



NDA 20-489/S-007

Theratech, Inc.  
Attention: Dorothy A. Frank, M.S., R.A.C.  
Director, Regulatory Affairs  
417 Wakara Way  
Salt Lake City, UT 84108

Dear Ms. Frank:

Please refer to your supplemental new drug application dated September 27, 1999, received September 28, 1999, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Androderm® (testosterone transdermal system).

We acknowledge receipt of your submissions dated November 24, 1999.

This "Changes Being Effected" supplemental new drug application provides for the new distribution channel for Androderm® and to correct a longstanding omission in the **DESCRIPTION** section ("Purified water, USP") of the prescribing information.

We have completed the review of this supplemental application, as amended, and have concluded that adequate information has been presented to demonstrate that the drug product is safe and effective for use as recommended in the submitted final printed labeling (package insert submitted November 24, 1999, patient package insert submitted November 24, 1999, immediate container and carton labels submitted November 24, 1999). Accordingly, the supplemental application is approved effective on the date of this letter.

If a letter communicating important information about this drug product (i.e., a "Dear Health Care Professional" letter) is issued to physicians and others responsible for patient care, we request that you submit a copy of the letter to this NDA and a copy to the following address:

MEDWATCH, HF-2  
FDA  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, MD 20857

We remind you that you must comply with the requirements for an approved NDA set forth under 21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81.

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If you have any questions, call Eufrecina DeGuia, Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 827-4260.

Sincerely,

*{See appended electronic signature page}*

Daniel Shames, M.D.  
Acting Director  
Division of Reproductive and Urologic Drug Products  
Office of Drug Evaluation III  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

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/s/

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Daniel A. Shames  
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29 patients, the following changes in lipids were observed during 1 year of *Androderm* treatment: cholesterol decreased 1.2%; HDL decreased 8%; C-reactive protein (CRP) increased 9%. In these patients, lipids measured during *Androderm* treatment were not significantly different from those measured during prior IM injection treatment.

**Effects on the prostate.** Prostate size and serum prostate specific antigen (PSA) concentrations during treatment were comparable to values reported for eugonadal men. One case of prostate carcinoma occurred during *Androderm* treatment; two cases were detected during IM treatment.

#### INDICATIONS AND USAGE

*Androderm* (testosterone transdermal system) is indicated for testosterone replacement therapy in men for conditions associated with a deficiency or absence of endogenous testosterone.

Primary hypogonadism (congenital or acquired)—Testicular failure due to cryptorchidism, bilateral or unilateral, vanishing testis syndrome, or orchidectomy, Klinefelter's syndrome, chemotherapy, or toxic damage from alcohol or heavy metals. These men usually have low serum testosterone concentrations accompanied by gonadotropins (FSH, LH) above the normal range.

Secondary, i.e., hypogonadotropic hypogonadism (congenital or acquired)—idiopathic gonadotroph or luteinizing hormone-releasing hormone (LHRH) deficiency, or pituitary-hypothalamic injury from tumors, trauma, or radiation. These men have low serum testosterone concentrations without associated elevation in gonadotropins. Appropriate adrenal cortical and thyroid hormone replacement therapy may be necessary in patients with multiple pituitary or hypothalamic abnormalities.

#### CONTRAINDICATIONS

*Androgens* are contraindicated in men with carcinoma of the breast or known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate.

*Androderm* therapy has not been evaluated in women and must not be used in women. Testosterone may cause fetal harm.

*Androderm* is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to any of its components.

#### WARNINGS

Prolonged use of high doses of orally active 17- $\alpha$ -alkyl androgens (e.g., methyltestosterone) has been associated with the development of poliosis, hepatitis, cholestatic jaundice and hepatic neoplasms, including hepatocellular carcinoma. (See PRECAUTIONS, Carcinogenesis.) Pellets hearts can be a life-threatening or fatal complication. Testosterone is not known to produce these adverse effects.

Geriatric patients treated with androgens may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hyperplasia.

Geriatric patients and other patients with clinical or demographic characteristics that are recognized to be associated with an increased risk of prostate cancer should be evaluated for the presence of subclinical or clinical prostate cancer prior to initiation of testosterone replacement therapy, because testosterone therapy may promote the growth of existing subclinical foci of prostate cancer.<sup>2</sup>

In men receiving testosterone replacement therapy, surveillance for prostate cancer should be consistent with current practices for eugonadal men (see PRECAUTIONS, Carcinogenesis).

Edema, with or without congestive heart failure, may be a serious complication of androgen treatment in patients with preexisting cardiac, renal, or hepatic disease. In addition to discontinuation of the drug, diuretic therapy may be required.

Gynecomastia frequently develops and occasionally persists in patients being treated for hypogonadism.

#### PRECAUTIONS

##### General

The physician should instruct patients to report any of the following side effects of androgens:

- Too frequent or persistent erections of the penis
- Any nausea, vomiting, jaundice, or ankle swelling

Virilization of female sexual partners has been reported with male use of a topical testosterone solution. Topically applied creams leave as much as 30 mg residual testosterone on the skin. The occlusive backing film on *Androderm* (testosterone transdermal system) prevents the partner from coming in contact with the active material in the system. Transfer of the system to the partner is unlikely.

Changes in body hair distribution, significant increase in acne, or other signs of virilization of the female partner should be brought to the attention of a physician.

##### Information for Patients

An information brochure is available for patients concerning the use of *Androderm*.

Advise patients of the following:

- *Androderm* should not be applied over a hairy portion of the body that could be subject to prolonged pressure during sleep or sitting. Application to these sites has been associated with burn-like blister reactions.
- *Androderm* does not have to be removed during sexual intercourse, nor while taking a shower or bath.
- *Androderm* systems should be applied nightly.

##### Laboratory Tests

Hemoglobin and hematocrit should be checked periodically to detect polycythemia in patients who are receiving androgen therapy.

Liver function, prostate specific antigen, total cholesterol and HDL cholesterol should be checked periodically.

##### Drug Interactions

**Anticoagulants.** C-17 substituted derivatives of testosterone, such as methandrolone, have been reported to decrease the anticoagulant requirements of patients receiving oral anticoagulants. Patients receiving oral anticoagulants require close monitoring especially when androgens are started or stopped.

**Oxyphenbutazone.** Concurrent administration of oxyphenbutazone and androgens may result in elevated serum levels of oxyphenbutazone.

**Insulin.** In diabetic patients, the metabolic effects of androgens may decrease blood glucose and therefore, insulin requirements.

##### Drug/Laboratory Test Interferences

Androgens may decrease levels of thyroxine-binding globulin, resulting in decreased total  $T_4$  serum levels and increased resin uptake of  $T_3$  and  $T_4$ . Free thyroid hormone levels remain unchanged, however, and there is no clinical evidence of thyroid dysfunction.

##### Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

**Animal Data.** Testosterone has been tested by subcutaneous injection and implantation in mice and rats. The implant induced cervical-uterine tumors in mice, which metastasized in some cases. There is suggestive evidence that injection of testosterone into some strains of female mice increases their susceptibility to hepatoma. Testosterone is also known to increase the number of tumors and decrease the degree of differentiation of chemically induced carcinomas of the liver in rats.

**Human Data.** There are rare reports of hepatocellular carcinoma in patients receiving long-term therapy with androgens in high doses. Withdrawal of drugs did not lead to regression of the tumors in all cases. Geriatric patients treated with androgens may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hyperplasia.

Geriatric patients and other patients with clinical or demographic characteristics that are recognized to be associated with an increased risk of prostate cancer

should be evaluated for the presence of subclinical or clinical prostate cancer prior to initiation of testosterone replacement therapy, because testosterone therapy may promote the growth of existing subclinical foci of prostate cancer.<sup>2</sup>

In men receiving testosterone replacement therapy, surveillance for prostate cancer should be consistent with current practices for eugonadal men.

##### Pregnancy Category X (See Contraindications).

**Teratogenic Effects.** *Androderm* must not be used in women.

**Nursing Mothers.** *Androderm* must not be used in nursing women.

**Pediatric Use.** *Androderm* has not been evaluated clinically in males under 15 years of age.

##### ADVERSE REACTIONS

**Adverse Events Associated with *Androderm* (testosterone transdermal system)**

In clinical studies of 122 patients treated with *Androderm*, the most common adverse events reported were skin reactions at the site of system application. Transient mild to moderate erythema was observed at the site of application in the majority of patients at some time during treatment.

The adverse reactions reported by more than 1% of patients are listed below shown in order of decreasing frequency.

Percent of Patients	Adverse Event
37%	Pruritus at application site
12%	Burn-like blister reaction under system
7%	Erythema at application site
6%	Vesicles at application site
5%	Prostate abnormalities
5%	Headache
4%	Allergic contact dermatitis to the system
3%	Burning at application site
3%	Induration at application site
3%	Depression
2%	Rash
2%	Gastrointestinal bleeding

The following reactions occurred in less than 1% of patients: fatigue; body pain; pelvic pain; hypertension; peripheral vascular disease; increased appetite; accelerated growth; anxiety; confusion; decreased libido; parosmia; thinking abnormalities; vertigo; acne; bulimia at application site; mechanical irritation at application site; rash at application site; contamination of application site; prostate carcinoma; dysuria; hematuria; impotence; urinary incontinence; urinary tract infection; testicular abnormalities.

Three types of application site reactions occurred: irritation which included mild to moderate erythema, induration or burning; allergic contact dermatitis; and burn-like blister reactions.

Chronic skin irritation caused 5% of patients to discontinue treatment. Mild skin irritation may be ameliorated by treatment of affected skin with over-the-counter topical hydrocortisone cream applied after system removal.

Applying a small amount of 0.1% triamcinolone acetate cream (Rx) to the skin under the central drug reservoir of the *Androderm* system has been shown to reduce the incidence and severity of skin irritation. The administration of 0.1% triamcinolone acetate cream (Rx) does not significantly alter transdermal absorption of testosterone from the system. **ointment formulations should not be used for pretreatment absorption.**

Five patients (4% developed allergic contact dermatitis after 3 to 8 weeks treatment that required discontinuation. These reactions were characterized by pruritus, erythema, induration and in some instances vesicles or bullae, which recurred with each system application. Rechallenge with components of the system showed ethanol sensitization in 4 patients. One patient's reaction was attributed to testosterone. None of these patients had adverse sequelae related to oral alcohol ingestion or to injectable testosterone use. Older patients may be more prone to develop allergic contact dermatitis.

Fourteen patients (12%) had burn-like blister reactions that involved bullae, epidermal necrosis or the development of ulcerated lesions. These reactions typically occurred once at a single application site. 5 patients experienced a single recurrence. None withdrew from the clinical trials. In 6,500 system applications (1 in 3,250 treatment days) the majority of these lesions were associated with system application over bony prominences or on parts of the body that may have been subject to prolonged pressure during sleep or sitting (e.g., over the deltoid region of the upper arm, the greater trochanter of the femur, or the ischial tuberosity). The more severe lesions healed over several weeks with scarring in some cases. Such lesions should be treated as burns.

##### Adverse Events Associated with Injection or Oral Treatments

**Skin and Appendages:** Hirsutism, male pattern of baldness, seborrhea, and acne.

**Endocrine and Urogenital:** Gynecomastia and excessive frequency and duration of penile erections. Oligospermia may occur at high dosages (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY).

**Fluid and Electrolyte Disturbances:** Retention of sodium, chloride, water, potassium, calcium, and magnesium phosphates.

**Gastrointestinal:** Nausea, cholestatic jaundice, alterations in liver function tests. Rare instances of hepatocellular neoplasms and peliosis hepatitis have occurred (see WARNINGS).

**Hematologic:** Suppression of clotting factors II, V, VII, and X bleeding in patients on concomitant anticoagulant therapy and polycythemia.

**Nervous System:** Increased or decreased libido, headache, anxiety, depression and generalized parosmia.

**Metabolic:** Increased serum cholesterol.

**Miscellaneous:** Rarely, anaphylactoid reactions.

##### DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

*Androderm* (testosterone transdermal system) is a Schedule III controlled substance under the Anabolic Steroids Control Act.

Oral consumption of the *Androderm* system or the gel contents of the system will not result in clinically significant serum testosterone concentrations in the target organs due to extensive first-pass metabolism.

##### OVERDOSAGE

There is one report of acute overdosage with testosterone enanthate injection; testosterone levels of up to 11,400 ng/dL were implicated in a cerebrovascular accident.

##### DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

The usual starting dose is one *Androderm* 5 mg system or two *Androderm* 2.5 mg systems applied nightly for 24 hours, providing a total dose of 5 mg/day.

The adhesive side of the *Androderm* system should be applied to a clean, dry area of the skin on the back, abdomen, upper arms, or thighs. Avoid application over bony prominences or on a part of the body that may be subject to prolonged pressure during sleep or sitting (e.g., the deltoid region of the upper arm, the greater trochanter of the femur, and the ischial tuberosity). DO NOT APPLY TO THE SCROTUM. The sites of application should be rotated, with an interval of 7 days between applications to the same site. The area selected should not be oily, damaged, or irritated. (See Table 2.) The system should be applied immediately after opening the pouch and removing the protective release liner. The system should be pressed firmly in place, making sure there is good contact with the skin, especially around the edges.

To ensure proper dosing, the morning serum testosterone concentration should be measured following system application the previous evening. If the serum concentration is outside the normal range, sampling should be repeated with assurance of proper system adhesion as well as appropriate application time. Confirmed serum concentrations outside the normal range may require increasing the daily dose to 7.5 mg (i.e., one 5 mg and one 2.5 mg systems or three 2.5 mg systems) or decreasing the daily dose to 2.5 mg (i.e., one 2.5 mg system), maintaining nightly application. Because of variability in analytical values among diagnostic laboratories, this laboratory work and any later analyses for assessing the effect of *Androderm* therapy, should be performed at the same laboratory so results can be compared.

Mild skin irritation may be ameliorated by treatment of the affected skin with over-the-counter topical hydrocortisone cream applied after system removal. Applying a small amount of 0.1% triamcinolone acetate cream (Rx) to the skin under the central drug reservoir of the *Androderm* system has been shown to reduce the incidence and severity of skin irritation. The administration of 0.1% triamcinolone acetate cream (Rx) does not significantly alter transdermal absorption of testosterone from the system. **ointment formulations should not be used for pretreatment absorption.**

*Androderm* (testosterone transdermal system) therapy for non-fertilized patients may be initiated with one 2.5 mg/day system applied nightly.

##### HOW SUPPLIED

*Androderm* (testosterone transdermal system) 2.5 mg/day. Each system contains 122 mg testosterone USP for delivery of 2.5 mg of testosterone per day (see DESCRIPTION).

*Androderm* (testosterone transdermal system) 5 mg/day. Each system contains 243 mg testosterone USP for delivery of 5 mg of testosterone per day (see DESCRIPTION).

Carbons of 30 systems NDC 5254-470-30

**Storage and Disposal**  
Store at 25°C (77°F), excursions permitted to 15-30°C (59-86°F). Apply to skin immediately upon removal from the protective pouch. Do not store outside the pouch provided. Damaged systems should not be used. The drug reservoir may be burst by excessive pressure or heat. Discard systems in household trash in a manner that prevents accidental application or ingestion by children, pets or others.

##### REFERENCES

1. Mazer NA, et al. Mimicking the circadian pattern of testosterone and metabolic levels with an enhanced transdermal delivery system. In: *Current Topics in Androgen Therapy*. ed. *Plasstie Drug Delivery: Current Applications and Future Trends*. Stuttgart: Wiss. Verlag; 1993: 73-97.
2. Schroeder FH. Androgens and carcinoma of the prostate. In: Neischlag C, Barme HW, eds. *Testosterone Action, Deficiency, Substitution*. Berlin/Heidelberg: Springer-Verlag; 1990: 245-260.

##### Rx only

DATE OF ISSUANCE JANUARY 2003  
© Watson Pharma, Inc., 1999  
U.S. Patent Nos. 4,948,224, 4,955,294, 4,963,970, 4,993,995, 5,152,997, and 5,164,190.

Watson Pharma, Inc.  
A Subsidiary of Watson Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Corona, CA 92680

ADL12

## Division of Reproductive and Urologic Drug Products

### Regulatory Project Manager Label Review

**Application Number:** NDA 20-489/S-007 Androderm® (testosterone transdermal system)

**Sponsor:** TheraTech, Inc.

**Material Reviewed:**

- Package Insert
- Patient Package Insert
- Pouch and Carton Labels

**Submission Date:** September 27, 1999 (FPL submitted November 24, 1999)

**Receipt Date:** September 28, 1999 (FPL received November 26, 1999)

**Background and Summary Description:**

The sponsor submitted this "Special Supplement-Changes Being Effectuated" (CBE) to reflect the new distribution channel for Androderm®, and to correct an omission in the DESCRIPTION section of the package insert.

**Review:**

The changes are as follows:

- The company signature has been changed on all labeling from "Manufactured by: TheraTech, Inc., Salt Lake City, UT 84108 for SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals, Philadelphia, PA" to "Distributed by: Watson Pharma, Inc., a subsidiary of Watson Laboratories, Inc., Corona, CA 92880"
- NDC numbers have been changed from SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals (SB) numbers to TheraTech numbers
- SB item numbers have been removed
- Revision levels on the prescribing information and patient package insert have been changed from AD:L8 and AD:L8PI to AD:L9 and AD:L9PI, respectively
- Date of issuance for the prescribing information and the patient package information has been changed from October 1998 to August 1999
- The referenced copyright on the prescribing information and patient package insert has been changed from "©TheraTech, Inc., 1998" to "©TheraTech, Inc., 1999"
- "Purified water, USP" has been added as a component of the drug reservoir in the **DESCRIPTION** section of the prescribing information; it has always appeared as an ingredient on the pouch and carton labels, and was inadvertently left out of the prescribing information

**Conclusions:**

The changes being made in this supplement are acceptable and could have been made in an Annual Report per CFR §314.70. An Approval Letter will be issued for NDA 20-489/S-007.

Jeanine A. Best, M.S.N., R.N.  
Senior Regulatory Associate

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**Concurrence**

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Moo-Jhong Rhee, Ph.D.  
Chemistry Team Leader

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/s/

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Jeanine Best  
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CSO

Moo-Jhong Rhee  
1/9/02 02:40:34 PM  
CHEMIST  
I concur