APPLICATION NUMBER:
21-964

APPROVAL LETTER
NDA 21-964

Progenics Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Attention: Ann Marie Assumma
Executive Director, Regulatory Affairs
777 Old Saw Mill River Road
Tarrytown, NY 10591

Dear Ms. Assumma:


We acknowledge receipt of your submissions dated May 31; August 3, 17, and 28; September 7 and 28; October 17; November 5, 6, 8, 28, and 30; December 7, 13, and 27, 2007, January 18 and March 7, 2008.

This new drug application provides for the use of Relistor™ (methylnaltrexone bromide) Subcutaneous Injection for the treatment of opioid-induced constipation in patients with advanced illness who are receiving palliative care, when response to laxative therapy has not been sufficient.

Your application for Relistor™ was not referred to an FDA advisory committee for the following reasons. Your product is a member of the class of previously approved opioid receptor antagonists marketed in the U.S., and the product did not pose unique concerns beyond those applicable to other opioid receptor antagonists.

We have completed our review of this application, as amended. It is approved, effective on the date of this letter, for use as recommended in the enclosed agreed-upon labeling text.

CONTENT OF LABELING

As soon as possible, but no later than 14 days from the date of this letter, please submit the content of labeling [21 CFR 314.50(l)] in structured product labeling (SPL) format as described at http://www.fda.gov/oc/datacouncil/spl.html that is identical to the enclosed labeling. Upon receipt, we will transmit that version to the National Library of Medicine for public dissemination. For administrative purposes, please designate this submission, “SPL for approved NDA 21-964.”
CARTON AND IMMEDIATE CONTAINER LABELS

Submit final printed carton and container labels that are identical to the enclosed carton and immediate container labels as soon as they are available, but no more than 30 days after they are printed. Please submit these labels electronically according to the guidance for industry titled Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic Format – Human Pharmaceutical Product Applications and Related Submissions Using the eCTD Specifications (October 2005). Alternatively, you may submit 12 paper copies, with 6 of the copies individually mounted on heavy-weight paper or similar material. For administrative purposes, designate this submission “Final Printed Carton and Container Labels for approved NDA 21-964.” Approval of this submission by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.

Marketing the product with FPL that is not identical to the approved labeling text may render the product misbranded and an unapproved new drug.

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 in pediatric patients unless this requirement is waived, deferred, or inapplicable.

We are waiving the pediatric requirement for ages 0 months to up to 5 years because necessary studies are impossible or highly impracticable in that age group. In addition, we are deferring submission of your pediatric study for ages 5 to 17 years because this product is ready for approval for use in adults and the pediatric studies have not been completed.

Your deferred pediatric study required by section 505B(a) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA) is a required pediatric postmarketing study. The status of this required postmarketing study must be reported annually according to 21 CFR 314.81 and section 505B(a)(3)(B) of the FDCA. This requirement is listed below.

1. Conduct a pharmacokinetics and safety study of Relistor™ in pediatric patients ages 5 to 17 years with opioid induced constipation and advanced illness receiving palliative care.

Final Report Submission: December 31, 2010

Submit final reports to this NDA 21-964. For administrative purposes, all submissions related to this required pediatric postmarketing study must be clearly designated “Required Pediatric Assessment”.

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 package inserts to:
Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research  
Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications  
5901-B Ammendale Road  
Beltsville, MD 20705-1266

As required under 21 CFR 314.81(b)(3)(i), you must submit final promotional materials, and the package inserts, at the time of initial dissemination or publication, accompanied by a Form FDA 2253. For instruction on completing the Form FDA 2253, see page 2 of the Form. For more information about submission of promotional materials to the Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications (DDMAC), see www.fda.gov/cder/ddmac.

Please submit one market package of the drug product when it is available.

METHODS VALIDATION

We have not completed validation of the regulatory methods. However, we expect your continued cooperation to resolve any problems that may be identified.

LETTERS TO HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

If you issue a letter communicating important safety related information about this drug product (i.e., a "Dear Health Care Professional" letter), we request that you submit an electronic copy of the letter to both this NDA and to the following address:

MedWatch  
Food and Drug Administration  
HFD-001, Suite 5100  
5515 Security Lane  
Rockville, MD 20852

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

We remind you that you must comply with reporting requirements for an approved NDA (21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81).

We ask that you submit any adverse events related to the cardiac and hepatic organ class as well as reports of dehydration as 15-day reports, per reporting regulation 21 CFR 314.80.

MEDWATCH-TO-MANUFACTURER PROGRAM

The MedWatch-to-Manufacturer Program provides manufacturers with copies of serious adverse event reports that are received directly by the FDA. New molecular entities and important new biologics qualify for inclusion for three years after approval. Your firm is eligible to receive copies of reports for this product. To participate in the program, please see the enrollment instructions and program description details at www.fda.gov/medwatch/report/mmp.htm.
If you have any questions, call Matthew Scherer, Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 796-2307.

Sincerely,

(See appended electronic signature page)

Julie Beitz, M.D.
Director
Office of Drug Evaluation III
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

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

/s/

Julie Beitz
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