

January 28, 1999

Par Pharmaceutical, Inc.
Attention: Michelle Bonomi-Huvala
One Ram Ridge Road
Spring Valley, NY 10977



Dear Madam:

This is in reference to your abbreviated new drug application dated August 1, 1997, submitted pursuant to Section 505(j) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, for Ranitidine Tablets USP, 150 mg and 300 mg.

Reference is also made to your amendments dated November 6, and November 21, 1997; February 27, March 12, October 6, and November 13, 1998; and January 21, and January 27, 1999.

The listed drug referenced in your application is subject to periods of patent protection which expire on December 4, 2002 (patent 4,521,431 [the '431 patent]), and November 13, 2008 (patent 4,880,636 [the '636 patent]). Your application contains patent certifications under Section 505(j)(2)(A)(vii)(IV) of the Act stating that your manufacture, use, or sale of this drug product will not infringe on either of the patents. Section 505(j)(5)(B)(iii) of the Act provides that approval shall be made effective immediately unless an action is brought for infringement of the patents which are the subject of the certifications before the expiration of forty-five days from the date the notice provided under paragraph (2)(B)(I) is received. You have notified the Agency that Par Pharmaceutical, Inc. (Par) has complied with the requirements of Section 505(j)(2)(B) of the Act and that no action for patent infringement was brought against Par within the statutory forty-five day period.

We have completed the review of this abbreviated application and have concluded that the drug is safe and effective for use as recommended in the submitted labeling. Accordingly, the application is approved. The Division of Bioequivalence has determined your Ranitidine Tablets USP, 150 mg and 300 mg, to be bioequivalent and, therefore, therapeutically equivalent to the listed drug (Zantac-150 Tablets (150 mg) and Zantac-300 Tablets (300 mg), respectively, of Glaxo Wellcome Inc.). Your

dissolution testing should be incorporated into the stability and quality control program using the same method proposed in your application.

Under 21 CFR 314.70, certain changes in the conditions described in this abbreviated application require an approved supplemental application before the change may be made.

Post-marketing reporting requirements for this abbreviated application 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.

We request that you submit, in duplicate, any proposed advertising or promotional copy which you intend to use in your initial advertising or promotional campaigns. Please submit all proposed materials in draft or mock-up form, not final print. Submit both copies together with a copy of the proposed or final printed labeling to the Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications (HFD-40). Please do not use Form FD-2253 (Transmittal of Advertisements and Promotional Labeling for Drugs for Human Use) for this initial submission.

We call your attention to 21 CFR 314.81(b)(3) which requires that materials for any subsequent advertising or promotional campaign be submitted to our Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications (HFD-40) with a completed Form FD-2253 at the time of their initial use.

Sincerely yours,

Douglas L. Sporn
Director
Office of Generic Drugs
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research