



NDA 022314/S-015; S-016

SUPPLEMENT APPROVAL

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
Attention: Nancy Price
Director, Drug Regulatory Affairs
One Health Plaza
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Dear Ms. Price:

Please refer to your Supplemental New Drug Applications (sNDAs) dated and received August 28, 2013 (S-015), and December 5, 2013 (S-016) submitted under section 505(b)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA) for Exforge HCT (amlodipine/valsartan/hydrochlorothiazide) 5/160/12.5 mg, 10/160/12.5 mg, 5/160/25 mg, 10/160/25, and 10/320/25 mg Tablets.

These supplemental new drug applications provide for labeling revised as follows (additions are marked as underlined text and deletions are marked as ~~striketrough text~~):

1. In **HIGHLIGHTS/RECENT MAJOR CHANGES**, the following text was deleted:

Boxed Warning: Fetal Toxicity	01/2012
Indications and Usage: Benefits of lowering blood pressure (1)	12/2011
Contraindications: Known hypersensitivity (4)	09/2012
Contraindications: Dual RAS Blockade in Diabetics (4)	11/2012
Warnings and Precautions: Fetal Toxicity (5.1)	01/2012
Drug Interactions: Dual Blockade of the Renin Angiotensin System (7)	11/2012

2. In **HIGHLIGHTS/DRUG INTERACTIONS**, the following text was deleted from the fourth bullet:

- Lithium: ~~Diuretics~~ Increased risk of lithium toxicity. Monitor serum lithium concentrations during concurrent use. (7)

3. Under **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS/Lithium Interaction**, the following text was added:

Increases in serum lithium concentrations and lithium toxicity have been reported with concomitant use of valsartan or thiazide diuretics. Monitor lithium levels in patients receiving Exforge HCT and lithium. ~~Lithium generally should not be given with thiazides~~ [see *Drug Interactions* (7)].

4. Under **ADVERSE REACTIONS, Post-marketing Experience, Valsartan**, the following text was added:

Dermatologic: Alopecia, bullous dermatitis

5. Under **DRUG INTERACTIONS/Valsartan**, the following section was added:

Valsartan – Hydrochlorothiazide

Lithium: Increases in serum lithium concentrations and lithium toxicity have been reported during concomitant administration of lithium with angiotensin II receptor antagonists or thiazides. Monitor lithium levels patients taking Exforge HCT.

6. Under **DRUG INTERACTIONS/Hydrochlorothiazide**, the following section was deleted:
~~*Lithium:* Diuretic agents increase the risk of lithium toxicity. Refer to the package insert for lithium preparations before use of such preparations with Exforge HCT. Monitoring of serum lithium concentrations is recommended during concurrent use.~~
7. The revision date and version number were updated.

There are no other changes from the last approved package insert.

We have completed our review of these supplemental applications, and they are 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(1)] 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 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(1)(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).

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>; 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>.

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.

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 Anne Wachter, RN, BSN
Regulatory Project Manager for Safety
(301) 796-3975

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Mary Ross Southworth, PharmD.
Deputy Director for Safety
Division of Cardiovascular and Renal Products
Office of Drug Evaluation 1
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
03/17/2014