CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH

Application Number: NDA 20-683

APPROVAL LETTER

MAR 27 1997

NDA 20-683

97-04-03P12:39 RCVD

APPROVED

Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories
Attention: Mr. Douglas W. Bitz
Director, Regulatory Affairs
P.O. Box 8299
Philadelphia, PA 19101

Dear Mr. Bitz:

Please refer to your new drug application dated March 27, 1996, received March 27, 1996, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Alesse [levonorgestrel (100 mg)/ethinyl estradiol (20 ug)] tablets.

We acknowledge receipt of your submissions dated October 3 and December 20 (2), 1996; January 15 and 30, February 13, 14 and 20, and March 12, 13,19, 24 and 26, 1997.

The User Fee goal date for this application is March 27, 1997.

This new drug application provides for the prevention of pregnancy.

We have completed the review of this application, including the draft labeling submitted March 27, 1996 [Detailed Patient Labeling and Brief Summary of Patient Package Insert, instructions for patients (mini-pack) 21 and 28 day, instructions for patients (clinic pilpak), unit containers, pouches and cartons] and March 26, 1997 (Prescribing information), 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 draft labeling submitted March 27, 1996 and March 26, 1997. Accordingly, the application is approved effective on the date of this letter.

The final printed labeling (FPL) must be identical to the March 27, 1996 and March 26, 1997, submitted draft labeling. Marketing the product with FPL that is not identical to this draft labeling may render the product misbranded and an unapproved new drug.

Please submit 20 copies of the FPL as soon as it is available, in no case more than 30 days after it is printed. Please individually mount ten of the copies on heavy-weight paper or similar material. For administrative purposes, this submission should be designated "FINAL PRINTED LABELING" for approved NDA 20-683. Approval of this submission by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.

Should additional information relating to the safety and effectiveness of the drug become available, revision of that labeling may be required.

We remind you of your Phase 4 commitments specified in your submissions dated March 12, 25 and 26, 1997. These commitments, along with any completion dates agreed upon, are as follows:

1.

2.

3.

Protocols, data, and final reports should be submitted to your IND for this product and a copy of the cover letter sent to this NDA. Should an IND not be required to meet your Phase 4 commitments, please submit protocol, data, and final reports to this NDA as correspondences. In addition, we request under 21 CFR 314.81(b)(2)(vii) that you include in your annual report to this application, a status summary of each commitment. The status summary should include the number of patients entered in each study, expected completion and submission dates, and any changes in plans since the last annual report. For administrative purposes, all submissions, including labeling supplements, relating to these Phase 4 commitments must be clearly designated "Phase 4 Commitments."

In addition, please submit three copies of the introductory promotional material that you propose to use for this product. All proposed materials should be submitted in draft or mock-up form, not final print. Please submit one copy to this Division and two copies of both the promotional material and the package insert directly to:

Food and Drug Administration
Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising and Communications,
HFD-40
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Validation of the regulatory methods has not been completed. At the present time, it is the policy of the Center not to withhold approval because the methods are being validated. Nevertheless, we expect your continued cooperation to resolve any problems that may be identified.

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

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

If you have any questions, please contact Christina Kish, Consumer Safety Officer, at (301) 827-4260.

Sincerely,

3/27/97

Lisa D. Rarick, M.D.
Director
Division of Reproductive and Urologic
Drug Products
Office of Drug Evaluation II
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

NDA 20-683
Alesse (ethinyl estradiol 0.02 mg/
levonorgestrel 0.100 mg) Tablets
Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories

Division Directors Memo

This application will be signed off in the Division, therefore a Division Directors memo is not necessary.