



NDA 22-301

NDA APPROVAL

Salix Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Attention: Benjamin M. Burgin, RAC
Senior Manager, Regulatory Affairs
1700 Perimeter Park Drive
Morrisville, NC 27560

Dear Mr. Burgin:

Please refer to your new drug application (NDA) dated December 21, 2007, received December 31, 2007, submitted pursuant to section 505(b)(2) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Apriso (mesalamine) extended-release capsules 0.375g.

We acknowledge receipt of your submissions dated January 21, 2008, March 7, 2008, April 24, 2008, April 25, 2008, May 7, 2008, May 13, 2008, June 13, 2008, July 25, 2008, August 1, 2008, August 14, 2008, August 22, 2008, September 16, 2008, October 1, 2008, October 3, 2008, October 15, 2008, October 16, 2008, October 17, 2008, and October 28, 2008.

This new drug application provides for the use of Apriso (mesalamine) extended-release capsules 0.375g for the maintenance of remission of ulcerative colitis in adults.

We have completed our review of this application. 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 22-301."

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 22-301.**” 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.

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 ages 0 to 5 years because the necessary studies are impossible or highly impracticable. This is because there are too few children with ulcerative colitis in that age range to study.

We are deferring submission of your pediatric study for ages 5 to 17 years for this application because this product is ready for approval for use in adults and the pediatric study has not been completed.

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

1. Deferred pediatric study under PREA for the maintenance of remission of ulcerative colitis in pediatric patients ages 5 to 17 years to evaluate safety, effectiveness, and pharmacokinetics with Apriso (mesalamine granules) in at least two dosing regimens.

Protocol Submission:	June 1, 2009
Study Start:	January 1, 2010
Final Report Submission:	June 1, 2013

Submit final study reports to this NDA. 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 insert(s) 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 insert(s), 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.

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
Suite 12B05
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

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

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If you have any questions, call Cristi Stark, Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 796-1007.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Donna Griebel, MD
Director
Division of Gastroenterology Products
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/

Donna Griebel
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