Dear Mr. Randolph:

Please refer to your supplemental new drug application dated April 11, 2001, received April 12, 2001, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Glucophage® XR (metformin hydrochloride extended-release) Tablets, 500 mg.

This supplement provides for revisions to the CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION sections of the package insert necessitated by the approval of supplement 020 to NDA 20-357. NDA 20-357/S-020 provides additional information describing the details of a previously reviewed study on concomitant administration of Glucophage and glyburide for the treatment of obese patients with type 2 diabetes who had failed to achieve adequate glycemic control while on maximal doses of glyburide.

We have completed the review of this supplemental application, as amended, and have concluded that adequate information has been presented to demonstrate that the drug product is safe and effective for use as recommended in the agreed upon labeling text. Accordingly, the supplemental application is approved effective on the date of this letter.

The final printed labeling (FPL) must be identical to the enclosed draft labeling (for the package insert) submitted April 11, 2001.

Please submit the copies of final printed labeling (FPL) electronically according to the guidance for industry titled Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic Format - NDA (January 1999). Alternatively, you may submit 20 paper copies of the FPL as soon as it is available but no more than 30 days after it is printed. Please individually mount ten of the copies on heavy-weight paper or similar material. For administrative purposes, this submission should be designated "FPL for approved supplement NDA 21-202/S-001." Approval of this submission by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.
If a letter communicating important information about this drug product (i.e., a "Dear Health Care Professional" 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, please call Ms. Jena Weber, Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 827-6422.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

David G. Orloff, M.D.
Director
Division of Metabolic and Endocrine Drug Products
Office of Drug Evaluation II
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research