



BLA 125319/81

**SUPPLEMENT APPROVAL**

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation  
One Health Plaza  
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Attention: Donna Vivelo  
Director, Drug Regulatory Affairs

Dear Ms. Vivelo:

Please refer to your Supplemental Biologics License Application (sBLA), dated May 15, 2014, received May 15, 2014 submitted under section 351(a) of the Public Health Service Act for Ilaris (canakinumab).

We acknowledge receipt of your amendments dated September 5 and 12, 2014.

This Prior Approval supplemental biologics application provides for revisions to the Highlights of Prescribing Information (Recent Major Changes), Warnings and Precautions (subsection 5.1 – Serious Infections), and Adverse Reactions in order to include safety-related information regarding opportunistic infections. In addition, minor editorial and formatting revisions are proposed throughout.

**APPROVAL & 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.

**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, text for the 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>.

The SPL will be accessible via publicly available labeling repositories.

Also within 14 days, amend all pending supplemental applications that includes labeling changes 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.

### **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.

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 Carol F. Hill, Safety Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 796-1226.

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

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**This is a representation of an electronic record that was signed electronically and this page is the manifestation of the electronic signature.**  
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/s/  
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SALLY M SEYMOUR  
10/16/2014