DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES Public Health Service

Food and Drug Administration
Rockville MD 20857

NDA 20-505/S-021/S-023
NDA 20-844/S-018/S-020

Ortho McNeil Pharmaceutical Inc.
Attention: Catherine M. Glamkowski
Associate Director, Regulatory Affairs
1000 Route 202 South, P.O. Box 300
Raritan, NJ 08869-0602

Dear Ms. Glamkowski:

We acknowledge receipt of your supplemental new drug applications dated December 18, 2002 (NDAs 20-505/S-021 & 20-844/S-018), and March 4, 2003 (NDAs 20-505/S-023 & 20-844/S-020), submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Topamax (topiramate) tablets (NDA 20-505) and Topamax (topiramate) sprinkle capsules (NDA 20-844).

We additionally acknowledge receipt of your amendments dated January 21, and March 11, 2003.

These "Changes Being Effected" supplemental new drug applications propose the following revisions to product labeling:

NDAs 20-505/S-021 & 20-844/S-018

- Revisions to the **PRECAUTIONS-Other Drug Interactions-Oral Contraceptives** section to incorporate data from a drug interaction study, Study TOPMAT-PHI-384, between topiramate and oral contraceptives.

NDAs 20-505/S-023 & 20-844/S-020

- Revisions to the **Postmarketing and Other Experience** section to indicate that topiramate has been associated with bullous skin reactions, including erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson Syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis and pemphigus. We note that these revisions were requested in an Agency letter dated November 20, 2002.

We have completed the review of these supplemental applications, and have concluded that adequate information has been presented to demonstrate that the drug product is safe and effective as submitted in your draft labeling. Accordingly, these supplemental applications are approved effective on the date of this letter.

Please submit the copies of final printed labeling (FPL) electronically to each application 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, these submissions should be designated "FPL for approved supplements 20-505/S-021/S-023 & 20-844/S-018/S-020" Approval of these submissions 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 Practitioner" 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 regarding this letter, call Paul David, R.Ph., Senior Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 594-5530.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Russell Katz, M.D.
Director
Division of Neuropharmacological Drug Products
Office of Drug Evaluation I
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

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

/s/

Russell Katz
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