



BLA 103705/5344

SUPPLEMENT BLA APPROVAL

DATE: April 19, 2011

Genentech, Inc.
1 DNA Way MS#241B
South San Francisco, CA 94080-4990

Attention: Yasameen Qazen, Manager
Regulatory Affairs

Dear Ms. Qazen:

Please refer to your Supplemental Biologics License Application (sBLA), dated October 15, 2010, received October 18, 2010, submitted under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act for Rituxan (rituximab).

We acknowledge receipt of your amendments dated January 12, February 10 and 11, March 24 and 25, and April 8, 11, 14, and 15, 2011.

This Prior Approval efficacy supplement to your biologics license application provides for the use of Rituxan in combination with glucocorticoids for the treatment of patients with Wegener's Granulomatosis (WG) and Microscopic Polyangiitis (MPA).

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.

We are waiving the requirements of 21 CFR 201.57(d)(8) regarding the length of Highlights of prescribing information. This waiver applies to all future supplements containing revised labeling unless we notify you otherwise.

CONTENT OF LABELING

As soon as possible, but no later than 14 days from the date of this letter, submit, via the FDA automated drug registration and listing system (eLIST), the content of labeling [21 CFR 601.14(b)] in structured product labeling (SPL) format, as described at <http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/DataStandards/StructuredProductLabeling/default.htm>, that is identical to the enclosed labeling (text for the package insert and Medication Guide) and include the labeling changes proposed in any pending "Changes Being Effected" (CBE) supplements. 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/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM072392.pdf>. For administrative purposes, please designate this submission “**Product Correspondence – Final SPL for approved BLA STN 103705/5344.**”

Also within 14 days, amend all pending supplemental applications for this BLA, including pending “Changes Being Effected” (CBE) supplements, for which FDA has not yet issued an action letter, with the content of labeling [21 CFR 601.12(f)] in MS Word format that includes the changes approved in this supplemental application.

The SPL will be accessible via publicly available labeling repositories.

CARTON AND IMMEDIATE CONTAINER LABELS

We acknowledge your October 15, 2010, submission containing final printed carton labels.

REQUIRED PEDIATRIC ASSESSMENTS

Under the Pediatric Research Equity Act (PREA) (21 U.S.C. 355c), all applications for new active ingredients, new indications, new dosage forms, new dosing regimens, or new routes of administration are required to contain an assessment of the safety and effectiveness of the product for the claimed indication(s) in pediatric patients unless this requirement is waived, deferred, or inapplicable.

Because this drug product for this indication has an orphan drug designation, you are exempt from this requirement.

POSTMARKETING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 505(o)

Section 505(o)(3) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA) authorizes FDA to require holders of approved drug and biological product applications to conduct postmarketing studies and clinical trials for certain purposes, if FDA makes certain findings required by the statute.

We have determined that an analysis of spontaneous postmarketing adverse events reported under subsection 505(k)(1) of the FDCA will not be sufficient to assess the known risks of infusion reactions and infections and identify unexpected serious risks related to long-term treatment with Rituxan (rituximab) or repeat courses of Rituxan in patients with Wegener’s Granulomatosis and Microscopic Polyangiitis.

Furthermore, the new pharmacovigilance system that FDA is required to establish under section 505(k)(3) of the FDCA is not yet sufficient to assess this serious risk.

Therefore, based on appropriate scientific data, FDA has determined that you are required to conduct the following:

- 1 Conduct a prospective, observational registry study of 100 rituximab-treated patients with Wegener's granulomatosis (WG) or microscopic polyangiitis (MPA) followed for 4 years to evaluate long term safety and retreatment with rituximab or other therapies.

The timetable you submitted on April 11, 2011, states that you will conduct this study according to the following schedule:

Final Protocol Submission:	October 2011
Study Completion:	March 2018
Final Report Submission:	March 2019

Submit the protocol to your IND 11831, with a cross-reference letter to this BLA. Submit all final report(s) to your BLA. Prominently identify the submission with the following wording in bold capital letters at the top of the first page of the submission, as appropriate: **“Required Postmarketing Protocol Under 505(o)”**, **“Required Postmarketing Final Report Under 505(o)”**, **“Required Postmarketing Correspondence Under 505(o)”**.

Section 505(o)(3)(E)(ii) of the FDCA requires you to report periodically on the status of any study or clinical trial required under this section. This section also requires you to periodically report to FDA on the status of any study or clinical trial otherwise undertaken to investigate a safety issue. Section 506B of the FDCA, as well as 21 CFR 314.81(b)(2)(vii) requires you to report annually on the status of any postmarketing commitments or required studies or clinical trials.

FDA will consider the submission of your annual report under section 506B and 21 CFR 314.81(b)(2)(vii) to satisfy the periodic reporting requirement under section 505(o)(3)(E)(ii) provided that you include the elements listed in 505(o) and 21 CFR 314.81(b)(2)(vii). We remind you that to comply with 505(o), your annual report must also include a report on the status of any study or clinical trial otherwise undertaken to investigate a safety issue. Failure to submit an annual report for studies or clinical trials required under 505(o) on the date required will be considered a violation of FDCA section 505(o)(3)(E)(ii) and could result in enforcement action.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

You may request advisory comments on proposed introductory advertising and promotional labeling. To do so, submit, in triplicate, a cover letter requesting advisory comments, the proposed materials in draft or mock-up form with annotated references, and 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

As required under 21 CFR 601.12(f)(4), you must submit final promotional materials, and the package insert(s), at the time of initial dissemination or publication, accompanied by a Form FDA 2253. For instruction on completing the Form FDA 2253, see 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>.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

We remind you that you must comply with reporting requirements for an approved BLA (in 21 CFR 600.80 and in 21 CFR 600.81).

If you have any questions, call Philantha Bowen, Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 796-2466.

Sincerely,

/Badrul A. Chowdhury/
Badrul A. Chowdhury, M.D., Ph.D.
Director
Division of Pulmonary, Allergy, and Rheumatology
Products
Office of Drug Evaluation II
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

ENCLOSURE(S):

Content of Labeling
Carton Labeling