



ANDA 204802

**ANDA APPROVAL**

AB Pharmaceuticals, LLC  
US Agent for Macleods Pharmaceuticals Limited  
17471 Highland Way Drive  
Chesterfield, Mo 63005  
Attention: Andrej Gasperlin  
President

Dear Sir:

This is in reference to your abbreviated new drug application (ANDA) dated September 12, 2012, submitted pursuant to section 505(j) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act), for Pioglitazone and Metformin Hydrochloride Tablets USP, 15 mg/500 mg and 15 mg/850 mg.

Reference is also made to your amendments dated March 30, May 12, June 25, July 7, and September 10, 2015. The amendment dated March 30, 2015, constituted a response to our October 30, 2014, complete response letter.

We have completed the review of this ANDA and have concluded that adequate information has been presented to demonstrate that the drug is safe and effective for use as recommended in the submitted labeling. Accordingly the **ANDA is approved**, effective on the date of this letter. The Office of Bioequivalence has determined your Pioglitazone and Metformin Hydrochloride Tablets USP, 15 mg/500 mg and 15 mg/850 mg, to be bioequivalent and, therefore, therapeutically equivalent to the reference listed drug (RLD), Actoplus Met of Takeda Pharms USA (Takeda). Your dissolution testing should be incorporated into the stability and quality control program using the same method proposed in your ANDA.

The RLD upon which you have based your ANDA, Takeda's Actoplus Met, 15 mg/500 mg and 15 mg/850 mg, 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>
5,965,584 (the '584 patent)	June 19, 2016
6,166,042 (the '042 patent)	June 19, 2016
6,166,043 (the '043 patent)	June 19, 2016
6,172,090 (the '090 patent)	June 19, 2016
9,101,660 (the '660 patent)	January 22, 2027

With respect to each of these patents<sup>1</sup>, your ANDA contains paragraph IV certifications under section 505(j)(2)(A)(vii)(IV) of the FD&C Act stating that the patents are invalid, unenforceable, or will not be infringed by your manufacture, use, or sale of Pioglitazone and Metformin Hydrochloride Tablets USP, 15 mg/500 mg and 15 mg/850 mg, under this ANDA. You have notified the agency that Macleods Pharmaceuticals Limited (Macleods) complied with the requirements of section 505(j)(2)(B) of the FD&C Act, and that no action for infringement was brought against Macleods within the statutory 45-day period.

Under section 506A of the FD&C Act, certain changes in the conditions described in this ANDA require an approved supplemental application before the change may be made.

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 FD&C Act.

Postmarketing reporting requirements for this ANDA are set forth in 21 CFR 314.80-81 and 314.98. The Office of Generic Drugs should be advised of any change in the marketing status of this drug.

Promotional materials may be submitted to FDA for comment prior to publication or dissemination. Please note that these submissions are voluntary. If you desire comments on proposed launch promotional materials with respect to compliance with applicable regulatory requirements, we recommend you submit, in draft or mock-up form, two copies of both the promotional materials and package insert(s) directly to:

Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research  
Office of Prescription Drug Promotion  
5901-B Ammendale Road  
Beltsville, MD 20705

We call your attention to 21 CFR 314.81(b)(3) which requires that all promotional materials be submitted to the Office of Prescription Drug Promotion with a completed Form FDA 2253 at the time of their initial use.

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

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<sup>1</sup> The agency notes that the '660 patent was listed in the Orange Book after submission of your ANDA. Litigation, if any, with respect to this patent would not create a statutory stay of approval.

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.

As soon as possible, but no later than 14 days from the date of this letter, submit, using the FDA automated drug registration and listing system (eLIST), the content of labeling [21 CFR 314.50(l)] in structured product labeling (SPL) format, as described at <http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/DataStandards/StructuredProductLabeling/default.htm>, that is identical in content to the approved labeling (including the package insert, and any patient package insert and/or Medication Guide that may be required). 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 via publicly available labeling repositories.

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, 0.9.2342.19200300.100.1.1=1300043242,  
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