Dear Ms. Bauers:

We acknowledge receipt of your supplemental new drug application dated August 26, 2005, and received August 29, 2005, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Effexor XR (venlafaxine hydrochloride) Extended Release 37.5 mg, 75 mg, and 150 mg capsules.

This “Changes Being Effected” supplemental new drug application provides for unit-of-use packaging in container sizes of 15 count, 30 count, and 90 count of the above capsule strengths, and these changes are reflected in the prescriber and container labeling.

We have completed the review of this supplemental application and have concluded that adequate information has been presented to demonstrate that the drug product is safe and effective for use as recommended in your labeling submitted on October 5, 2005. Accordingly, this supplemental application is approved effective on the date of this letter.

The final printed labeling (FPL) must be identical to the labeling submitted on August 26, 2005.

Please submit an electronic version of the FPL 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 but no more than 30 days after it is printed. Individually mount 15 of the copies on heavy-weight paper or similar material. For administrative purposes, designate these submissions “FPL for approved supplement NDA 20-699/S-066.” Approval of this submission by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.

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
Food and Drug Administration
WO 22, Room 4447
10903 New Hampshire Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002
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 Dr. Renmeet Gujral, Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 796-1080.

Sincerely,

[See appended electronic signature page]

James D. Vidra, Ph.D.
Branch Chief
Branch 7, Division of Postmarketing Evaluation
Office of New Drug Quality Assessment
Center of 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.

\( /s/ \)

Jim Vidra
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