Dear Mr. Kummeth:

Please refer to your supplemental new drug application (NDA) dated August 17, 2005, received August 18, 2005, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Nexium® IV (esomeprazole sodium) for Injection.

This “Changes Being Effected” supplemental new drug application provides for the following changes: revisions to the Adverse Reactions, Postmarketing Reports and PRECAUTIONS, Drug Interactions, sections of the package insert.

We completed our review of this application. This application is approved, effective on the date of this letter, for use as recommended in the agreed-upon labeling text.

The final printed labeling (FPL) must be identical to the submitted and enclosed labeling (package insert submitted August 17, 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 this submission "FPL for approved supplement NDA 21-689/S-003.” Approval of this submission by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.

In our facsimile of January 23, 2006 regarding your omeprazole product, we requested the following changes be made to both the WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS section of your package insert. Your sentence: “Concomitant administration of omeprazole has been reported to reduce the plasma levels of atazanavir.” Our recommendation: “Concomitant use of omeprazole and atazanavir is not recommended. Co-administration of omeprazole with atazanavir is expected to reduce the plasma levels of atazanavir by 70% to 80% (C_{max}, AUC, C_{min}) and reduce its therapeutic effect.”

As discussed at our teleconference on January 24, 2006, we agreed to your current changes in your CBE supplements for both your omeprazole and esomeprazole products. However, we were concerned that this change needed to be further refined. You agreed to add more detailed language...
which you anticipate will differ from the January 23, 2006 facsimile due to the availability of additional data. You committed to providing us with this data in a timely fashion as a Prior Approval Supplement.

Please submit draft labeling as a Prior Approval Supplement to this application. Please incorporate all previous revisions as reflected in the most recently approved package insert. To facilitate review of your submission, provide a highlighted or marked-up copy that shows the changes that are being made.

We remind you that you must comply with reporting requirements for an approved NDA (21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81).

If you have any questions, call Melissa Hancock Furness, Regulatory Health Project Manager, at (301) 796-0893.

Sincerely,

Brian E. Harvey, M.D., Ph.D.
Director
Division of Gastroenterology Products
Office of Drug Evaluation III
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

{See appended electronic signature page}

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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Joyce Korvick
2/16/2006 03:03:00 PM
for Dr. Brian Harvey