Dear Dr. Ashworth:

Please refer to your Supplemental New Drug Application (sNDA) dated February 23, 2010, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA) for Cardizem CD (diltiazem hydrochloride) 120, 180, 240, 300 and 360 mg Capsules.

We acknowledge receipt of your amendments dated September 1 and November 11, 2010.

This “Prior Approval” labeling supplemental new drug application provides for the following revisions to the DESCRIPTION, PRECAUTIONS, ADVERSE REACTIONS and OVERDOSAGE sections of the package insert:

1. Under DESCRIPTION, the word, “cellular” was added in the sentence, “Cardizem (diltiazem hydrochloride) is a calcium ion cellular influx inhibitor (slow channel blocker or calcium antagonist).”

2. Under DESCRIPTION, the second paragraph was revised from:

Diltiazem hydrochloride is a white to offwhite crystalline powder with a bitter taste. It is soluble in water, methanol, and chloroform. It has a molecular weight of 450.98. Cardizem CD is formulated as a once-a-day extended release capsule containing either 120 mg, 180 mg, 240 mg, 300 mg, or 360 mg diltiazem hydrochloride. The 120 mg, 180 mg, 240 mg, and 300 mg capsules also contain: black iron oxide, ethylcellulose, FD&C Blue #1, fumaric acid, gelatin-NF, sucrose, starch, talc, titanium dioxide, white wax, and other ingredients. The 360 mg capsule also contains: black iron oxide, diethyl phthalate, FD&C Blue #1, gelatin-NF, povidone K17, sodium lauryl sulfate, starch, sucrose, talc, titanium dioxide, and other ingredients.

To read as follows:

Reference ID: 2867302
Diltiazem hydrochloride is a white to offwhite crystalline powder with a bitter taste. It is soluble in water, methanol, and chloroform. It has a molecular weight of 450.98. Cardizem CD is formulated as a once-a-day extended-release capsule containing either 120 mg, 180 mg, 240 mg, 300 mg, or 360 mg diltiazem hydrochloride. The 120 mg, 180 mg, 240 mg, and 300 mg capsules also contain: acetyl tributyl citrate, ammonio methacrylate copolymer dispersion, black iron oxide (300 mg), castor oil, ethylcellulose, FD&C Blue #1, fumaric acid, gelatin, silicon dioxide, simethicone, starch, stearic acid, sucrose, talc, titanium dioxide, and white wax.

The 360 mg capsule also contains: acetyl tributyl citrate, ammonio methacrylate copolymer dispersion, diethyl phthalate, FD&C Blue #1, gelatin, povidone, simethicone, sodium lauryl sulfate, starch, sucrose, talc, and titanium dioxide.

3. Under PRECAUTIONS, Drug Interactions, as requested in our September 21, 2009 letter, a new section was added. It reads:

Clonidine
Sinus bradycardia resulting in hospitalization and pacemaker insertion has been reported in association with the use of clonidine concurrently with diltiazem. Monitor heart rate in patients receiving concomitant diltiazem and clonidine.

4. Under PRECAUTIONS, Drug Interactions, the section entitled, “Lovastatin” which read:

Lovastatin
In a ten-subject study, coadministration of diltiazem (120 mg bid, diltiazem SR) with lovastatin resulted in 3-4 times increase in mean lovastatin AUC and \( C_{\text{max}} \) versus lovastatin alone; no change in pravastatin AUC and \( C_{\text{max}} \) was observed during diltiazem coadministration. Diltiazem plasma levels were not significantly affected by lovastatin or pravastatin.

Was revised to read as follows:

Statins: Diltiazem is an inhibitor of CYP3A4 and has been shown to increase significantly the AUC of some statins. The risk of myopathy and rhabdomyolysis with statins metabolized by CYP3A4 may be increased with concomitant use of diltiazem. When possible, use a non-CYP3A4-metabolized statin together with diltiazem; otherwise, dose adjustments for both diltiazem and the statin should be considered along with close monitoring for signs and symptoms of any statin related adverse events.

In a healthy volunteer cross-over study (N=10), co-administration of a single 20 mg dose of simvastatin at the end of a 14 day regimen with 120 mg BID diltiazem SR resulted in a 5-fold increase in mean simvastatin AUC versus simvastatin alone. Subjects with increased average steady-state exposures of diltiazem showed a greater fold increase in
simvastatin exposure. Computer-based simulations showed that at a daily dose of 480 mg of diltiazem, an 8- to 9-fold mean increase in simvastatin AUC can be expected. If co-administration of simvastatin with diltiazem is required, limit the daily doses of simvastatin to 10 mg and diltiazem to 240 mg.

In a ten-subject randomized, open label, 4-way cross-over study, co-administration of diltiazem (120 mg BID diltiazem SR for 2 weeks) with a single 20 mg dose of lovastatin resulted in 3- to 4-fold increase in mean lovastatin AUC and C$_{max}$ versus lovastatin alone. In the same study, there was no significant change in 20 mg single dose pravastatin AUC and C$_{max}$ during diltiazem coadministration. Diltiazem plasma levels were not significantly affected by lovastatin or pravastatin.

5. Under **ADVERSE REACTIONS, Other**, the phrase, “acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis” was added.

6. Under **ADVERSE REACTIONS, Other**, the phrase, “photosensitivity (including lichenoid keratosis and hyperpigmentation at sun-exposed skin areas)” was added.

7. Under **OVERDOSAGE, Hypotension**, the words, “levaterenol bitartrate” were replaced with “norepinephrine.”

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

**CONTENT OF LABELING**

As soon as possible, but no later than 14 days from the date of this letter, submit, using the FDA automated drug registration and listing system (eLIST), the content of labeling [21 CFR 314.50(l)] in structured product labeling (SPL) format, as described at [http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/DataStandards/StructuredProductLabeling/default.htm](http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/DataStandards/StructuredProductLabeling/default.htm), that is identical to the enclosed labeling text for the package insert and include the labeling changes proposed in any pending “Changes Being Effected” (CBE) supplements and any annual reportable changes not included in the enclosed labeling. Information on submitting SPL files using eLIST may be found in the guidance for industry titled “SPL Standard for Content of Labeling Technical Qs and As” at [http://www.fda.gov/downloads/DrugsGuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM072392.pdf](http://www.fda.gov/downloads/DrugsGuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM072392.pdf).

The SPL will be accessible from publicly available labeling repositories.
Also within 14 days, amend all pending supplemental applications for this NDA, including CBE supplements for which FDA has not yet issued an action letter, with the content of labeling [21 CFR 314.50(l)(1)(i)] in MS Word format that includes the changes approved in this

**PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS**
You may request advisory comments on proposed introductory advertising and promotional labeling. To do so, submit the following, in triplicate, (1) a cover letter requesting advisory comments, (2) the proposed materials in draft or mock-up form with annotated references, and (3) the package insert(s) to:

Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research  
Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications  
5901-B Ammendale Road  
Beltsville, MD 20705-1266

You must submit final promotional materials and package insert(s), accompanied by a Form FDA 2253, at the time of initial dissemination or publication [21 CFR 314.81(b)(3)(i)]. Form FDA 2253 is available at [http://www.fda.gov/opacom/morechoices/fdaforms/cder.html](http://www.fda.gov/opacom/morechoices/fdaforms/cder.html); instructions are provided on page 2 of the form. For more information about submission of promotional materials to the Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications (DDMAC), see [http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/CentersOffices/CDER/ucm090142.htm](http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/CentersOffices/CDER/ucm090142.htm).

All promotional materials that include representations about your drug product must be promptly revised to be consistent with the labeling changes approved in this supplement, including any new safety information [21 CFR 314.70(a)(4)]. The revisions in your promotional materials should include prominent disclosure of the important new safety information that appears in the revised package labeling. Within 7 days of receipt of this letter, submit your statement of intent to comply with 21 CFR 314.70(a)(4) to the address above or by fax to 301-847-8444.

**LETTERS TO HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS**
If you decide to issue a letter communicating important safety-related information about this drug product (i.e., a “Dear Health Care Professional” letter), we request that you submit, at least 24 hours prior to issuing the letter, an electronic copy of the letter to this NDA to the following address:

MedWatch Program  
Office of Special Health Issues  
Food and Drug Administration  
10903 New Hampshire Ave  
Building 32, Mail Stop 5353  
Silver Spring, MD 20993

Reference ID: 2867302
REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
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, please call:

Lori Wachter, RN, BSN
Regulatory Health Project Manager
(301) 796-3975

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Mary Ross Southworth, Pharm.D.
Deputy Director for Safety
Division of Cardiovascular and Renal Products
Office of Drug Evaluation I
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

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

/s/

MARY R SOUTHWORTH
11/22/2010

Reference ID: 2867302