Dear Dr. Vlad:

Please refer to your Supplemental Biologics License Application (sBLA), dated September 16, 2015, received September 16, 2015, submitted under section 351(a) of the Public Health Service Act for Opdivo® (nivolumab) Injection for Intravenous Infusion, 40 mg/4 ml (10 mg/ml) single-use vial and 100 mg/10 ml (10 mg/ml) single-use vial.

This Prior Approval supplemental biologics application proposes a new indication for nivolumab in advanced renal cell carcinoma patients who have received prior antiangiogenic therapy based on results from study CA209025, “A Randomized, Open-Label, Phase 3 Study of Nivolumab versus Everolimus in Subjects with Advanced or Metastatic Clear Cell Renal Cell Carcinoma who Have Received Prior Anti-Angiogenic Therapy.”

**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.

**WAIVER OF HIGHLIGHTS SECTION**

Please note that we have previously granted a waiver of the requirements of 21 CFR 201.57(d)(8) regarding the length of Highlights of prescribing information.

**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](http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/DataStandards/StructuredProductLabeling/default.htm), that is identical to the enclosed labeling (text for the package insert, Medication Guide) and include the labeling changes proposed in any pending “Changes Being Effected” (CBE) supplements.

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.

We are waiving the pediatric study requirement for this application because necessary studies are impossible or highly impracticable. There is a low incidence of renal cell carcinoma (RCC) in the pediatric population.

**POSTMARKETING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 505(o)**

Section 505(o)(3) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (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.

Since Opdivo® (nivolumab) was approved on December 22, 2014, we have become aware of the development of anti-drug antibody (ADA) with the use of Opdivo (nivolumab) which can cause immunotoxicity responses comprising formation of immune complexes composed of nivolumab and the anti-nivolumab antibody. These immune complexes can lodge in the vasculature. These complexes can also result in failure of the expected pharmacologic action of nivolumab by preventing the action of the drug. We consider this information to be “new safety information” as defined in section 505-1(b)(3) of the FDCA.

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 assess the known serious risk of immunotoxicity from anti-drug antibodies with nivolumab treatment.

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 this known serious risk.

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

2999-1 Evaluate the impact of anti-drug-antibody on the safety and efficacy of nivolumab in Trial CA209025, and submit the report. Trial CA209025 is entitled, “A Randomized, Open-label, Phase 3 Study of Nivolumab versus Everolimus in Subjects with Advanced or Metastatic Clear Cell Renal Cell Carcinoma who Have Received Prior Anti-angiogenic Therapy.”

The timetable you submitted on November 10, 2015, states that you will conduct this study according to the following schedule:

Final Report Submission: March 2016

Submit all final report(s) to your BLA. 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 601.70, requires 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 601.70 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 601.70. 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.

**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(s) to:

OPDP Regulatory Project Manager
Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
Office of Prescription Drug Promotion

Reference ID: 3850676
Alternatively, you may submit a request for advisory comments electronically in eCTD format. For more information about submitting promotional materials in eCTD format, see the draft Guidance for Industry (available at: http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM443702.pdf).

As required under 21 CFR 601.12(f)(4), you must submit final promotional materials, and the package insert(s), 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 BLA (in 21 CFR 600.80 and in 21 CFR 600.81).

If you have any questions, call Charlene Wheeler, Senior Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 796-1141.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Geoffrey Kim, MD
Director
Division of Oncology Products 1
Office of Hematology and Oncology Products
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/

GEOFFREY S KIM
11/23/2015