Dear Mr. Bonk:

Please refer to your supplemental new drug applications dated September 25, received September 26, 2002, submitted under section 505(b) pursuant to section 505(b)(2) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Effexor (venlafaxine hydrochloride) Immediate Release Tablets (NDA 20-151) and Effexor XR (venlafaxine hydrochloride) Extended Release Capsules (NDA 20-699).


These “Prior Approval” supplemental new drug applications provide for additional safety data in the pediatric population.

We have completed the review of these supplemental applications, 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 enclosed labeling text. Accordingly, these supplemental applications are approved effective on the date of this letter.

The final printed labeling (FPL) must be identical to the agreed upon enclosed labeling (text for the package insert).

Please submit the FPL electronically according to the guidance for industry titled Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic Format – NDA. Alternatively, you may submit 20 paper copies of the FPL as soon as it is available, in no case 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 supplements NDAs 20-151/S-024 & 20-699/S-030.” Approval of this submission by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.
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 submit one copy to this Division 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

If you issue a letter communicating important information about this drug product (i.e., a “Dear Health Care Professional” letter), 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, call Paul David, Senior Regulatory Health 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

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

/s/

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Russell Katz
5/5/04 07:33:44 AM