



NDA 21278/S-018
NDA 21802/S-028

SUPPLEMENT APPROVAL

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
Attention: Susan Kummerer, M.S.
Global Program Regulatory Director
Drug Regulatory Affairs
One Health Plaza
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Dear Ms. Kummerer:

Please refer to your Supplemental New Drug Application (sNDA) dated April 2, 2015, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA) for Focalin (dexamethylphenidate HCl) 2.5mg, 5mg, and 10mg tablets (NDA 21278), and Focalin XR (dexamethylphenidate HCl) 5mg, 10mg, 15mg, 20mg, 25mg, 30mg, 35mg and 40mg extended-release tablets.

We also refer to our letter dated February 2, 2015 notifying you, under Section 505(o)(4) of the FDCA, of new safety information that we believe should be included in the labeling for Focalin and Focalin XR (dexamethylphenidate HCl). This information pertains to the association between the use of stimulants used to treat Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and rhabdomyolysis.

These supplemental new drug applications provide for the addition of a new subsection "Musculoskeletal" to the ADVERSE REACTIONS-POSTMARKETING EXPERIENCE section of the labeling, with "Rhabdomyolysis" added as a new adverse reaction term in this subsection and the addition of "Rhabdomyolysis" to the OVERDOSAGE section of labeling consistent with our February 2, 2015 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, text for the patient package insert, Medication Guide), 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).

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, contact Hiren Patel, Regulatory Project Manager, at hiren.patel@fda.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Victor Crentsil, MD, MHS
Deputy Director for Safety
Division of Psychiatry Products
Office of Drug Evaluation I
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/

VICTOR CRENTSIL
04/17/2015