

September 8, 2000

Apotex Corp.
Attention: Marcy Macdonald
U.S. Agent for Novex Pharma
50 Lakeview Parkway, Suite 127
Vernon Hills, IL 60061

Dear Madam:

This is in reference to your abbreviated new drug application dated July 2, 1998, submitted pursuant to Section 505(j) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (Act), for Timolol Maleate Ophthalmic Solution USP, 0.5% (base).

Reference is also made to your amendment dated August 4, 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 Timolol Maleate Ophthalmic Solution USP, 0.5% (base) to be bioequivalent and, therefore, therapeutically equivalent to the listed drug (Timoptic® Ophthalmic Solution, 0.5% (base) of Merck Research Laboratories

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

