



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration  
Silver Spring, MD 20993

NDA 022496/S-030

**SUPPLEMENT APPROVAL**

Pacira Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
5 Sylvan Way, STE 100  
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Attention: Hetal Pansuria, PharmD  
Senior Manager, Regulatory Affairs

Dear Dr. Pansuria:

Please refer to your Supplemental New Drug Application (sNDA) dated and received June 15, 2018, and your amendments, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA) for EXPAREL (bupivacaine liposomal injectable suspension).

We also refer to our letter May 21, 2018, notifying you, under Section 505(o)(4) of the FDCA, of new safety information that we believe should be included in the labeling for the class of "caine" local anesthetics. This information pertains to the risk of methemoglobinemia.

This supplemental new drug application provides for revisions to the labeling for EXPAREL consistent with our May 21, 2018, Safety Labeling Change Notification letter.

**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 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, 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 include 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 Microsoft Word format, that includes the changes approved in this supplemental application, as well as annual reportable changes. To facilitate review of your submission(s), 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).

## **PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS**

You may request advisory comments on proposed introductory advertising and promotional labeling. To do so, submit the following, in triplicate, (1) a cover letter requesting advisory comments, (2) the proposed materials in draft or mock-up form with annotated references, and (3) the Prescribing Information to:

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

You must submit final promotional materials and Prescribing Information, accompanied by a Form FDA 2253, at the time of initial dissemination or publication [21 CFR 314.81(b)(3)(i)]. 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 that include representations about your drug product must be promptly revised to be consistent with the labeling changes approved in this supplement, including any new safety information [21 CFR 314.70(a)(4)]. The revisions in your promotional materials should include prominent disclosure of the important new safety information that appears in the revised labeling. Within 7 days of receipt of this letter, submit your statement of intent to comply with 21 CFR 314.70(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 NDA (21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81).

If you have any questions, call Parinda Jani, Chief, Project Management Staff, at (301) 796-1232.

Sincerely,

*{See appended electronic signature page}*

Judith A. Racoosin, MD, MPH  
Deputy Director for Safety  
Division of Anesthesia, Analgesia,  
and Addiction Products  
Office of Drug Evaluation II  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

ENCLOSURE:  
Content of Labeling

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**This is a representation of an electronic record that was signed electronically. Following this are manifestations of any and all electronic signatures for this electronic record.**  
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/s/  
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JUDITH A RACOOSIN  
11/02/2018

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