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Application Number **20-903**

MICROBIOLOGY REVIEW(S)

DRAFT

MICROBIOLOGY REVIEW
DIVISION OF ANTIVIRAL DRUG PRODUCTS (HFD-530)

NDA #: 20-903

REVIEWER	:N. Battula
CORRESPONDENCE DATE	:12-03-97
CDER RECEIPT DATE	:12-03-97
REVIEW COMPLETE DATE	:04-27-98

SPONSOR:

Schering Corporation
2000 Galloping Hill Road
Kenilworth, NJ 07033

SUBMISSION REVIEWED:

Original

DRUG CATEGORY:

Anti-HCV

INDICATION:

Treatment of chronic hepatitis C infection

DOSAGE FORM:

Intron A as lyophilized powder and Ribavirin as capsules

PRODUCT NAMES:

A. PROPRIETARY:

(1) Intron A and (2) Rebetol

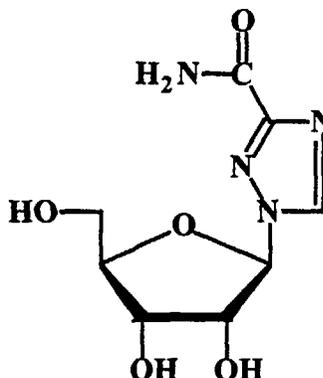
B. NONPROPRIETARY:

(1) Intron alfa-2b and (2) Ribavirin

C. CHEMICAL:

(2) 1- β -D-ribofurnaosyl-1*H*-1,2,4-triazole-3-carboxamide

STRUCTURAL FORMIULA: (2)



SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

BACKGROUND: Schering Corporation submitted this NDA in support of their application for use of a two drug combination consisting of Intron A (Interferon-alfa-2b, recombinant) plus Ribavirin vs. Intron A alone, for the treatment of chronic hepatitis C in individuals who have relapsed following a course of interferon-therapy. Intron A was previously approved for the treatment of hepatitis C infection and Ribavirin was approved for respiratory syncytial virus infections. In November, 1994, Ribavirin, however, was not approvable for monotherapy of chronic hepatitis C based on lack of clinical benefit (NDA # 20-442). Ribavirin was subsequently licensed to Schering Corporation for further development in the treatment of HCV infection.

The sponsor, Schering Corporation, requested a priority review of this application. The clinical portion of this application was submitted as a computer assisted new drug application. The requested indication is based on changes in virologic (HCV RNA), hepatohistopathologic (Knodell Score) and biochemical (alanine aminotransferase) surrogate markers scored as end-of-treatment response at 24 weeks of therapy and sustained response at 12 and 24 weeks of off-therapy follow-up.

THIS SECTION
WAS
DETERMINED
NOT
TO BE
RELEASABLE

10 pages

Draft Microbiology label: *Mechanism of action: Interferon alfa-2b, recombinant/ribavirin.* The mechanism of inhibition of hepatitis C virus (HCV) RNA by combination therapy with INTRON A and REBETOL has not been established.

RECOMMENDATION: The microbiology portion of the draft label as currently written is acceptable. With respect to microbiology this NDA is approved.

Narayana Battula, Ph.D.
Microbiologist

CONCURRENCES:

HFD-530/Deputy Dir

HFD-530/SMicro

CC:

HFD-530/Original IND

HFD-530/Division File

HFD-530/MO

HFD-530/Pharm

HFD-530/Chem

HFD-530/SMicro

HFD-530/Review Micro

HFD-530/CSO, Crescenzi, T.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____