



NDA 205637

**NDA APPROVAL**

BioDelivery Sciences International  
Suite 210  
801 Corporate Center Dr  
Raleigh, NC 27607

Attention: Renee Boerner, PhD  
Senior Director, Regulatory Affairs

Dear Dr. Boerner:

Please refer to your New Drug Application (NDA) dated August 6, 2013, received August 7, 2013, submitted pursuant to section 505(b)(2) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA), for Bunavail (buprenorphine and naloxone) buccal film, 2.1 mg buprenorphine/0.3 mg naloxone, 4.2 mg buprenorphine/0.7 mg naloxone and 6.3 mg buprenorphine/1 mg naloxone.

We acknowledge receipt of your amendments dated August 22, September 3, 23, and 24, October 25(2), November 13, and 22, and December 5, 6, 10, 12, 18, and 26, 2013, and January 23, 24, and 30, February 7, 21, 24, 26, and 27, March 17, and 24, April 10, and 29, May 1, and June 2, 4, and 5 (2), 2014.

This new drug application provides for the use of Bunavail (buprenorphine and naloxone) for the maintenance treatment of opioid dependence.

We have completed our review of this application, as amended. It is approved, effective on the date of this letter, for use as recommended in the enclosed agreed-upon labeling text.

### **WAIVER OF HIGHLIGHTS SECTION**

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 and Medication Guide. Information on submitting SPL files using eLIST may be found in the guidance for industry *SPL Standard for Content of Labeling Technical Qs and As*, available at <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM072392.pdf>.

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.

### **CARTON AND IMMEDIATE CONTAINER LABELS**

Submit final printed carton and immediate container labels that are identical to the enclosed carton and immediate container labels as soon as they are available, but no more than 30 days after they are printed. Please submit these labels electronically according to the guidance for industry *Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic Format – Human Pharmaceutical Product Applications and Related Submissions Using the eCTD Specifications (June 2008)*. Alternatively, you may submit 12 paper copies, with 6 of the copies individually mounted on heavy-weight paper or similar material. For administrative purposes, designate this submission “**Final Printed Carton and Container Labels for approved NDA 205637.**” Approval of this submission by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.

Marketing the products with FPL that is not identical to the approved labeling text may render the product misbranded and an unapproved new drug.

### **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 in pediatric patients unless this requirement is waived, deferred, or inapplicable.

We are waiving the pediatric study requirement for neonates to 5 weeks of age because there is evidence strongly suggesting that the drug product would be unsafe in this pediatric group. This drug product contains naloxone, which would provide no benefit for this pediatric group, but would expose them to risk.

Additionally, we are waiving the pediatric study requirement for ages 5 weeks through 16 years because necessary studies are impossible or highly impracticable. This is due to the low prevalence of opioid abuse and dependence in this population.

## **POSTMARKETING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 505(o)**

Section 505(o)(3) of the FDCA authorizes FDA to require holders of approved drug and biological product applications to conduct postmarketing studies and clinical trials for certain purposes, if FDA makes certain findings required by the statute.

We have determined that an analysis of spontaneous postmarketing adverse events reported under subsection 505(k)(1) of the FDCA will not be sufficient to identify an unexpected serious risk of cardiac events related to your product. Furthermore, the new pharmacovigilance system that FDA is required to establish under section 505(k)(3) of the FDCA will not be sufficient to assess this serious risk.

Finally, we have determined that only a clinical trial (rather than a nonclinical or observational study) will be sufficient to assess the unexpected serious risk of cardiac events, including life threatening arrhythmias, related to the use of Bunavail (buprenorphine and naloxone).

Therefore, based on appropriate scientific data, FDA has determined that you are required to conduct the following:

- 2164-1 A clinical trial to assess the risk of QT prolongation with Bunavail (buprenorphine and naloxone) buccal film.

The timetable you submitted via email on June 5, 2014, states that you will conduct this trial according to the following schedule:

Draft Protocol Submission	12/2014
Final Protocol Submission:	6/2015
Trial Completion:	6/2016
Final Report Submission:	12/2016

Submit the protocol to your IND 110267 with a cross-reference letter to this NDA. Submit all final report(s) to your NDA. Prominently identify the submission with the following wording in bold capital letters at the top of the first page of the submission, as appropriate: **“Required Postmarketing Protocol Under 505(o)”**, **“Required Postmarketing Final Report Under 505(o)”**, **“Required Postmarketing Correspondence Under 505(o)”**.

Section 505(o)(3)(E)(ii) of the FDCA requires you to report periodically on the status of any study or clinical trial required under this section. This section also requires you to periodically report to FDA on the status of any study or clinical trial otherwise undertaken to investigate a safety issue. Section 506B of the FDCA, as well as 21 CFR 314.81(b)(2)(vii) you to report annually on the status of any postmarketing commitments or required studies or clinical trials.

FDA will consider the submission of your annual report under section 506B and 21 CFR 314.81(b)(2)(vii) to satisfy the periodic reporting requirement under section 505(o)(3)(E)(ii) provided that you include the elements listed in 505(o) and 21 CFR 314.81(b)(2)(vii). We remind you that to comply with 505(o), your annual report must also

include a report on the status of any study or clinical trial otherwise undertaken to investigate a safety issue. Failure to submit an annual report for studies or clinical trials required under 505(o) on the date required will be considered a violation of FDCA section 505(o)(3)(E)(ii) and could result in enforcement action.

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

Section 505-1 of the FDCA authorizes FDA to require the submission of a risk evaluation and mitigation strategy (REMS), if FDA determines that such a strategy is necessary to ensure that the benefits of the drug outweigh the risks [section 505-1(a)].

In accordance with section 505-1 of FDCA, we have determined that a REMS is necessary for Bunavail (buprenorphine and naloxone) to ensure the benefits of the drug outweigh the (1) risks of exposure to Bunavail (buprenorphine and naloxone) in persons for whom it was not prescribed, including accidental exposure in children, and (2) risks of abuse and misuse.

In accordance with section 505-1 of FDCA, as one element of a REMS, FDA may require the development of a Medication Guide as provided for under 21 CFR 208. Pursuant to 21 CFR 208, FDA has determined that Bunavail (buprenorphine and naloxone) poses a serious and significant public health concern requiring the distribution of a Medication Guide. The Medication Guide is necessary for patients' safe and effective use of Bunavail (buprenorphine and naloxone). FDA has determined that Bunavail (buprenorphine and naloxone) is a product for which patient labeling could help prevent serious adverse effects and that has serious risks (relative to benefits) of which patients should be made aware because information concerning the risks could affect patients' decisions to use, or continue to use Bunavail (buprenorphine and naloxone). Under 21 CFR 208, you are responsible for ensuring that the Medication Guide is available for distribution to patients who are dispensed Bunavail.

Pursuant to 505-1(f)(1), we have also determined that Bunavail (buprenorphine and naloxone) can be approved only if elements necessary to assure safe use are required as part of a REMS to mitigate the risks of (1) exposure to Bunavail (buprenorphine and naloxone) in persons for whom it was not prescribed, including accidental exposure in children, and (2) risks of abuse and misuse, that are listed in the labeling. The elements to assure safe use will inform prescribers, pharmacists, and patients of the serious risks associated with Bunavail (buprenorphine and naloxone) and the appropriate conditions of safe use and storage of Bunavail (buprenorphine and naloxone). The elements to assure safe use will also ensure adequate clinical monitoring of patients by the healthcare providers.

We remind you that section 505-1(f)(8) of FDCA prohibits holders of an approved covered application with elements to assure safe use from using any element to block or delay approval of an application under section 505(b)(2) or (j). A violation of this provision in 505-1(f) could result in enforcement action.

Your proposed REMS, submitted on June 5, 2014, and appended to this letter, is approved. The REMS consists of a Medication Guide, elements to assure safe use, an implementation system, and a timetable for submission of assessments of the REMS.

This REMS will use a waiver-granted shared system for the elements to assure safe use and implementation system in the approved REMS. This waiver-granted shared system, is known as the buprenorphine-containing transmucosal products for opioid dependence (BTOD) REMS. The waiver-granted shared BTOD REMS was originally approved on February 22, 2013 and includes the following products:

ANDA 078633	Buprenorphine Hydrochloride Sublingual Tablets
ANDA 090360	Buprenorphine Hydrochloride Sublingual Tablets
ANDA 090622	Buprenorphine Hydrochloride Sublingual Tablets
ANDA 091422	Buprenorphine Hydrochloride and Naloxone Hydrochloride Sublingual Tablets
ANDA 203136	Buprenorphine Hydrochloride and Naloxone Hydrochloride Sublingual Tablets
NDA 204242	Zubsolv (buprenorphine and naloxone) Sublingual Tablets

Other products may be added in the future if additional NDAs or ANDAs are approved.

Your REMS must be fully operational before you introduce Bunavail (buprenorphine and naloxone) into interstate commerce.

Because Bunavail will be a member of the BTOD REMS, the assessment plan will be the same assessment plan required for the other products covered by this shared system. Because the 6-month assessment has been submitted, the assessment reports for Bunavail will align with the second assessment of the BTOD REMS assessment plan. Therefore, your REMS assessment plan should include, but is not limited to, the following:

- a. An evaluation of patients' understanding of the serious risks associated with buprenorphine-containing products;
- b. A report on periodic assessments of the distribution and dispensing of the Medication Guide in accordance with 21 CFR 208.24;
- c. A report on failures to adhere to distribution and dispensing requirements, and corrective actions taken to address noncompliance;
- d. An evaluation of prescribers' awareness and understanding of the serious risks associated with buprenorphine-containing products;
- e. An evaluation of pharmacists' awareness and understanding of the serious risks associated with buprenorphine-containing products;
- f. An analysis to evaluate utilization patterns of Bunavail including frequency of office visits, amount dispensed in prescriptions to new patients, and other indicators of adherence to practices important to safe use;

- g. An analysis and summary of surveillance and monitoring activities for abuse, misuse, overdose and addiction and any intervention taken resulting from signals of abuse, misuse, overdose and addiction. Surveillance will include, among other sources, reports of pediatric exposures;
- h. Monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the ETASU; and
- i. An assessment of the extent to which the REMS is meeting its goals. Specific measures that will be proposed to increase awareness if surveys of patients, prescribers, and pharmacists indicate that awareness is not adequate.

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

If the assessment instruments and methodology for your REMS assessments are not included in the REMS supporting document, or if you propose changes to the submitted assessment instruments or methodology, you should update the REMS supporting document to include specific assessment instrument and methodology information at least 90 days before the assessments will be conducted. Updates to the REMS supporting document may be included in a new document that references previous REMS supporting document submission(s) for unchanged portions. Alternatively, updates may be made by modifying the complete previous REMS supporting document, with all changes marked and highlighted. Prominently identify the submission containing the assessment instruments and methodology with the following wording in bold capital letters at the top of the first page of the submission:

**NDA 205637 REMS CORRESPONDENCE  
(insert concise description of content in bold capital letters, e.g.,  
UPDATE TO REMS SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - ASSESSMENT  
METHODOLOGY)**

An authorized generic drug under this NDA must have an approved REMS prior to marketing. Should you decide to market, sell, or distribute an authorized generic drug under this NDA, contact us to discuss what will be required in the authorized generic drug REMS submission.

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:

**NDA 205637 REMS ASSESSMENT  
  
NEW SUPPLEMENT FOR NDA 205637  
PROPOSED REMS MODIFICATION**

**NEW SUPPLEMENT (NEW INDICATION FOR USE)  
FOR NDA 205637  
REMS ASSESSMENT  
PROPOSED REMS MODIFICATION (if included)**

**EXPIRATION DATING PERIOD**

Your packaging configuration of 30 buccal films per carton is granted a 12 month expiration dating period, stored at 20-25°C (68-77°F) with excursions permitted to 15-30°C (59- 86°F).

**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  
Office of Prescription Drug Promotion  
5901-B Ammendale Road  
Beltsville, MD 20705-1266

As required under 21 CFR 314.81(b)(3)(i), you must submit final promotional materials, and the package insert, at the time of initial dissemination or publication, accompanied by a Form FDA 2253. Form FDA 2253 is available at

<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/AboutFDA/ReportsManualsForms/Forms/UCM083570.pdf>.

Information and Instructions for completing the form can be found at

<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/AboutFDA/ReportsManualsForms/Forms/UCM375154.pdf>. 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 Matthew Sullivan, Supervisory Regulatory Health Project Manager, at (301) 796-1245.

Sincerely,

*{See appended electronic signature page}*

Rigoberto Roca, M.D.  
Deputy Director  
Division of Anesthesia, Analgesia, and  
Addiction Products  
Office of Drug Evaluation II  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Enclosures:

Content of Labeling  
Carton and Container Labeling  
REMS



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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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RIGOBERTO A ROCA  
06/06/2014