



ANDA 203790

Actavis Mid Atlantic LLC
200 Elmora Avenue
Elizabeth, NJ 07207

Attention: Elizabeth Trowbridge, R.A.C.
Director of Regulatory Affairs

Dear Madam:

This is in reference to your abbreviated new drug application (ANDA) dated December 30, 2011, submitted pursuant to section 505(j) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the Act), for Adapalene and Benzoyl Peroxide Gel, 0.1%/2.5%.

Reference is made to your amendments dated November 20, 2014; and February 5, 2015. Reference is also made to the Complete Response letter issued by this office on July 22, 2014. Your amendment dated November 20, 2014 represented a complete response to our July 22, 2014 action letter.

We have completed the review of this ANDA, and based upon the information you have presented to date we have concluded that the drug is safe and effective for use as recommended in the submitted labeling. However, we are unable to grant final approval to your ANDA at this time because of the exclusivity issue noted below. Therefore, the ANDA is **tentatively approved**. This determination is based upon information available to the agency at this time, i.e., information in your ANDA and the status of current good manufacturing practice (cGMP) at the facilities used in the manufacturing and testing of the drug product, and is therefore subject to change on the basis of new information that may come to our attention. This letter does not address issues related to the 180-day exclusivity provisions under section 505(j)(5)(B)(iv) of the Act.

The reference listed drug (RLD) upon which you have based your ANDA, Epiduo Topical Gel of Galderma Laboratories, L. P., is subject to periods of patent protection. The following patents and expiration dates are currently listed in the agency's publication titled Approved Drug Products with Therapeutic Equivalence Evaluations (the "Orange Book"):

<u>U.S. Patent Number</u>	<u>Expiration Date</u>
7,820,186 (the '186 patent)	November 23, 2025

7,964,202 (the '202 patent)	September 1, 2024
8,071,644 (the '644 patent)	July 18, 2027
8,080,537 (the '537 patent)	July 18, 2027
8,105,618 (the '618 patent)	December 23, 2022
8,129,362 (the '362 patent)	July 18, 2027
8,241,649 (the '649 patent)	December 23, 2022
8,445,543 (the '543 patent)	July 12, 2027
8,809,305 (the '305 patent)	December 23, 2022
8,936,800 (the '800 patent)	December 23, 2022

With respect to the '186, '202, '644, '537, '618, '362, '649 and '543 patents, your ANDA contains paragraph IV certifications under section 505(j)(2)(A)(vii)(IV) of the Act stating that each of these patents is invalid, unenforceable, or will not be infringed by your manufacture, use, or sale of Adapalene and Benzoyl Peroxide Gel, 0.1%/2.5%, under this ANDA. You have notified the agency that Actavis Mid Atlantic LLC (Actavis) complied with the requirements of section 505(j)(2)(B) of the Act, and litigation for infringement of the '186, '202, '644, '537, '618, and '362 patents was brought against Actavis within the statutory 45-day period in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas Dallas Division [Galderma Laboratories, L.P., Galderma S.A., and Galderma Research & Development, S.N.C. v. Actavis Mid Atlantic LLC, Civil Action No. 3:12-cv-2038].¹ Although this litigation remains ongoing, the 30-month period identified in section 505(j)(5)(B)(iii) of the Act, during which time FDA was precluded from approving your ANDA, has expired.

With respect to the new patient population exclusivity listed in the Orange Book for Epiduo Topical Gel, your ANDA contains a statement that you do not seek to market this ANDA prior to the expiration of this exclusivity. Under section 505(j)(5)(F)(iv) of the Act, therefore, the agency may not approve this ANDA prior to February 1, 2016.

Please note that if FDA requires a Risk Evaluation & Mitigation Strategy (REMS) for a listed drug, an ANDA citing that listed drug also will be required to have a REMS. See section 505-1(i) of the Act.

To reactivate your ANDA prior to final approval, please submit a “MINOR AMENDMENT – FINAL APPROVAL REQUESTED” 90 days prior to the date you believe that your ANDA will be eligible for final approval. This amendment should provide the legal/regulatory basis for your request for final approval and should include a copy of a court decision, or a settlement or licensing agreement, as appropriate. It should also identify changes, if any, in the conditions under which the ANDA was tentatively approved, i.e., updated information such as final-printed labeling, chemistry, manufacturing, and controls data as appropriate. This amendment should be submitted even if none of these changes were made, and it should be designated clearly in your cover letter as a MINOR AMENDMENT – FINAL APPROVAL REQUESTED.

¹ The '649 and '543 patents were not listed in the Orange Book when your ANDA was received, and your paragraph IV certifications were submitted in an amendment to your ANDA. Under section 505(j)(5)(B)(iii) of the Act, litigation, if any, with respect to these patents would not be a bar to approval of your ANDA. We also note that the '305 and '800 patents were late listed, and pursuant to 21 CFR 314.94(a)(12)(vi) do not need to be addressed.

In addition to the amendment requested above, the agency may request at any time prior to the date of final approval that you submit an additional amendment containing the requested information. Failure to submit either or, if requested, both amendments may result in rescission of the tentative approval status of your ANDA, or may result in a delay in the issuance of the final approval letter.

Any significant changes in the conditions outlined in this ANDA as well as changes in the status of the manufacturing and testing facilities' cGMP are subject to agency review before final approval of the ANDA will be made. Such changes should be categorized as representing either "major" or "minor" changes, and they will be reviewed according to OGD policy in effect at the time of receipt. The submission of multiple amendments prior to final approval may also result in a delay in the issuance of the final approval letter.

This drug product may not be marketed without final agency approval under section 505 of the Act. The introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce of this drug product before the final approval date is prohibited under section 301 of the Act. Also, until the agency issues the final approval letter, this drug product will not be deemed to be approved for marketing under section 505 of the Act, and will not be listed in the "Orange Book."

The Generic Drug User Fee Amendments of 2012 (GDUFA) (Public Law 112-144, Title III) established certain provisions with respect to self-identification of facilities and payment of annual facility fees. Your ANDA identifies at least one facility that is subject to the self-identification requirement and payment of an annual facility fee. Self-identification must occur by June 1 of each year for the next fiscal year. Facility fees must be paid each year by the date specified in the Federal Register notice announcing facility fee amounts. All finished dosage forms (FDFs) or active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) manufactured in a facility that has not met its obligations to self-identify or to pay fees when they are due will be deemed misbranded. This means that it will be a violation of federal law to ship these products in interstate commerce or to import them into the United States. Such violations can result in prosecution of those responsible, injunctions, or seizures of misbranded products. Products misbranded because of failure to self-identify or pay facility fees are subject to being denied entry into the United States.

In addition, we note that GDUFA requires that certain non-manufacturing sites and organizations listed in generic drug submissions comply with the self-identification requirement. The failure of any facility, site, or organization to comply with its obligation to self-identify and/or to pay fees when due may raise significant concerns about that site or organization and is a factor that may increase the likelihood of a site inspection prior to approval. FDA does not expect to give priority to completion of inspections that are required simply because facilities, sites, or organizations fail to comply with the law requiring self-identification or fee payment.

Additionally, we note that the failure of any facility referenced in the application to self-identify and pay applicable fees means that FDA will not consider the GDUFA application review goal dates to apply to that application.

For further information on the status of this ANDA, or prior to submitting additional amendments, please contact Gwendolyn Murphy, Regulatory Project Manager, at (240) 402-9624.

Sincerely yours,

William P.

Rickman -S

For Carol A. Holquist, RPh

Acting Deputy Director

Office of Regulatory Operations

Office of Generic Drugs

Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Digitally signed by William P. Rickman -S
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=HHS, ou=FDA,
ou=People,
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