CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH

APPROVAL PACKAGE FOR:

APPLICATION NUMBER

21-320

Chemistry Review(s)
NDA 21-320
Plenaxis (abarelix suspension for injection)
1P

Praecis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

HFD-580
Nita Crisostomo
7-4260

Original application date: December 11, 2000
NA Action: June 11, 2001
Resubmission Date: February 25, 2003
Goal Date Extension: November 25, 2003

Volume 4
CHEMISTRY
NDA 21-320
Plenaxis™
(abarelix suspension for injection) 100 mg

CHEMISTRY DIVISION DIRECTOR REVIEW

Applicant: Praecis Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Indication: /

Presentations: Single-dose vials containing 113 mg abarelix-CMC (carboxymethylcellulose) to be reconstituted with 0.9% sodium chloride injection for intramuscular delivery of 100 mg abarelix-CMC in 2mL.

EER Status: Acceptable, 5/12/2003

Consults: OPDRA, acceptable 7/10/2003; EA, not applicable (categorical exclusion); Microbiology, Adequate, 7/21/2003

Plenaxis™ (abarelix suspension for injection) is a product of abarelix acetate for treatment of advanced symptomatic carcinoma of the prostate where immediate androgen suppression is appropriate. Abarelix acetate which acts as an antagonist of gonadotropin releasing hormone and rapidly suppresses testosterone, dihydrotestosterone (DHT), follicle stimulating hormone (FSH), Leuteotropic hormone (LH), and prostate specific antigen (PSA) levels. The formulation is given to the patients on Day 1, 15, 29 and every 4 weeks thereafter.

Chemically, abarelix acetate is a decapeptide (described as acetyl-D-β-naphthylalanyl-D-4-chlorophenylalanyl-D-3-pyridylalanyl-L-seryl-L-N-methyl-tyrosyl-D-asparagyl-L-leucyl-L-N(ε)-isopropyl-lysyl-L-prolyl-D-alanyl-amide) synthesized by

It is an amorphous, hygroscopic powder that contains associated water and acetate, which is soluble in water. The solubility of abarelix acetate has been shown to decrease proportionally with higher pH at room temperature. The specific rotation of abarelix acetate

For subsequent formulation, Abarelix acetate is converted to the drug product intermediate, a complex of abarelix and carboxymethylcellulose (abarelix CMC). Abarelix CMC is a tight, stable, water-insoluble complex and allows for the loading of a high concentration of the peptide into the formulation. In the abarelix CMC complex, CMC acts as a carrier molecule which upon patient administration aids in
continuous delivery of abarelix for a prolonged period of time (in this case for one month).

Abarelix for injectable suspension is supplied as a white to off-white sterile dry powder which, when mixed with the diluent, 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP, becomes a depot suspension intended for intramuscular (IM) injection. The single-dose vial contains 113 mg of anhydrous free base abarelix peptide (net) supplied in an abarelix CMC complex. This complex also contains 19.1 to 31 mg of CMC. After the vial is reconstituted with 2.2 mL of 0.9% sodium chloride injection, 2 mL is administered to deliver a dose of 100 mg of abarelix (net) as the abarelix CMC complex at a pH of 5±1. To manufacture the final drug product, abarelix CMC complex is filled in a vial which is then stoppered, sealed, and sterilized by __________ The vials are then labeled and packaged into kits including 1) 3 cc ___ syringe with a 18 gauge 1-1/2" needle, 2) 22 gauge 1-1/2" safety glide needle, 3) 10 ml vial of 0.9% sodium chloride injection, USP. The drug product is delivered following reconstitution with 2.2 ml of 0.9% sodium chloride.

Abarelix acetate drug substance is manufactured by __________ Abarelix CMC is manufactured __________. All facilities have been found acceptable the Office of Compliance.

CMC information was previously reviewed in 2001 (see Chem Review dated 6/11/01) and was found deficient concerning lack of sterility assurance, inadequate specifications and stability data. Among the issues, there was a question whether acceptance criteria should be established for a controlled release product like this. The deficiencies have since been addressed by the applicant (see Chem Review #2). There are no remaining CMC issues.

Based on the stability data, the proposed expiration dating period of 24 months for Plenaxis is acceptable. The recommended storage condition of Plenaxis is 25°C (77°F), excursions permitted to 15-30°C (59-86°F) [USP Controlled Room Temperature].

Overall Conclusion:
From a CMC perspective the application can now be approved.

Duu-Gong Wu, PhD
Deputy Director, DNDC II/ONDC
Redacted 1

pages of trade

secret and/or

confidential

commercial

information
6 pages redacted from this section of the approval package consisted of draft labeling
Memo

To: NDA 21-320
From: Swapan K. De, Ph.D.
Through Moo-Jhong Rhee, Ph.D., Chemistry Team Leader
Date: 11/25/2003
Re: Amendment #092 dated November 24, 2003

In response to a t-con dated 24-Nov-2003, the sponsor submitted (Amendment #092 dated 24-Nov-2003) a final revisions for the PI, PPI, Hospital Pharmacy Agreement, Physician Attestation and Carton label. The response are satisfactory due to following reasons.

- The sponsor has added a statement “Plenaxis vials are not to be resold or redistributed” in the How Supplied section. The statement “Not for resale or redistribution” is also added in the carton label as suggested during the t-con (24-Nov-2003) as part of risk management plan for Plenaxis. The response is deemed satisfactory.
This is a representation of an electronic record that was signed electronically and this page is the manifestation of the electronic signature.

/s/

Swapan De
11/25/03 10:14:04 AM
CHEMIST

Moo-Jhong Rhee
11/25/03 10:18:41 AM
CHEMIST
I concur
NDA 21-320

Plenaxis™
(Abarelix for Injectable suspension)

Praecis Pharmaceuticals Inc.

SWAPAN K. DE

DIVISION OF REPRODUCTIVE & UROLOGIC DRUG PRODUCTS (HFD-580)
Table of Contents

Table of Contents ................................................................. 2
Chemistry Review Data Sheet.................................................. 5

The Executive Summary ....................................................... 10

I. Recommendations ......................................................... 10
   A. Recommendation and Conclusion on Approvability ............. 10
   B. Recommendation on Phase 4 (Post-Marketing) Commitments, Agreements, and/or Risk Management Steps, if Approvable ......................................................... 10

II. Summary of Chemistry Assessments .................................... 10
   A. Description of the Drug Product(s) and Drug Substance(s) .... 10
   B. Description of How the Drug Product is Intended to be Used .... 11
   C. Basis for Approvability or Not-Approval Recommendation .... 11

III. Administrative ............................................................... 12
   A. Reviewer’s Signature .................................................... 12
   B. Endorsement Block .................................................... 12
   C. CC Block .............................................................. 12

Chemistry Assessment .......................................................... 13

I. DRUG SUBSTANCE .......................................................... 13
   1. Description & Characterization ...................................... 13
      a. Description ........................................................ 13
      b. Characterization / Proof Of Structure ......................... 13
   2. Manufacturer .......................................................... 13
   3. Synthesis / Method Of Manufacture ................................. 14
      a. Starting Materials - Specs & Tests .............................. 14
      b. Solvents, Reagents, etc. ....................................... 14
2. Specifications & Methods For Drug Product Ingredients ............................................. 29
   a. Active Ingredient(s) .......................................................................................... 29
   b. Inactive Ingredients ....................................................................................... 29

3. Manufacturer ....................................................................................................... 30

4. Methods Of Manufacturing And Packaging ....................................................... 30
   a. Production Operations ..................................................................................... 30
   b. In-Process Controls & Tests ........................................................................... 31
   c. Reprocessing Operations .................................................................................. 33

5. Regulatory Specifications And Methods For Drug Product ............................... 33
   a. Sampling Procedures ..................................................................................... 33
   b. Regulatory Specifications And Methods .......................................................... 34

6. Container/Closure System .................................................................................... 36

7. Microbiology ....................................................................................................... 36

8. Drug Product Stability ......................................................................................... 36

III. INVESTIGATIONAL FORMULATIONS ............................................................... 45

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT .................................................................... 45

V. METHODS VALIDATION ..................................................................................... 45

VI. LABELING .......................................................................................................... 46

VII. ESTABLISHMENT INSPECTION ...................................................................... 49

VIII. DRAFT DEFICIENCY LETTER ......................................................................... 58
Chemistry Review Data Sheet

1. NDA 21-320

2. REVIEW #: 2

3. REVIEW DATE: November 12, 2003 (Revised)

4. REVIEWER: Swapan K. De, Ph.D.

5. PREVIOUS DOCUMENTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Previous Documents</th>
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<tr>
<td>Original</td>
<td>11-Dec-2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>See Chemistry Review #1 for previous amendments</td>
<td>29-Apr-2001</td>
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6. SUBMISSION(S) BEING REVIEWED:

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<tr>
<th>Submission(s) Reviewed</th>
<th>Document Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resubmission (Amendment #042)</td>
<td>25-Feb-2003</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment #043</td>
<td>19-Mar-2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendment #044 additional tests for CMC sodium</td>
<td>20-Mar-2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendment #048 updated stability data</td>
<td>16-May-2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendment #050 updated carton labeling copy</td>
<td>03-Jun-2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendment #064 Response to CMC deficiencies</td>
<td>29-Jul-2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendment #067 Response to CMC deficiencies</td>
<td>10-Sept-2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendment #073 updated stability data</td>
<td>14-Oct-2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendment #075 CMC labeling revisions</td>
<td>24-Oct-2003</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment #082 CMC labeling revisions</td>
<td>11-Nov-2003</td>
</tr>
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</table>

7. NAME & ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Name: PRAECIS PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED

Address: 830 Winter Street
Waltham, MA 02451-1420
CHEMISTRY REVIEW

Chemistry Review Data Sheet

J. D. Bernardy
Representative: Vice President, Regulatory Affairs and Quality Assurance
Telephone: 781-795-4100 ext. 4282

8. DRUG PRODUCT NAME/CODE/TYPE:
   a) Proprietary Name: PLENAXIS™
   b) Non-Proprietary Name (USAN): Abarelix for injectable suspension
   c) Code Name/# (ONDC only): PPI-149
   d) Chem. Type/Submission Priority (ONDC only):
      • Chem. Type: 1
      • Submission Priority: S

9. LEGAL BASIS FOR SUBMISSION: N/A

10. PHARMACOL. CATEGORY: /

11. DOSAGE FORM: Injection, Powder, for Suspension

12. STRENGTH/POTENCY: 100 mg abarelix acetate

13. ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION: Intramuscular

14. Rx/OTC DISPENSED: _X_Rx ___OTC

15. SPOTS (SPECIAL PRODUCTS ON-LINE TRACKING SYSTEM):
    _____SPOTS product – Form Completed
    _X_Not a SPOTS product

16. CHEMICAL NAME, STRUCTURAL FORMULA, MOLECULAR FORMULA, MOLECULAR WEIGHT:

Page 6 of 58
Chemical name: Acetyl-D-β naphthylalanyl-D-4-chlorophenylalanyl-D-3-pyridylalanyl-L-seryl-L-N-methyl-tyrosyl-D-asparagyl-L-leucyl-L-N(●)-isopropyl-lysyl-L-prolyl-D-alanyl-amide

CAS number: 183552-38-7

Structural Formula:

![Chemical Structure Image]

Molecular Formula: C_{72}H_{93}N_{14}O_{14}Cl, anhydrous free base
Abarelx acetate refers to the powder form with associated water and acetate

Relative molecular mass: 1414.68, anhydrous free base
17. RELATED/SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

A. DMFs:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DMF #</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>HOLDER</th>
<th>ITEM REFERENCED</th>
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<th>COMMENTS</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>III</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Adequate</td>
<td>26-Oct-00</td>
<td>Reviewed by A. Raw, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>29-Sept-01</td>
<td>Reviewed by S. E. Langille, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>III</td>
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<td>31-Jan-03</td>
<td>Reviewed by R. K. Kasliwal, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>V</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Adequate</td>
<td>09-Oct-03</td>
<td>Reviewed by Swapan K. De, Ph.D.</td>
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1 Action codes for DMF Table:
1 – DMF Reviewed.
Other codes indicate why the DMF was not reviewed, as follows:
2 – Type 1 DMF
3 – Reviewed previously and no revision since last review
4 – Sufficient information in application
5 – Authority to reference not granted
6 – DMF not available
7 – Other (explain under "Comments")

2 Adequate, Inadequate, or N/A (There is enough data in the application, therefore the DMF did not need to be reviewed)
B. Other Documents:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOCUMENT</th>
<th>APPLICATION NUMBER</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tr>
<td>IND Application</td>
<td>IND 51,710</td>
<td>18-Oct-1996, Phase 3 IND</td>
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18. STATUS:

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<tr>
<th>CONSULTS/ CMC RELATED REVIEWS</th>
<th>RECOMMENDATION</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>REVIEWER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biometrics</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>EES</td>
<td>Acceptable</td>
<td>12-May-2003</td>
<td>S. Ferguson (HFD-322)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pharm/Tox</td>
<td>Adequate</td>
<td>11-Jun-2001</td>
<td>Krishan L. Raheja, Ph.D., D.V.M.</td>
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<td>Biopharm</td>
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<td>05-Nov-2003</td>
<td>D. J. Chatterjee, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>LNC</td>
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<td>Methods Validation</td>
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<td>Swapan K. De, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>OPDRA</td>
<td>Adequate</td>
<td>10-Jun-2003</td>
<td>Alina Mahmud, Pharmacist</td>
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<td>EA</td>
<td>Categorical exclusion granted</td>
<td>14-Aug-2003</td>
<td>Swapan K. De, Ph.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Microbiology</td>
<td>Adequate</td>
<td>21-Jul-2003</td>
<td>Stephen Langille, Ph.D.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Chemistry Review for NDA 21-320

The Executive Summary

I. Recommendations

A. Recommendation and Conclusion on Approvability
   From chemistry, manufacturing, and controls point of view, this NDA may be approved.

B. Recommendation on Phase 4 (Post-Marketing) Commitments, Agreements, and/or Risk Management Steps, if Approvable

II. Summary of Chemistry Assessments:

A. Description of the Drug Product(s) and Drug Substance(s):

   Dosage form: Injection, Powder, for Suspension
   Strength: 100 mg Abarel ix acetate
   Route of Administration: Intramuscular

Abarel ix acetate is a new molecular entity decapeptide, which acts as an antagonist of gonadotropin releasing hormone and rapidly suppresses testosterone, dihydrotestosterone (DHT), follicle stimulating hormone (FSH), Leuteotrophic hormone (LH), and prostate specific antigen (PSA) levels. Within 24 hours serum testosterone levels falls to castrate levels. The effect is different from a GnRH agonist that initially increases the testosterone levels (called ‘flare’) and then reduces the testosterone to castrate levels.

Abarel ix acetate is unique because peptide synthetic organic chemistry, with a based protection strategy is used to synthesize abarel ix acetate.

The starting materials used in the synthesis have been qualified by tests that include

The drug substance is manufactured

Bulk abarel ix acetate is packaged

bags and are placed in a foil laminate pouch and pouch is then heat sealed. The drug substance is stored at 2-8°C and adequate data have been provided to support a month retest period.

Abarel ix acetate is first converted to a drug product intermediate (abarel ix CMC), which is a complex of abarel ix and carboxymethylcellulose. Abarel ix CMC is a tight, stable, water-insoluble complex and allows for the loading of a high concentration of the peptide into the formulation. In the abarel ix CMC complex, CMC acts as a carrier molecule which upon patient administration aids in continuous delivery of abarel ix for a prolonged period of time (in this case for one month).

The abarel ix CMC complex is filled in a vial with a targeted quantity of abarel ix CMC to obtain a dosage strength of 100 mg abarel ix. Filled vials are stoppered, sealed, and sterilized by
The vials are then labeled and packaged into kits. The proprietary name of the drug product “Plenaxis” was re-reviewed and found to be acceptable by DMETS on 10-June-2003. The other components of the kit include the following items: 1) 3 cc syringe with a 18 gauge 1-1/2” needle, 2) 22 gauge 1-1/2” safety glide needle, 3) 10 ml vial of 0.9% sodium chloride injection, USP, 4) frequently asked questions insert, 5) package insert, 6) 2 alcohol pads, and 7) a bandage. The drug product is delivered following reconstitution with 2.2 ml of 0.9% sodium chloride. The drug product is manufactured under aseptic conditions with sterility assurance and from Microbiologist's point of view, the whole process as well as the container/closure integrity is deemed satisfactory. The drug product is manufactured

The retest period for this intermediate is when stored at 2-8°C and is supported by stability data up to from 9 batches. The vials are stoppered, filled in vials to obtain deliverable dose. The vials are stoppered, sealed and packaged.

The sterilized product is then shipped back to

The drug product stability data includes 6 primary stability batches manufactured supportive stability batches manufactured Up to 12 month stability data from the primary stability batches and up to stability data from the supportive batches were provided. Based on the stability data, 24-month expiry date is granted. Adequate chemistry information is presented in the labeling and labels of the primary as well as the secondary packaging.

B. Description of How the Drug Product is Intended to be Used

This product is indicated for A risk management plan limits the use of Plenaxis to a narrow range of patients with advanced prostate cancer, who are not candidates for luteinizing hormone releasing hormone (LHRH) agonist therapy because of risks associated with testosterone surge.

The drug product is delivered following reconstitution with 2.2 ml of 0.9% sodium chloride and administered using aseptic technique. Direction for reconstitution and administration of the drug product is included in the physician insert. The recommended dose of Plenaxis™ is 100 mg on day 1, day 15, day 29 (week 4) and every 4 weeks thereafter.

The expiration dating period for Plenaxis is 24 months. The recommended storage condition of Plenaxis is 25°C (77°F), excursions permitted to 15-30°C (59-86°F) [USP Controlled Room Temperature]

C. Basis for Approvability or Not-Approval Recommendation

The sponsor has provided adequate data to demonstrate product quality. Therefore, from a CMC point of view, the data support approval of the NDA.
The sponsor resubmitted the NDA with responses to the outstanding deficiencies for the original NDA (Not approvable letter dated 11-June-2002). During review of the resubmission, the sponsor changed the drug product manufacturing site from \( \) No significant changes are noticed due to the manufacturing site change. Primary stability data were provided from the batches manufactured \( \) in the resubmission (Amendment #042 dated 25-February-2003), and was further updated (to provide more stability data) in Amendment #048 (dated 16-May-2003) and in Amendment #073 (dated 14-October-2003). Information request letters were sent to the sponsor with various issues on 14-July-2003, 27-Aug-2003 and 26-Sept-2003. The sponsor’s submission of amendment #064 (29-Jul-2003) and amendment #067 (10-Sept-2003) includes the response to the deficiencies and was found to be adequate. Amendment 075 dated 24 October, 2003 and amendment 082 dated 11 November, 2003 include response on labeling comments sent to the sponsor on 26-Sept-2003 and response to a t-con dated 5 November, 2003. Some of the major issues and their resolution for this NDA include the following:

- Update on the in-process control and tests during manufacture of the drug products.
- Submission of additional stability data to support the 24-month drug product expiration dating period.
- Addition of \( \) in the release specifications for the drug product. The acceptance criterion for \( \) content was tightened to NMT \( \) from the proposed acceptance criterion NMT\( \)
- Dose delivery level acceptance criterion is revised from \( \) to keep the value consistent with the (assay) acceptance criterion.
- The drug product dissolution acceptance criterion is tightened to \( \) at 45 minutes from the proposed \( \) at 45 minutes.
- The sponsor provided satisfactory information to justify the \( \) study for the drug product.

Thus, considering the provided information and their resolution, this NDA is deemed satisfactory regarding CMC and may be approved.

III. Administrative

A. Reviewer’s Signature

B. Endorsement Block

ChemistName/Date: Same date as draft review
ChemistryTeamLeaderName/Date
ProjectManagerName/Date

C. CC Block

Page 12 of 58
Redacted 46

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secret and/or
confidential
commercial
information
This is a representation of an electronic record that was signed electronically and this page is the manifestation of the electronic signature.

/s/

Swapan De
11/18/03 02:08:19 PM
CHEMIST

David T. Lin
11/18/03 02:11:05 PM
CHEMIST
I concur.
Electronic Mail Message

Date: 6/13/01 9:20:52 AM
From: Charles Hoiberg (HOIBERG)
To: Moo-Jhong Rhee (RHEEM)
Cc: Jeanine Best (BESTJ)
Cc: Bronwyn Collier (COLLIERB)
Cc: Patricia O'Connor (OCONNORP)
Subject: NDA 21-320 (Abarelix Suspension)

Moo-Jhong,

I received today the DMPO(HFD-324) evaluation report for NDA 21-320/Praecis (Abarelix Suspension). They concur with the District's Withhold recommendation regrading __________. In addition, it appears KAN-DO is completing a Warning Letter for GMP deviations observed during the April 2001 PAI inspection at __________. You can pick up the document from Pat at your convenience.

Chuck
Electronic Mail Message

Date: 6/11/01 12:42:42 PM
From: Charles Hoiberg (HOIBERG)
To: Bronwyn Collier (COLLIERB)
To: Jeanine Best (BESTJ)
Cc: Moo-Jhong Rhee (RHEEM)
Subject: NDA 21-320 (abarelx)

I reviewed the action package for NDA 21-320 with Moo-Jung. Based on the updates of the draft reviews he showed me, my concerns have been addressed. I left the action package with Moo-Jung.

Chuck
Summary of Chemistry Review of NDA 21-320

A. Drug Substances:

Abarelix is a synthetic decapeptide acting as an antagonist of gonadotropin releasing hormone, thereby suppressing testosterone, DHT, FSH, LH, and PSA. It is a new molecular entity and synthesized via a conventional organic chemistry. is the manufacturer, and and their inspection reports are pending.

The drug substance is manufactured as abarelix acetate, however, acetate is removed during manufacture of drug product.

Peptide drug is a relatively complex molecule. In this regard, the sponsor should establish an acceptance criteria of specific optical rotation of one of the starting materials.

The quality of abarelix acetate is controlled by series of specifications such as

One concern is that, without explanation. It should be part of analysis to assure that the composition of the peptide is correct. Otherwise, all the methods and acceptance criteria of those specifications are considered to be adequate.

Stability of abarelix acetate is established with 8 batches and the proposed retest period of month, when stored at 5°C +/- 3°C, is acceptable.

B. Drug Product:

The drug product is in a form of dry powder, which is a complex of abarelix with carboxymethylcellulose (CMC) and is to be reconstituted with 0.9% saline solution. The diluent is supplied by . (DMR is not considered adequate.

From sterility assurance point of view, the DMR is not considered adequate.

The abarelix CMC complex is manufactured

Is in compliance to cGMP, but is not (Withhold recommendation was made by the Office of Compliance).

The quality of the abarelix CMC is controlled by.

One issue is that the proposed acceptance criteria for the content of CMC in the abarelix CMC complex is too wide. According to the batch analysis it is within The proposed range is unnecessarily wide, which implicates that the amount of abarelix could also vary widely. This should be justified.
Once abarelix CMC is released and sterilized, it is then filled into vials by a process. It should be justified. The quality of the final drug product in vial is controlled by specifications.

Sterility assurance is in question due to uncertainty of container/closure integrity.

The drug product is packaged in a vial (3.5ml) (DMF and DMF) with a stopper (DMF and DMF) and a aluminum flip-off seal. From Microbiologist's point of view, container/closure integrity is not deemed established.

The proposed of expiry date is not acceptable. Based on available primary and supporting stability data, of expiry date can be granted.

The tradename, Plenaxis, was accepted by OPDRA, but there are labeling issues to be clarified including container and carton labels.

C. Conclusion and Recommendation:
From chemistry, manufacturing, and controls point of view, as the primary reviewer recommends, this NDA is approvable pending resolution of the following issues:

1. Quality of starting materials
2. Unnecessarily wide range of CMC in abarelix CMC complex
3. Unjustified overage of abarelix CMC in vials
4. Sterility assurance
5. Expiration date of the drug product
6. Revision of labeling (Description and How Supplied sections) as well as labels of container and carton

/S/

Moo-Jhong Rhee, Ph.D.
Chemistry Team Leader
For the Division of reproductive and Urologic Drug Products
DNDC II, Office of New Drug Chemistry
This is a representation of an electronic record that was signed electronically and this page is the manifestation of the electronic signature.

/s/
------------------
Moo-Jhong Rhee
6/11/01 10:30:14 AM
CHEMIST
DIVISION OF REPRODUCTIVE AND UROLOGIC DRUG PRODUCTS
Review of Chemistry, Manufacturing, and Controls

NDA #: 21-320
DATE REVIEWED: 4-29-01
REVIEW #: 1
REVIEWER: Swapan K. De

SUBMISSION TYPE DOCUMENT DATE CDER DATE ASSIGNED DATE
ORIGINAL 12-11-00 12-12-00 12-20-00
AMENDMENT 01-05-01 01-09-01 01-16-01
AMENDMENT 04-13-01 04-16-01 04-20-01
AMENDMENT 04-23-01 04-24-01 04-28-01
AMENDMENT 03-30-01 04-02-01 04-06-01

NAME & ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:
Praecis Pharmaceuticals Inc.
11 Hampshire Street
Cambridge, MA 02139

DRUG PRODUCT NAME
Proprietary: Plenaxis™
Established: Abarelix for injectable suspension
Code Name/#: PPI-149
Chem.Type/Ther.Class: 1/P

PHARMACOL. CATEGORY/INDICATION:
GnRH antagonist for treatment of Prostate
cancer without testosterone surge

DOSAGE FORM:
Injectable
STRENGTHS:
100 mg
ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION:
Intramuscular
Rx/OTC: X Rx __ OTC
SPECIAL PRODUCTS:
Yes X No
(If yes, fill out the form for special products and
deliver to TIA through team leader for data entry)

CHEMICAL NAME, STRUCTURAL FORMULA, MOLECULAR FORMULA,
MOLECULAR WEIGHT:
Chemical names: Acetyl-D-β naphthylalanyl-D-4-chlorophenylalanyl-D-3-pyridylalanyl-L-seryl-L-
N- methyl-tyrosyl-D-asparagyl-L-leucyl-L-N(ε)-isopropyl-lysyl-L-prolyl-D-
alanyl-amide

CAS number: 183552-38-7
Structural Formula:

Molecular Formula: C_{72}H_{93}N_{14}O_{14}Cl, anhydrous free base
Abarelix acetate refers to the powder form with associated water and acetate

Relative molecular mass: 1414.68, anhydrous free base

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

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<th>Type/Number</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Holder</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<td>5/25/99 by S. De</td>
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<td>Reviewed Not Satisfactory</td>
<td>S. Langille</td>
<td>June 8, 2001</td>
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RELATED DOCUMENTS (if applicable): None

CONSULTS:
Sterility assurance section of the NDA has been consulted to a microbiology staff and the microbiology review indicates that sterility assurance has not been established. EER has been submitted to office of compliance and no overall recommendation has been made as of June 8, 2001. The Office of Post-Marketing Drug Risk Assessment (OPDRA) was consulted for the tradename, Plenaxis™ and on February 2, 2001, OPDRA recommended approval of the use of “Plenaxis™” as proprietary name.

REMARKS/COMMENTS:
Abarelix acetate is a new molecular entity, a decapetide, and acts as an antagonist of gonadotropin releasing hormone and rapidly suppresses testosterone, DHT, FSH, LH, and prostate specific antigen (PSA) levels and within 24 hours serum testosterone levels falls to castrate levels. The effect is unique since the GnRH agonist initially increases the testosterone levels (called ‘flare’) and then reduces the testosterone to a castrate levels.

Abarelix acetate is unique peptide synthetic organic chemistry, with based protection strategy is used to synthesize abarelix acetate. The starting materials, used in the synthesis have been qualified by test results However, there are a couple of issues, which are to be clarified. Specifications limit and example of COA has been provided Throughout the NDA, sponsor uses an alternative term for the drug substance abarelix acetate as ‘Abarelix API’.

Abarelix acetate is converted to the drug product intermediate, a complex of abarelix and carboxymethylcellulose (abarelix CMC). Abarelix CMC is manufactured

The proposed proprietary name of abarelix for injectable suspension (drug product) is Plenaxis™. The drug product consists of a filled vial with a targeted quantity of abarelix CMC to obtain a dosage of 100 mg abarelix. Filled vials are stoppered, sealed, and sterilized

The vials are then labeled and packaged into kits. The other components of the kits include 3 cc syringe with 18 gauge 1-1/2” needle, 22 gauge 1-1/2” safety glide needle, 0.9% sodium chloride injection, USP, 10 ml vial, frequently asked questions insert, package insert, alcohol pads (2) and a bandage. The drug product is delivered following reconstitution with 2.1 ml of 0.9% sodium chloride. The drug product is manufactured under aseptic conditions with sterility assurance. The drug product has limited primary stability data from 3 batches manufactured As indicated, the drug product will be stored at 25°C (USP controlled room temperature).

The sponsor initially submitted the application with primary stability data, which was updated, to primary stability data through an amendment on 3/30/01. Amendment on “Draft Labeling” was submitted on 4/13/01.
On January 5, 2001, sponsor provided a letter of authorization for a DMF from _._._. Other submissions listed in the front sections are related to Patent Information and Patent Certification.

CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

This NDA is approvable from the standpoint of chemistry and manufacturing controls, pending resolution of issues, which are delineated in the draft letter.

/S/
Swapan K. De, Ph.D.
Review Chemist

cc:
Org. NDA 21-320
HFD-580/Division File
HFD-580/SDe/2/12/01
HFD-580/Edegua, JB
HFD-580/HRhee
HFD-8XX/CHoiberg (NMEs only)
R/D Init by: Moo-Jhong Rhee, Ph. D.

filename: N21320chem1F.doc
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commercial

information
This is a representation of an electronic record that was signed electronically and this page is the manifestation of the electronic signature.

/s/

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Swapan De
6/8/01 04:56:49 PM
CHEMIST

Moo-Jhong Rhee
6/11/01 09:25:40 AM
CHEMIST
I concur
NDA 21-320
Plenaxis (abarelix for injectable suspension)
Praecis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

The Environmental Assessment is acceptable as found in the Chemistry review, page 45, November 18, 2003.
Question: Please submit three copies of method validation packages, including a list of samples that will be provided for the analysis of the methods.

Response: Satisfactory

An updated method validation package is provided.

III. INVESTIGATIONAL FORMULATIONS Satisfactory

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT Satisfactory

A categorical exclusion is claimed for this NDA in accordance with 21 CFR part 25.31 (b) during the original submission. The EIC (Expected Introduction Concentration) is calculated and EIC value is __ ppb. The calculated value is less than the 1 ppb upper limit described in 21 CFR section. Thus, the level is deemed acceptable and categorical exclusion may be granted.

V. METHODS VALIDATION Satisfactory

All the methods need to be compiled together for the evaluation of the methods and should be provided to the agency, which will then be sent out to the district laboratories for validation.
NDA 21-320
Plenaxis\textsuperscript{TM} (abarelix for injectable suspension)
Praecis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

There was no Environmental Assessment done for this application. The sponsor requested a Categorical Exemption (see attached).
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information
NDA 21-320
Plenaxis™ (abarelix for injectable suspension)
Praecis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

The Methods Validation is pending for this application.