



Food and Drug Administration
2098 Gaither Road
Rockville MD 20850

Pat Franks
Assistant Director, Regulatory Affairs
Helena Laboratories
1530 Lindbergh Drive
P.O. Box 752
Beaumont, Texas 77704-0752

OCT 27 1997

Re: K972274
SPIFE™ Electrophoresis System & SPE VIS-60 Procedure
Regulatory Class: I
Product Code: CEF
Dated: June 12, 1997
Received: June 18, 1997

Dear Ms. Franks:

We have reviewed your Section 510(k) notification of intent to market the device referenced above and we have determined the device is substantially equivalent (for the indications for use stated in the enclosure) to devices marketed in interstate commerce prior to May 28, 1976, the enactment date of the Medical Device Amendments, or to devices that have been reclassified in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (Act). You may, therefore, market the device, subject to the general controls provisions of the Act. The general controls provisions of the Act include requirements for annual registration, listing of devices, good manufacturing practice, labeling, and prohibitions against misbranding and adulteration.

If your device is classified (see above) into either class II (Special Controls) or class III (Pre-market Approval), it may be subject to such additional controls. Existing major regulations affecting your device can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 21, Parts 800 to 895. A substantially equivalent determination assumes compliance with the Current Good Manufacturing Practice requirements, as set forth in the Quality System Regulation (QS) for Medical Devices: General regulation (21 CFR Part 820) and that, through periodic QS inspections, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will verify such assumptions. Failure to comply with the GMP regulation may result in regulatory action. In addition, FDA may publish further announcements concerning your device in the Federal Register. Please note: this response to your pre-market notification submission does not affect any obligation you might have under sections 531 through 542 of the Act for devices under the Electronic Product Radiation Control provisions, or other Federal laws or regulations.

Page 2

Under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA-88), this device may require a CLIA complexity categorization. To determine if it does, you should contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at (770) 488-7655.

This letter will allow you to begin marketing your device as described in your 510(k) premarket notification. The FDA finding of substantial equivalence of your device to a legally marketed predicate device results in a classification for your device and thus, permits your device to proceed to the market.

If you desire specific advice for your device on our labeling regulation (21 CFR Part 801 and additionally 809.10 for in vitro diagnostic devices), please contact the Office of Compliance at (301) 594-4588. Additionally, for questions on the promotion and advertising of your device, please contact the Office of Compliance at (301) 594-4639. Also, please note the regulation entitled, "Misbranding by reference to premarket notification" (21 CFR 807.97). Other general information on your responsibilities under the Act may be obtained from the Division of Small Manufacturers Assistance at its toll-free number (800) 638-2041 or (301) 443-6597 or at its internet address "<http://www.fda.gov/cdrh/dsmamain.html>".

Sincerely yours,

Steven Gutman

Steven I. Gutman, M.D., M.B.A.
Director
Division of Clinical
Laboratory Devices
Office of Device Evaluation
Center for Devices and
Radiological Health

Enclosure

510(k) Number (if known): Unknown at this time

Device Name: SPIFETM Electrophoresis System

Indications for Use:

This kit is intended for separation and/or quantitations of serum proteins and immunoglobulins using agarose gel electrophoresis.

These tests can be useful in diagnosing various disease states which typically exhibit abnormal patterns. Examples of such diseases are inflammatory response, rheumatic fever, liver disease, protein-loss disorders, plasma cell dyscrasias, genetic deficiencies and gammopathies responsible for multiple myeloma, collagen disorders and other chronic infections.

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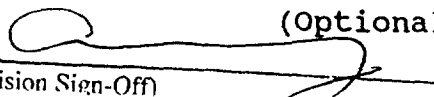
Concurrence of CDRH, Office of Device Evaluation (ODE)

Prescription Use
(Per 21 CFR 801.109)

OR

Over-The-Counter Use

(Optional Format 1-2-96)


(Division Sign-Off)