



NDA 014602/S-058

**SUPPLEMENT APPROVAL**

Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp.  
126 E. Lincoln Avenue, P.O. Box 2000  
RY 32-461A  
Rahway, NJ 07065-0900

Attention: Linda Birnbaum, Manager  
Global Regulatory Affairs

Dear Ms. Birnbaum:

Please refer to your Supplemental New Drug Application (sNDA) dated May 22, 2014, received May 22, 2014, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA) for Celestone Soluspan (betamethasone sodium phosphate and betamethasone acetate) Injection Suspension 6 mg/mL.

We also refer to our letter dated April 23, 2014, notifying you, under Section 505(o)(4) of the FDCA, of new safety information that we believe should be included in the labeling for epidural corticosteroids. This information pertains to the risk of serious neurologic adverse reactions with epidural injection of corticosteroids.

This supplemental new drug application provides for revisions to the labeling for Celestone Soluspan (betamethasone sodium phosphate and betamethasone acetate), consistent with our April 23, 2014, letter.

**APPROVAL & LABELING**

We have completed our review of this supplemental application. 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 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), with the addition of any labeling changes in pending "Changes Being Effected" (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 that includes labeling changes 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.

### **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 Nina Ton, Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 796-1648.

Sincerely,

*{See appended electronic signature page}*

Sally Seymour, M.D.  
Deputy Director for Safety  
Division of Pulmonary, Allergy, and Rheumatology Products  
Office of Drug Evaluation II  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

ENCLOSURE(S):  
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/  
-----

SALLY M SEYMOUR  
07/03/2014