

June 30, 2000

Akorn, Inc.  
Attention: James G. Baumann, Jr.  
1222 West Grand Ave.  
Decatur, IL 62522

Dear Sir:

This is in reference to your abbreviated new drug application dated May 22, 1998, submitted pursuant to Section 505(j) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (Act), for Betaxolol Ophthalmic Solution USP, 0.5%, packaged in 2.5 mL, 5 mL, 10 mL, and 15 mL containers.

Reference is also made to our tentative approval letter dated April 25, 2000 and to your amendment dated April 28, 2000.

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 Betaxolol Ophthalmic Solution USP, 0.5% to be bioequivalent and, therefore, therapeutically equivalent to the listed drug (Betoptic<sup>®</sup> Ophthalmic Solution, 0.5% of Alcon Laboratories Inc.).

Under section 506A of the Act, 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,

Gary Buehler  
Acting Director  
Office of Generic Drugs  
Center for Drug Evaluation and

Research

