the potential for the proposed proprietary name to inadvertently function as a source of error for reasons other than name confusion. Post-marketing experience has demonstrated that proprietary names (or components of the proprietary name) can be a source of error in a variety of ways. Consequently, DMEPA considers and evaluates these broader safety implications of the name throughout this assessment and the medication error staff provides additional comments related to the safety of the proposed proprietary name or product based on professional experience with medication errors.

1. Database and Information Sources

DMEPA searches the internet, several standard published drug product reference texts, and FDA databases to identify existing and proposed drug names that may sound-alike or look-alike to the proposed proprietary name. A standard description of the databases used in the searches is provided in the reference section of this review. To complement the process, the DMEPA uses a computerized method of identifying phonetic and orthographic similarity between medication names. The program, Phonetic and Orthographic Computer Analysis (POCA), uses complex algorithms to select a list of names from a database that have some similarity (phonetic, orthographic, or both) to the trademark being evaluated. Lastly, DMEPA reviews the USAN stem list to determine if any USAN stems are present within the proprietary name. The individual findings of multiple safety evaluators are pooled and presented to the CDER Expert Panel. DMEPA also evaluates if there are characteristics included in the composition that may render the name unacceptable from a safety perspective (abbreviation, dosing interval, etc.).

2. Expert Panel Discussion

DMEPA gathers CDER professional opinions on the safety of the proposed product and discussed the proposed proprietary name (Expert Panel Discussion). The Expert Panel is composed of Division of Medication Errors Prevention (DMEPA) staff and representatives from the Office of Prescription Drug Promotion (OPDP). We also consider input from other review disciplines (OND, ONDQA/OBP). The Expert Panel also discusses potential concerns regarding drug marketing and promotion related to the proposed names.

The primary Safety Evaluator presents the pooled results of the database and information searches to the Expert Panel for consideration. Based on the clinical and professional experiences of the Expert Panel members, the Panel may recommend additional names, additional searches by the primary Safety Evaluator to supplement the pooled results, or general advice to consider when reviewing the proposed proprietary name.

3. FDA Prescription Simulation Studies

Three separate studies are conducted within the Centers of the FDA for the proposed proprietary name to determine the degree of confusion of the proposed proprietary name with marketed U.S. drug names (proprietary and established) due to similarity in visual appearance with handwritten prescriptions or verbal pronunciation of the drug name. The studies employ healthcare professionals (pharmacists, physicians, and nurses), and attempts to simulate the prescription ordering process. The primary Safety Evaluator uses the results to identify orthographic or phonetic vulnerability of the proposed name to be misinterpreted by healthcare practitioners.

In order to evaluate the potential for misinterpretation of the proposed proprietary name in handwriting and verbal communication of the name, inpatient medication orders and/or outpatient prescriptions are written, each consisting of a combination of marketed and unapproved drug products, including the proposed name. These orders are optically scanned and one prescription is delivered to a random sample of participating health professionals via e-mail. In addition, a verbal prescription is recorded on voice mail. The voice mail messages are then sent to a random sample of the participating health professionals for their interpretations and review. After receiving either the written or verbal prescription orders, the participants record their interpretations of the orders which are recorded electronically.

4. Comments from Other Review Disciplines

DMEPA requests the Office of New Drugs (OND) and/or Office of Generic Drugs (OGD), ONDQA or OBP for their comments or concerns with the proposed proprietary name, ask for any clinical issues that may impact the DMEPA review during the initial phase of the name review. Additionally, when applicable, at the same time DMEPA requests concurrence/non-concurrence with OPDP's decision on the name. The primary Safety Evaluator addresses any comments or concerns in the safety evaluator's assessment.

The OND/OGD Regulatory Division is contacted a second time following our analysis of the proposed proprietary name. At this point, DMEPA conveys their decision to accept or reject the name. The OND or OGD Regulatory Division is requested to provide any further information that might inform DMEPA's final decision on the proposed name.

Additionally, other review disciplines opinions such as ONDQA or OBP may be considered depending on the proposed proprietary name.

5. Safety Evaluator Risk Assessment of the Proposed Proprietary Name

The primary Safety Evaluator applies his/her individual expertise gained from evaluating medication errors reported to FDA, considers all aspects of the name that may be misleading or confusing, conducts a Failure Mode and Effects Analysis, and provides an overall decision on acceptability dependent on their risk assessment of name confusion. Failure Mode and Effects Analysis (FMEA) is a systematic tool for evaluating a process and identifying where and how it might fail.³ When applying FMEA to assess the risk of a proposed proprietary name, DMEPA seeks to evaluate the potential for a proposed proprietary name to be confused with another drug name because of name confusion and, thereby, cause errors to occur in the medication use system. FMEA capitalizes on the predictable and preventable nature of medication errors associated with drug name confusion. FMEA allows the Agency to identify the potential for medication errors due to orthographically or phonetically similar drug names prior to approval, where actions to overcome these issues are easier and more effective than remedies available in the post-approval phase.

In order to perform an FMEA of the proposed name, the primary Safety Evaluator must analyze the use of the product at all points in the medication use system. Because the proposed product is has not been marketed, the primary Safety Evaluator anticipates the use of the product in the usual practice settings by considering the clinical and product characteristics listed in Section 1.2 of this review. The Safety Evaluator then analyzes the proposed proprietary name in the context of the usual practice setting and works to identify potential failure modes and the effects associated with the failure modes.

In the initial stage of the Risk Assessment, the Safety Evaluator compares the proposed proprietary name to all of the names gathered from the above searches, Expert Panel Discussion, and prescription studies, external studies, and identifies potential failure modes by asking:

“Is the proposed proprietary name convincingly similar to another drug name, which may cause practitioners to become confused at any point in the usual practice setting? And are there any components of the name that may function as a source of error beyond sound/look-alike?”

An affirmative answer indicates a failure mode and represents a potential for the proposed proprietary name to be confused with another proprietary or established drug name because of look- or sound-alike similarity or because of some other component of the name. If the answer to the question is no, the Safety Evaluator is not convinced that the names possess similarity that would cause confusion at any point in the medication use system, thus the name is eliminated from further review.

In the second stage of the Risk Assessment, the primary Safety Evaluator evaluates all potential failure modes to determine the likely *effect* of the drug name confusion, by asking:

“Could the confusion of the drug names conceivably result in medication errors in the usual practice setting?”

³ Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI). Failure Mode and Effects Analysis. Boston. IHI:2004.

The answer to this question is a central component of the Safety Evaluator's overall risk assessment of the proprietary name. If the Safety Evaluator determines through FMEA that the name similarity would not ultimately be a source of medication errors in the usual practice setting, the primary Safety Evaluator eliminates the name from further analysis. However, if the Safety Evaluator determines through FMEA that the name similarity could ultimately cause medication errors in the usual practice setting, the Safety Evaluator will then recommend the use of an alternate proprietary name.

Moreover, DMEPA will object to the use of proposed proprietary name when the primary Safety Evaluator identifies one or more of the following conditions in the Overall Risk Assessment:

- a. OPDP finds the proposed proprietary name misleading from a promotional perspective, and the Review Division concurs with OPDP's findings. The Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act provides that labeling or advertising can misbrand a product if misleading representations are made or suggested by statement, word, design, device, or any combination thereof, whether through a PROPRIETARY name or otherwise [21 U.S.C 321(n); See also 21 U.S.C. 352(a) & (n)].
- b. DMEPA identifies that the proposed proprietary name is misleading because of similarity in spelling or pronunciation to another proprietary or established name of a different drug or ingredient [CFR 201.10.(C)(5)].
- c. FMEA identifies the potential for confusion between the proposed proprietary name and other proprietary or established drug name(s), and demonstrates that medication errors are likely to result from the drug name confusion under the conditions of usual clinical practice.
- d. The proposed proprietary name contains an USAN (United States Adopted Names) stem.
- e. DMEPA identifies a potential source of medication error within the proposed proprietary name. For example, the proprietary name may be misleading or, inadvertently, introduce ambiguity and confusion that leads to errors. Such errors may not necessarily involve confusion between the proposed drug and another drug product but involve a naming characteristic that when incorporated into a proprietary name, may be confusing, misleading, cause or contribute to medication errors.

If DMEPA objects to a proposed proprietary name on the basis that drug name confusion could lead to medication errors, the primary Safety Evaluator uses the FMEA process to identify strategies to reduce the risk of medication errors. DMEPA generally recommends that the Sponsor select an alternative proprietary name and submit the alternate name to the Agency for review. However, in rare instances FMEA may identify plausible strategies that could reduce the risk of medication error of the currently proposed name. In that instance, DMEPA may be able to provide the Sponsor with recommendations that reduce or eliminate the potential for error and, thereby, would render the proposed name acceptable.

In the event that DMEPA objects to the use of the proposed proprietary name, based upon the potential for confusion with another proposed (but not yet approved) proprietary name, DMEPA will provide a contingency objection based on the date of approval. Whichever product, the Agency approves first has the right to use the proprietary name, while DMEPA will recommend that the second product to reach approval seek an alternative name.

The threshold set for objection to the proposed proprietary name may seem low to the Applicant/Sponsor. However, the safety concerns set forth in criteria a through e above are

supported either by FDA regulation or by external healthcare authorities, including the Institute of Medicine (IOM), World Health Organization (WHO), the Joint Commission, and the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP). These organizations have examined medication errors resulting from look- or sound-alike drug names, confusing, or misleading names and called for regulatory authorities to address the issue prior to approval. Additionally, DMEPA contends that the threshold set for the Proprietary Name Risk Assessment is reasonable because proprietary drug name confusion is a predictable and preventable source of medication error that, in many instances, the Agency and/or Sponsor can identify and rectify prior to approval to avoid patient harm.

Furthermore, post-marketing experience has demonstrated that medication errors resulting from drug name confusion are notoriously difficult to rectify post-approval. Educational and other post-approval efforts are low-leverage strategies that have had limited effectiveness at alleviating medication errors involving drug name confusion. Sponsors have undertaken higher-leverage strategies, such as drug name changes, in the past but at great financial cost to the Sponsor and at the expense of the public welfare, not to mention the Agency's credibility as the authority responsible for approving the error-prone proprietary name. Moreover, even after Sponsors' have changed a product's proprietary name in the post-approval phase, it is difficult to eradicate the original proprietary name from practitioners' vocabulary, and as a result, the Agency has continued to receive reports of drug name confusion long after a name change in some instances. Therefore, DMEPA believes that post-approval efforts at reducing name confusion errors should be reserved for those cases in which the potential for name confusion could not be predicted prior to approval.

Appendix B: Letters with Possible Orthographic or Phonetic Misinterpretation

Letters in Name Mirvaso	Scripted May Appear as	Spoken May Be Interpreted as
M	N, Z, R, W, ss	N
i	e, l, o	Any vowel, y
r	e, n, s, v	--
v	n, r, s, u, w	f
a	e, o, u, ie, ei, ci	Any vowel
s	g, n, r, v	x
o	a, c, e, u, ie, ei	Any vowel
Letter strings in Mirvaso	Scripted May Appear as	Spoken May Be Interpreted as
Mir	Uri	Uri
Mi	Nu	Nu
ir	n, u	n, u
irv	m, w	m, w

Appendix C: Prescription Simulation Samples and Results

Figure 1. Mirvaso Study (Conducted on 3/30/2012)

Handwritten Requisition Medication Order	Verbal Prescription
<p><u>Medication Order:</u></p> <p><i>Mirvaso Apply to affected area once a day</i></p> <hr/> <p><u>Outpatient Prescription:</u></p> <p><i>Mirvaso as Directed #1</i></p>	<p>Mirvaso</p> <p>Use as Directed</p> <p>Disp. #1</p>

FDA Prescription Simulation Responses (Aggregate 1 Rx Studies Report)

As of Date 2/4/2013

191 People Received Study

83 People Responded

Study Name: Mirvaso

Total	28	29	26	
INTERPRETATION	INPATIENT	VOICE	OUTPATIENT	TOTAL
?	1	0	0	1
MARAZZO	0	1	0	1
MARVITO	0	1	0	1
MERBAXO	0	1	0	1
MERBAZO	0	1	0	1
MERVASO	0	7	0	7
MERVAZO	0	1	0	1
MIRAZO	0	1	0	1
MIRIVASO	0	0	1	1
MIRUALO	1	0	0	1
MIRUASO	3	0	0	3
MIRVADO	1	0	0	1
MIRVALO	1	0	0	1
MIRVALS	2	0	0	2
MIRVARO	0	0	1	1
MIRVASE	2	0	0	2
MIRVASO	13	1	23	37
MIRVASO #1	0	0	1	1
MIRVATO	4	0	0	4
MIRVAZA	0	1	0	1
MIRVAZO	0	2	0	2
MIRVESO	0	2	0	2
MIRVEZO	0	1	0	1
NERVASA	0	1	0	1
NERVASO	0	4	0	4
NEURVEISO	0	1	0	1
NORVASO	0	1	0	1
NORVESO	0	1	0	1
NURVASAL	0	1	0	1

Appendix D: Proprietary names not likely to be confused or not used in usual practice settings for the reasons described.

No.	Proprietary Name	Active Ingredient	Similarity to Mirvaso	Failure preventions
1.	Marmine	Dimenhydrinate	Look	Name found in RedBook online without additional information available. However, this name is not available in any major drug reference and specific product information is not available.
2.	Marvaro	n/a	Look	Names found in USPTO online. However, these name were not found in OSE Proposed Names List, are not available in any major drug reference and specific product information is not available.
3.	Mirvala	n/a	Look	
4.	Neurvana	n/a	Look	
5.	Nirvana	n/a	Look	
6.	Miracle Plant	Aloe	Look	Name found in Natural Medicines database. The individual words that form this product name would not result in a prescription to be dispensed and would require clarification. The combined words provide sufficient orthographic differences to prevent confusion.
7.	(b) (4) ***	Mirabegron	Look	Proposed name objected by DMEPA in OSE review 2011-3947, dated December 16, 2011. NDA 202611 is currently approved under the name Myrbetriq.
8.	Murine	Various	Look	Family name for a product line of over the counter products (i.e. Tears for Dry Eyes, Ear Wax Removal System, Ear Wax Removal Drops, and Earigate). A prescription would need to include specific information to identify the product.
9.	Nervosa	n/a	Look	Name found in POCA as entered by a Safety Evaluator. However, the name is not found in OSE Proposed Names List, is not available in any major drug reference and specific product information is not available.
10.	Norco	Acetaminophen and Hydrocodone Bitartrate	Look	The name pair has sufficient orthographic differences.

Appendix E: Risk of medication errors due to product confusion minimized by dissimilarity of the names and/ or use in clinical practice for the reasons described.

No.	<p>Proposed name: Mirvaso</p> <p>Dosage Form(s): Gel</p> <p>Strength(s): 0.5%</p> <p>Usual Dose: Apply to affected area once daily</p>	<p>Failure Mode: Incorrect Product Ordered/ Selected/Dispensed or Administered because of Name confusion</p> <p>Causes (could be multiple)</p>	<p>Prevention of Failure Mode</p> <p>In the conditions outlined below, the following combination of factors, are expected to minimize the risk of confusion between these two names</p>
11.	<p>Mesna Injection, 1 g/10 mL</p> <p><u>Dosage:</u> Intravenous bolus injection in a dosage equal to 20% of the ifosfamide dosage (w/w) at the time of ifosfamide administration and 4 and 8 hours after each dose of ifosfamide. The total daily dose of mesna is 60% of the ifsofamide dose. The recommended dosing schedule is: 0 hours: Ifosfamide 1.2 g/m² and Mesna 240 mg/m² 4 hours: Mesna 240 mg/m² 8 hours: Mesna 240 mg/m²</p>	<p><u>Orthographic:</u> Both names begin with the capital letter 'M' and the letter string 'esna' may look like the letter string 'irva' when scripted.</p> <p><u>Strength:</u> Both are single strength products and thus no strength is required on a prescription.</p>	<p><u>Orthographic:</u> Mesna contains 5 letters vs. 7 letters in Mirvaso, hence Mesna looks shorter when scripted. contains the up stroke letter 'l' in the middle of the name and two 'ss' which may differentiate the names when scripted.</p> <p><u>Dose:</u> Thin layer or 1 application or UAD vs. xx mg</p> <p><u>Frequency and route of administration:</u> Once daily topical application vs. at the time of ifosfamide administration and 4 and 8 hours after each ifosfamide injection by intravenous bolus</p> <p><u>Units:</u> % vs. mg</p>

No.	<p>Proposed name: Mirvaso</p> <p>Dosage Form(s): Gel</p> <p>Strength(s): 0.5%</p> <p>Usual Dose: Apply to affected area once daily</p>	<p>Failure Mode: Incorrect Product Ordered/ Selected/Dispensed or Administered because of Name confusion</p> <p>Causes (could be multiple)</p>	<p>Prevention of Failure Mode</p> <p>In the conditions outlined below, the following combination of factors, are expected to minimize the risk of confusion between these two names</p>
12.	<p>Norcuron (Vecuronium Bromide) For Injection, 10 mg, 20 mg</p> <p><u>Dosage:</u> Individualized dosing. Recommended initial dose is 0.08 to 0.1 mg/kg given as an intravenous bolus injection. Dose range 0.01 – 0.28 mg/kg. Subsequent maintenance doses may be administered at relatively regular intervals from 12-15 minutes.</p> <p>Use by continuous infusion: after an intubation dose of 80-100 mcg/kg a continuous infusion of 1 mcg/kg/min can be initiated approximately 20-40 minutes later.</p>	<p><u>Orthographic:</u> Both names have a similar number of letters (8 vs. 7) and shape when scripted. The capital letter ‘N’ may look like the capital letter ‘M’ when scripted. Both names share the letters ‘r’ and ‘o’ in the same positions.</p>	<p><u>Setting of Use:</u> Norcuron is used in the hospital setting (e.g. ER, OR) as an adjunct to general anesthesia administered under physician supervision vs. Mirvaso is intended for the inpatient, outpatient and home use.</p> <p><u>Dose:</u> Thin layer or 1 application or UAD vs. xx mg</p> <p><u>Frequency and route of administration:</u> Once daily topical application vs. xx mg by intravenous bolus or continuous infusion.</p> <p><u>Units:</u> % vs. mg</p>

No.	Proposed name: Mirvaso Dosage Form(s): Gel Strength(s): 0.5% Usual Dose: Apply to affected area once daily	Failure Mode: Incorrect Product Ordered/ Selected/Dispensed or Administered because of Name confusion Causes (could be multiple)	Prevention of Failure Mode In the conditions outlined below, the following combination of factors, are expected to minimize the risk of confusion between these two names
13.	<p>Norvasc (Amlodipine Mesylate) Tablets 2.5 mg, 5 mg, and 10 mg</p> <p>Dosage: 2.5 to 10 mg once daily</p>	<p><u>Orthographic:</u></p> <p>Both names contain 7 letters and have a similar shape when scripted. The capital letter ‘N’ may look like the capital letter ‘M’ when scripted. Both names share the same letter string ‘rvas’ in the same position. The last letter ‘c’ in Norvasc may look like the last letter ‘o’ in Mirvaso.</p> <p><u>Phonetic:</u></p> <p>First syllable: The first sound in both syllables (‘m’ vs. ‘n’) are nasal. The last sound in both syllables is the same (‘r’).</p> <p>Second syllable: The first sound in both syllables is the same (‘vas’).</p> <p><u>Frequency of administrations:</u></p> <p>Both products are used once daily</p>	<p><u>Phonetic:</u></p> <p>Mirvaso has three syllables vs. Norvasc has two syllables. The last sound ‘c’ in Norvasc is distinctive from the last sound ‘o’ in Mirvaso. In fact, none of the responses from both FDA simulated prescriptions studies performed misinterpreted the ending sound ‘o’ in Mirvaso for a ‘c’ or ‘k’ sound. In addition, none of the responses in (b)(4) verbal prescription studies misinterpreted the ending sound ‘o’ in Mirvaso for a ‘c’ or ‘k’ sound.</p> <p><u>Strength:</u></p> <p>Mirvaso is a single strength product vs. Norvasc is available in multiple strengths, which would be required on a prescription. In addition, there is no overlap in strength or dose.</p> <p><u>Dose:</u></p> <p>Thin layer or 1 application or UAD vs. xx mg or 1 tab</p> <p><u>Units:</u></p> <p>% vs. mg</p>

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/s/

CARLOS M MENA-GRILLASCA
03/05/2013

LUBNA A MERCHANT
03/05/2013

CAROL A HOLQUIST
03/05/2013