Dear Ms. Zamstein:

Please refer to your supplemental new drug applications dated November 5, 1999, received November 8, 1999, for LEVAQUIN® (levofloxacin) Tablets, 250 mg, 500 mg and 750 mg, NDA 20-634/S-013 and LEVAQUIN® (levofloxacin) Injection, 25 mg/mL (20 and 30 mL vials) and 5 mg/mL (50, 100, and 150 mL flexible containers), NDA 20-635/S-010, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

We acknowledge receipt of your submissions dated April 19, August 8, August 18 (3), 2000 and September 8, 2000.

These supplemental new drug applications provide for the use of LEVAQUIN® for the treatment of complicated skin and skin structure infections.

We have completed the review of these supplemental applications, as amended, and have concluded that adequate information has been presented to demonstrate that the drug products are safe and effective for use as recommended in the agreed upon labeling text submitted September 8, 2000. Accordingly, these supplemental applications are approved effective on the date of this letter.

The final printed labeling (FPL) must be identical to the submitted draft labeling (package insert submitted September 8, 2000).

Please submit 20 paper copies of the FPL to each application as soon as they are available, in no case more than 30 days after they are printed. Please individually mount ten of the copies on heavy-weight paper or similar material. Alternatively, you may submit the FPL electronically according to the guidance for industry titled Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic Format - NDAs (January 1999). For administrative purposes, these submissions should be designated "FPL for
NDA 20-634/S-013 and 20-635/S-010

approved supplemental NDA 20-634/S-013, and NDA 20-635/S-010." Approval of these submissions by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.

Be advised that, as of April 1, 1999, all applications for new active ingredients, new dosage forms, new indications, new routes of administration, and new dosing regimens are required to contain an assessment of the safety and effectiveness of the product in pediatric patients unless this requirement is waived or deferred (63 FR 66632). We note that you have not fulfilled the requirements of 21 CFR 314.55 for the treatment of complicated skin and skin structure infections. We are deferring submission of your pediatric studies for this indication until February 2, 2003. However, in the interim, please submit your pediatric drug development plans within 120 days from the date of this letter unless you believe a waiver is appropriate.

If you believe that this drug qualifies for a waiver of the pediatric study requirement for this indication, you should submit a request for a waiver with supporting information and documentation in accordance with the provisions of 21 CFR 314.55 within 60 days from the date of this letter. We will notify you within 120 days of receipt of your response whether a waiver is granted. If a waiver is not granted, we will ask you to submit your pediatric drug development plans within 120 days from the date of denial of the waiver.

Pediatric studies conducted under the terms of section 505A of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act may result in additional marketing exclusivity for certain products (pediatric exclusivity). You should refer to the Guidance for Industry on Qualifying for Pediatric Exclusivity (available on our web site at www.fda.gov/cder/pediatric) for details. If you wish to qualify for pediatric exclusivity you should submit a "Proposed Pediatric Study Request" (PPSR) in addition to your plans for pediatric drug development described above. We recommend that you submit a Proposed Pediatric Study Request within 120 days from the date of this letter. If you are unable to meet this time frame but are interested in pediatric exclusivity, please notify the division in writing. FDA generally will not accept studies submitted to an NDA before issuance of a Written Request as responsive to a Written Request. Sponsors should obtain a Written Request before submitting pediatric studies to an NDA. If you do not submit a PPSR or indicate that you are interested in pediatric exclusivity, we will proceed with the pediatric drug development plan that you submit and notify you of the pediatric studies that are required under section 21 CFR 314.55. Please note that satisfaction of the requirements in 21 CFR 314.55 alone may not qualify you for pediatric exclusivity. FDA does not necessarily ask a sponsor to complete the same scope of studies to qualify for pediatric exclusivity as it does to fulfill the requirements of the pediatric rule.

In addition, please submit three copies of the introductory promotional materials that you propose to use for the indication of complicated skin and skin structure infections. All proposed materials should be submitted in draft or mock-up form, not final print. Please submit one copy to this Division for each NDA and two copies of both the promotional materials and the package inserts directly to:
If a letter communicating important information about these drug products (i.e., a "Dear Health Care Practitioner" letter) is issued to physicians and others responsible for patient care, we request that you submit a copy of the letter to this NDA and a copy to the following address:

MEDWATCH, HF-2
FDA
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

We remind you that you must comply with the requirements for an approved NDA set forth under 21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81.

If you have any questions, call Jeffrey Fritsch, R.Ph., Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 827-2127.

Sincerely,

Renata Albrecht, M.D.
Acting Director
Division of Special Pathogen and Immunologic Drug Products
Office of Drug Evaluation IV
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research