



BLA 125514/S-19 and S-23

SUPPLEMENT APPROVAL

Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp.
Attention: Victoria Demby, Ph.D.
Director, Global Regulatory Affairs
351 N. Sumneytown Pike
P.O. Box 1000
UG2CDS-015
North Wales, PA 19454

Dear Dr. Demby:

Please refer to your Supplemental Biologics License Applications (sBLAs), dated February 3, 2017, received February 3, 2017, for supplement 19 (S-19) and dated March 2, 2017, and received March 2, 2017, for supplement 23 (S-23), and your amendments, submitted under section 351(a) of the Public Health Service Act for Keytruda (pembrolizumab) for injection 50 mg and for Keytruda (pembrolizumab) injection 100 mg/4 mL.

These “Changes Being Effected” supplemental biologics applications provide for revisions to the Dosage and Administration, Dose Modifications (2.5) subsection, the Warnings and Precautions section and the Patient Counseling Information to add severe skin reactions under S-19; and, to revise the Warnings and Precautions, Other Immune-Mediated Adverse Reactions (5.6) subsection and the Patient Counseling Information to include information regarding solid organ transplant rejection under S-23.

APPROVAL & LABELING

We have completed our review of this supplemental 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

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>, that is identical to the enclosed labeling text for the prescribing information and text for the Medication Guide and include the labeling changes proposed in any pending “Changes Being Effectuated” (CBE) supplements. 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/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM072392.pdf>.

The SPL will be accessible via publicly available labeling repositories.

Also within 14 days, amend all pending supplemental applications that include labeling changes for this BLA, including pending “Changes Being Effectuated” (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.

Because none of these criteria apply to your application, you are exempt from this requirement.

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 prescribing information to:

OPDP Regulatory Project Manager
Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
Office of Prescription Drug Promotion
5901-B Ammendale Road
Beltsville, MD 20705-1266

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 prescribing information, 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>.

All promotional materials for your drug product that include representations about your drug product must be promptly revised to make it consistent with the labeling changes approved in this supplement, including any new safety information [21 CFR 601.12(a)(4)]. The revisions to your promotional materials should include prominent disclosure of the important new safety information that appears in the revised package labeling. Within 7 days of receipt of this letter, submit your statement of intent to comply with 21 CFR 601.12(a)(4) to the address above, by fax to 301-847-8444, or 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>).

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, please call Ms. Sharon Sickafuse, Senior Regulatory Health Project Manager, at (301) 796-2320.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Jeffery Summers, M.D.
Deputy Director for Safety
Division of Oncology Products 2
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/

JEFFERY L SUMMERS
07/27/2017