



NDA 21-286

Sankyo Pharma, Inc.
Attention: Mr. Albert Yehaskel
780 Third Avenue, 47th Floor
New York, New York 10017

Dear Mr. Yehaskel:

Please refer to your new drug application (NDA) dated July 25, 2000, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Benicar (olmesartan medoxomil) Tablets, 5, 20, and 40 mg.

We acknowledge receipt of your submissions dated October 30, November 15, December 7, 20, and 31, 2001, and January 7, 23 and 30, February 13, March 1 and 7, and April 6 and 9, 2002. Your submission of April 6, 2002 constituted a complete response to our October 24, 2001 approvable letter.

This new drug application provides for the use of Benicar (olmesartan medoxomil) Tablets, 5, 20, and 40 mg for the treatment of hypertension.

We have completed the review of this 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 final printed labeling (package insert, immediate carton and container labels included in your submission of April 6, 2002). Accordingly, the application is approved effective on the date of this letter.

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.

Please 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). Please note our letter of February 14, 2001 in which we denied your July 25, 2000 request for waiver of pediatric studies for hypertensive patients. We have agreed, however, to defer submission of your pediatric studies in hypertensive patients until March 6, 2005. In the interim, please submit your pediatric drug development plans within 120 days from the date of this letter and within approximately 120 days of receipt of your pediatric drug development plan, we will review your plan and notify you of its adequacy.

In telephone conversations on April 23 and 24, 2002 between Dr. James Molt of Sankyo Pharma and Mr. Edward Fromm of the Division of Cardio-Renal Drug Products, it was agreed that the following changes to the package insert would be made at the time of the next printing:

1. Under **ADVERSE REACTIONS**, 3rd paragraph, the adverse events of “inflicted injury” and “upper respiratory tract infection” should be deleted.
2. Under **ADVERSE REACTIONS**, the listing of “other (potentially important) adverse events....in controlled or open-label trials” should be changed to:

Body as a Whole: chest pain, peripheral edema

Central and Peripheral Nervous System: vertigo

Gastrointestinal: abdominal pain, dyspepsia, gastroenteritis, nausea

Heart Rate and Rhythm Disorders: tachycardia

Metabolic and Nutritional Disorders: hypercholesterolemia, hyperlipemia, hyperuricemia

Musculoskeletal: arthralgia, arthritis, myalgia

Skin and Appendages: rash

3. Under **PRECAUTIONS, Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility**, please delete from the second paragraph the words “for DNA damage in the rat kidney (comet assay).”
4. Under **OVERDOSAGE**, please delete the second paragraph, which makes reference to studies in mice, rats, and dogs.
5. Under **WARNINGS, Fetal/Neonatal Morbidity and Mortality**, the next to last sentence notes, among other things, drug associated “delays in developmental milestones.” This sentence should be modified to specify which *developmental milestones* were delayed.

Please submit these labeling changes in a supplemental application.

In addition, please submit three copies of the introductory promotional materials that you propose to use for this product. All proposed materials should be submitted in draft or mock-up form, not final print. Please send one copy to the Division of Cardio-Renal Drug Products and two copies of both the promotional materials and the package insert directly to:

Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications, HFD-42
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20857

NDA 21-286

Page 3

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, please contact:

Mr. Edward Fromm
Regulatory Health Project Manager
(301) 594-5313

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Robert Temple, M.D.
Director
Office of Drug Evaluation I
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Enclosure

**This is a representation of an electronic record that was signed electronically and
this page is the manifestation of the electronic signature.**

/s/

Robert Temple

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