



NDA 20560/S-056
NDA 21575/S-017

SUPPLEMENT APPROVAL

Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp.
Attention: Elinor Chen, Ph.D.
Director, Worldwide Regulatory Affairs
126 E. Lincoln Ave., PO Box 2000, RY33-212
Rahway, NJ 07065

Dear Dr. Chen:

Please refer to your Supplemental New Drug Applications (sNDAs) dated and received June 23, 2009, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA) for Fosamax (alendronate sodium) Tablets 35 and 70 mg (NDA 20560) and Fosamax (alendronate sodium) Oral Buffered Solution 70 mg.

We acknowledge receipt of your amendments dated February 10, October 24, November 10, 2011; January 19, and February 3, 2012.

These "Prior Approval" supplemental new drug applications provide for complying with the Physician Labeling Rule format of labeling.

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 the content of labeling [21 CFR 314.50(l)] in structured product labeling (SPL) format using the FDA automated drug registration and listing system (eLIST), as described at <http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/DataStandards/StructuredProductLabeling/default.htm>. Content of labeling must be identical to the enclosed labeling (text for the package insert, Medication Guide), with the addition of any labeling changes in pending "Changes Being Effectuated" (CBE) supplements, as well as 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>.

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 supplemental application, as well as annual reportable changes and annotate each change. To facilitate review of your submission, provide a highlighted or marked-up copy that shows all changes, as well as a clean Microsoft Word version. The marked-up copy should provide appropriate annotations, including supplement number(s) and annual report date(s).

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 none of these criteria apply to your application, you are exempt from this requirement.

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
Office of Prescription Drug Promotion (OPDP)
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>; instructions are provided on page 2 of the form. For more information about submission of promotional materials to the Office of Prescription Drug Promotion (OPDP), 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 NDA (21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81).

If you have any questions, call Jennifer Mercier, Chief, Project Management Staff, at (301) 796-0957.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Audrey Gassman, M.D.
Acting Deputy Director
Division of Reproductive and Urologic Products
Office of Drug Evaluation III
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

ENCLOSURES:

Content of Labeling
Medication Guide

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

/s/

AUDREY L GASSMAN
02/06/2012