

**CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND
RESEARCH**

APPLICATION NUMBER:

202155Orig1s000

APPROVAL LETTER



NDA 202155

NDA APPROVAL

Bristol-Myers Squibb
ATTENTION: Linda Gambone, Ph.D.
Associate Director, Global Regulatory Sciences
P.O. Box 4000
Princeton, NJ 08543-4000

Dear Dr. Gambone:

Please refer to your New Drug Application (NDA) dated September 28, 2011, received September 28, 2011, submitted under section 505(b)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Eliquis (apixaban) 2.5 and 5 mg Tablets.

We acknowledge receipt of your amendments dated June 27, July 3, 11, 18, and 24, August 14, 22, 30, and 31, September 17, October 10 and 17, November 15 and 29, and December 14, 21, and 28, 2012.

The September 17, 2012, submission constituted a complete response to our June 22, 2012, action letter.

This new drug application provides for the use of Eliquis (apixaban) tablets for the following indication:

ELIQUIS[®] (apixaban) is indicated to reduce the risk of stroke and systemic embolism in patients with nonvalvular atrial fibrillation.

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, 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 (text for the package insert and Medication Guide). Information on submitting SPL files using eLIST may be found in the guidance for industry *SPL Standard for Content of Labeling Technical Qs and As*, available at <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM072392.pdf>.

The SPL will be accessible via publicly available labeling repositories.

We request that the labeling approved today be available on your website within 10 days of receipt of this letter.

CARTON AND IMMEDIATE-CONTAINER LABELS

Submit final printed carton and immediate-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 *Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic Format – Human Pharmaceutical Product Applications and Related Submissions Using the eCTD Specifications (June 2008)*. 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 202155.**” Approval of this submission by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.

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

MARKET PACKAGE

Please submit one market package of the drug product when it is available to the following address:

Alison Blaus
Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
White Oak Building 22, Room: 4158
10903 New Hampshire Avenue
Silver Spring, Maryland
*Use zip code **20903** if shipping via United States Postal Service (USPS).*
*Use zip code **20993** if sending via any carrier other than USPS (e.g., UPS, DHL, FedEx).*

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Your application for ELIQUIS was not referred to an FDA advisory committee because the application did not raise significant safety or efficacy issues that were unexpected for a drug of this class and in the intended population.

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.

We are waiving the pediatric study requirement for this application because necessary studies are impossible or highly impracticable because the disease is rare in children.

RISK EVALUATION AND MITIGATION STRATEGY REQUIREMENTS

Section 505-1 of the FDCA authorizes FDA to require the submission of a risk evaluation and mitigation strategy (REMS), if FDA determines that such a strategy is necessary to ensure that the benefits of the drug outweigh the risks [section 505-1(a)]. The details of the REMS requirements were outlined in our REMS notification letter dated February 3, 2012.

Your proposed REMS, submitted on December 21 and 28, 2012, and appended to this letter, is approved. The REMS consists of a communication plan and a timetable for submission of assessments of the REMS.

Your REMS must be fully operational before you introduce Eliquis into interstate commerce.

The REMS assessment plan should include, but is not limited to, the following:

1. A report on the distribution of DHCP letters and Professional Organization Letters
2. An evaluation of healthcare providers' awareness and understanding of the serious risks associated with ELIQUIS (for example, through surveys of healthcare providers).
3. With respect to the REMS goals, an assessment of the extent to which the REMS is meeting its goals or whether the goals or other elements should be modified.

The requirements for assessments of an approved REMS under section 505-1(g)(3) includes with respect to each goal included in the strategy, an assessment of the extent to which the approved strategy, including each element of the strategy, is meeting the goal or whether one or more such goals or such elements should be modified.

We remind you that in addition to the assessments submitted according to the timetable included in the approved REMS, you must submit a REMS assessment and may propose a modification to the approved REMS when you submit a supplemental application for a new indication for use as described in section 505-1(g)(2)(A) of the FDCA.

If the assessment instruments and methodology for your REMS assessments are not included in the REMS supporting document, or if you propose changes to the submitted assessment instruments or methodology, you should update the REMS supporting document to include specific assessment instrument and methodology information at least 90 days before the assessments will be conducted. Updates to the REMS supporting document may be included in a new document that references previous REMS supporting document submission(s) for unchanged portions. Alternatively, updates may be made by modifying the complete previous REMS supporting document, with all changes marked and highlighted. Prominently identify the submission containing the assessment instruments and methodology with the following wording in bold capital letters at the top of the first page of the submission:

**NDA 202155 REMS CORRESPONDENCE
(insert concise description of content in bold capital letters, e.g.,
UPDATE TO REMS SUPPORTING DOCUMENT - ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY)**

An authorized generic drug under this NDA must have an approved REMS prior to marketing. Should you decide to market, sell, or distribute an authorized generic drug under this NDA, contact us to discuss what will be required in the authorized generic drug REMS submission.

Prominently identify the submission containing the REMS assessments or proposed modifications with the following wording in bold capital letters at the top of the first page of the submission:

NDA 202155 REMS ASSESSMENT

**NEW SUPPLEMENT FOR NDA 202155
PROPOSED REMS MODIFICATION
REMS ASSESSMENT**

**NEW SUPPLEMENT (NEW INDICATION FOR USE)
FOR NDA 202155
REMS ASSESSMENT
PROPOSED REMS MODIFICATION (if included)**

If you do not submit electronically, please send 5 copies of REMS-related submissions.

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 insert to:

Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
Office of Prescription Drug Promotion
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 insert, 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 Office of Prescription Drug Promotion (OPDP), see <http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/CentersOffices/CDER/ucm090142.htm>.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

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

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 <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/HowToReport/ucm166910.htm>.

POST-ACTION FEEDBACK MEETING

New molecular entities and new biologics qualify for a post-action feedback meeting. Such meetings are used to discuss the quality of the application and to evaluate the communication process during drug development and marketing application review. The purpose is to learn from successful aspects of the review process and to identify areas that could benefit from improvement. If you would like to have such a meeting with us, call the Regulatory Project Manager for this application.

If you have any questions, please call:

Alison Blaus
Regulatory Project Manager
(301) 796-1138

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Robert Temple, M.D.
Deputy Director
Office of Drug Evaluation I
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Enclosures:

Content of Labeling
Carton and Container Labeling
REMS

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

/s/

ROBERT TEMPLE
12/28/2012