



NDA 18-086/S-054

Merck & Co., Inc.
Attention: Virginia G. Snyder
Manager, Regulatory Affairs
P.O. Box 4, BLA-20
West Point, PA 19486

Dear Ms. Snyder:

Please refer to your supplemental new drug application dated October 13, 2000, received October 16, 2000, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Timoptic (timolol maleate ophthalmic solution) Sterile Ophthalmic Solution, 0.25% and 0.5%.

We acknowledge receipt of your submissions dated January 24, March 23, and April 4, 2001.

This supplemental new drug application provides for changes to the primary container/closure system; the site of manufacturing, filling, packaging, and testing of the drug product; the manufacturing process; the drug product specification; the label adhesive; and the labeling.

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 draft labeling of the package insert and immediate container and carton labels submitted electronically on October 13, 2000.

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 18-086/S-054." Approval of this submission by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.

Validation of the regulatory methods has not been completed. At the present time, it is the policy of the Center not to withhold approval because the methods are being validated. Nevertheless, we expect your continued cooperation to resolve any problems that may be identified.

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

Please submit one market package of the drug product when it is available.

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 Michael Puglisi, Project Manager, at (301) 827-2090.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Wiley A. Chambers, M.D.
Deputy Director
Division of Anti-Inflammatory, Analgesic and Ophthalmic
Drug Products, HFD-550
Office of Drug Evaluation V
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research