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APPLICATION NUMBER: 20697

APPROVABLE LETTER



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Food and Drug Administration
Rockville MD 20857

NDA 20-697

JUN - 8 1997

Hoffmann-La Roche Inc.
Attention: Thomas Watson
340 Kingsland Street
Nutley, New Jersey 07110-1199

Dear Mr. Watson:

Please refer to your new drug application dated June 03, 1996, received June 05, 1996, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Tasmar (tolcapone) 100 mg & 200 mg tablets.

We acknowledge receipt of your amendments dated:

June 26, 1996	July 10, 1996	August 29, 1996	September 09, 1996
September 25, 1996	October 3, 1996	October 8, 1996	October 25, 1996
November 19, 1996	November 20, 1996	December 17, 1996	January 07, 1997
February 14, 1997	March 10, 1997	March 21, 1997	April 14, 1997
April 25, 1997	April 30, 1997		

The User Fee goal date for this application is June 05, 1997.

We have completed the review of this application as submitted with draft labeling, and it is approvable. Before this application may be approved, however, it will be necessary for you to address the following issues:

I. Chemistry

A.

B.

II. Biopharmaceutics

A

Please test production lots using these recommended "interim" dissolutions specification and method, and also the dissolution method and specification proposed during the post-approval stability studies. Based upon the results of these tests, and following expiration of the current expiry date, the "interim" dissolution specification should then be adopted as the final dissolution method and specification for all strengths of tolcapone tablets.

III. CLINICAL

A. Product Labeling

Appended to this letter is a copy of proposed draft labeling. The draft is significantly different from that proposed in your NDA. In certain areas, we have proposed that you adopt specific language; if you disagree with our wording, please propose an alternative, but please submit the relevant data to support your version. In many sections we have requested that you propose new language, and have asked that you submit the evidence to support your proposal. These requests for newly drafted sections and/or additional evidence are highlighted in bold and embedded in various locations in the labeling.

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If additional information relating to the safety or effectiveness of this drug becomes available, revision of the labeling may be required.

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Under 21 CFR 314.50(d)(5)(vi)(b), we request that you update your NDA by submitting all safety information you now have regarding your new drug. Please provide updated information as listed below:

Please also update the new drug application with respect to reports of relevant safety information, including all deaths and any adverse events that led to discontinuation of the drug and any information suggesting a substantial difference in the rate of occurrence of common but less serious adverse events. The update should cover all studies and uses of the drug including: (1) those involving indications not being sought in the present submission, (2) other dosage forms, and (3) other dose levels, etc.

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

Within 10 days after the date of this letter, you are required to amend the application, notify us of your intent to file an amendment, or follow one of your other options under 21 CFR 314.110. In the absence of such action FDA may take action to withdraw the application.

Under 21 CFR 314.102(d) of the new drug regulations, you may request an informal or

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telephone conference with the Division to discuss what further steps need to be taken before the application may be approved.

The drug may not be legally marketed until you have been notified in writing that the application is approved.

If you have any questions, please contact Teresa Wheelous, R.Ph., Regulatory Management Officer, at (301) 594-2777.

Sincerely yours,



Robert Temple, M.D.

Director

Office of Drug Evaluation I

Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Enclosure: Draft Labeling