



BLA 103949/5201

**SUPPLEMENT BLA APPROVAL**  
**February 1, 2011**

Schering Corporation  
Attention: Ripal Shah, Pharm D.  
Manager, Global Regulatory Affairs  
2000 Galloping Hill Road  
Kenilworth, NJ 07033

Dear Dr. Shah:

Please refer to your Supplemental Biologics License Application (sBLA), dated July 30, 2010, received August 2, 2010, submitted under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act for PegIntron®, (Peginterferon alfa-2b).

We acknowledge receipt of your amendments dated December 15, 2010 and January 18, 2011 and your risk evaluation and mitigation strategy (REMS) assessment dated July 30, 2010.

This “Prior Approval” labeling supplement to your biologics license application provides for a proposed modification to the approved REMS and was submitted in response to our review of your first REMS assessment dated November 27, 2009, to update the Medication Guide and Instructions for Use to improve patient comprehension of the most important information associated with using PegIntron® (Peginterferon alfa-2b). In addition, the WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS section of the Package Insert was update to caution use of PegIntron in patients with debilitating medical conditions, such as those with a history of pulmonary disease (e.g., chronic obstructive pulmonary disease).

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, 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 103949/5201.**”

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.

We request that the labeling approved today be available on your website within 10 days of receipt of this letter.

### **RISK EVALUATION AND MITIGATION STRATEGY REQUIREMENTS**

The REMS for PegIntron® (Peginterferon alfa-2b) injection was originally approved on May 2, 2008, and a modified REMS was approved on August 7, 2009. The REMS consists of a Medication Guide and a timetable for submission of assessments of the REMS. Your proposed modifications to the REMS consist of a Medication Guide and Instructions for Use, extensively revised to improve patient comprehension of the most important information associated with using PegIntron® (Peginterferon alfa-2b).

Your proposed modified REMS, submitted on July 30, 2010, and appended to this letter, is approved.

The timetable for submission of assessments of the REMS will remain the same as that approved on August 7, 2009.

There are no changes to the REMS assessment plan described in our May 19, 2010, letter.

Assessments of an approved REMS must also include, under section 505-1(g)(3)(B) and (C), information on the status of any postapproval study or clinical trial required under section 505(o) or otherwise undertaken to investigate a safety issue. With respect to any such postapproval study, you must include the status of such study, including whether any difficulties completing the study have been encountered. With respect to any such postapproval clinical trial, you must include the status of such clinical trial, including whether enrollment has begun, the number of participants enrolled, the expected completion date, whether any difficulties completing the clinical trial have been encountered, and registration information with respect to requirements under subsections (i) and (j) of section 402 of the Public Health Service Act. You can satisfy these requirements in your REMS assessments by referring to relevant information included in the most recent annual report required under section 506B and 21 CFR 601.70 and including any material or significant updates to the status information since the annual report was prepared. Failure to comply with the REMS assessments provisions in section 505-1(g) could result in enforcement action.

In addition to the assessments submitted according to the timetable included in the approved REMS, you must submit a REMS assessment and may propose a modification to the approved REMS when you submit a supplemental application for a new indication for use as described in section 505-1(g)(2)(A) of FDCA.

Prominently identify the submission containing the REMS assessments or proposed modifications with the following wording in bold capital letters at the top of the first page of the submission as appropriate:

**BLA 103949 REMS ASSESSMENT**

**NEW SUPPLEMENT FOR BLA 103949  
PROPOSED REMS MODIFICATION  
REMS ASSESSMENT**

**NEW SUPPLEMENT (NEW INDICATION FOR USE)  
FOR BLA 103949  
REMS ASSESSMENT  
PROPOSED REMS MODIFICATION (if included)**

If you do not submit electronically, please send five copies of REMS-related submissions.

**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 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>.

All promotional materials for your drug product that include representations about your drug product must be promptly revised to make it consistent with the labeling changes approved in this supplement, including any new safety information [21 CFR 601.12(a)(4)]. The revisions to 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 601.12(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 BLA 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

### **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 Victoria Tyson, Chief, Project Management Staff, at (301) 796-0827.

Sincerely,

/ Kendall Marcus, M.D./  
Debra Birnkrant, M.D.  
Division Director  
Office of Antimicrobial Products  
Division of Antiviral Products  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

ENCLOSURES:  
Content of Labeling  
REMS