



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Food and Drug Administration
Rockville, MD 20857

Our STN: BL 103951/5139

Amgen, Incorporated
Attention: Randy Steiner, DPA
Regulatory Affairs General Medicine Therapeutic Head AC
One Amgen Center Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91320-1799

MAR 09 2007

Dear Dr. Steiner:

Your request to supplement your biologics license application for Darbepoetin alfa to add a Boxed Warning for increased risks of death, of serious cardiovascular and thromboembolic events, and of more rapid tumor progression and to clarify dosing strategies; to update the Warnings section to incorporate new clinical study results; to revise the Clinical Studies section to include information on survival in cancer patients receiving weekly dosing regimens; to revise the Precautions section to delete the subsection on Tumor Growth Potential and include this information in Warnings and to modify the Information for Patients subsection to advise communication of the new safety information; to revise the Overdosage section with information on increased risks for cardiovascular events; and to modify the Dosage and Administration section of the package insert has been approved. Your request to update the Patient Package Insert to include the increased risks of deaths, increased thromboembolic events, and decreased time to tumor progression in patients receiving erythropoietin stimulating agents (ESAs) and removal of irrelevant information regarding anemia has also been approved.

The final printed labeling (FPL) must be identical to the enclosed labeling (text for the package insert, and the text for the patient package insert) submitted March 8, 2007. Marketing product with FPL that is not identical to the approved labeling text may render the product misbranded and an unapproved new drug.

Pursuant to 21 CFR 201.57(c)(18) and 201.80(f)(2), patient labeling must be reprinted immediately following the last section of labeling or, alternatively, accompany the prescription drug labeling.

Please submit all final printed labeling at the time of use and include implementation information on FDA Form 356h. Please provide a PDF-format electronic copy as well as original paper copies (ten for circulars and five for other labels). Please also submit ten copies of the final, signed DHCP letter, envelope, and labeling.

Please submit within 30 days content of labeling [21 CFR 601.14(b)] in structured product labeling (SPL) format, as described at <http://www.fda.gov/oc/datacouncil/spl.html>, that is identical in content to the enclosed labeling text dated March 8, 2007. Upon receipt and verification, we will transmit that version to the National Library of Medicine for posting on the DailyMed website.

This information will be included in your biologics license application file.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rafel Dwaine Rieves".

Rafel Dwaine Rieves, M.D.
Acting Director
Division of Medical Imaging and Hematology Products
Office of Oncology Drug Products
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Enclosure: Patient Package Insert
Package Insert