



NDA 022044/S-014 and S-018

SUPPLEMENT APPROVAL

Merck Sharp and Dohme Corp.
Attention: Richard J. Swanson, Ph.D.
Director, Regulatory Affairs
P.O. Box 1000, UG2C-50
North Wales, PA 19454-1099

Dear Dr. Swanson:

Please refer to your supplemental new drug applications (sNDAs) dated and received December 23, 2009 (S-014) and May 28, 2010 (S-018), submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA) for Janumet (sitagliptin and metformin HCl) fixed-dose combination tablets.

We acknowledge receipt of your amendment to both applications dated September 3, 2010.

These "Prior Approval" supplemental new drug applications propose to include information regarding the incidence of pancreatitis associated with the use of sitagliptin in controlled clinical trials in the Clinical Trials Experience section of the package insert for Janumet (S-014), and the addition of "constipation, headache, vomiting" in the Postmarketing Experience section of the package insert, and corresponding patient-friendly text in the Medication Guide for Janumet (S-018).

We have completed our review of these supplemental applications, as amended. They are approved, effective on the date of this letter, for use as recommended in the enclosed, agreed-upon labeling text. However, please note the following with regards to supplement S-018:

1. Your proposal to include "constipation; vomiting; headache" in Section 6.2 (Postmarketing Experience) of the package insert for Janumet is acceptable.

(b) (4)

[Redacted text block]

CONTENT OF LABELING

As soon as possible, but no later than 14 days from the date of this letter, submit, using the FDA automated drug registration and listing system (eLIST), the content of labeling [21 CFR 314.50(l)] in structured product labeling (SPL) format, as described at <http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/DataStandards/StructuredProductLabeling/default.htm>, that is identical to the enclosed labeling (text for the package insert) and include the labeling changes proposed in any pending “Changes Being Effectuated” (CBE) supplements. Information on submitting SPL files using eLIST may be found in the guidance for industry titled “SPL Standard for Content of Labeling Technical Qs and As” at <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/DrugsGuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM072392.pdf>.

The SPL will be accessible from publicly available labeling repositories.

Also within 14 days, amend all pending supplemental applications for this NDA, including pending “Changes Being Effectuated” (CBE) supplements, for which FDA has not yet issued an action letter, with the content of labeling [21 CFR 314.50(l)(1)(i)] in MS Word format that includes the changes approved in this supplemental application.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

You may request advisory comments on proposed introductory advertising and promotional labeling. To do so, submit the following, in triplicate, (1) a cover letter requesting advisory comments, (2) the proposed materials in draft or mock-up form with annotated references, and (3) 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

You must submit final promotional materials and package insert(s), accompanied by a Form FDA 2253, at the time of initial dissemination or publication [21 CFR 314.(b)(3)(i)]. Form FDA 2253 is available at <http://www.fda.gov/opacom/morechoices/fdaforms/cder.html>; instructions are provided on page 2 of the form. For more information about submission of promotional materials to the Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications (DDMAC), see <http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/CentersOffices/CDER/ucm090142.htm>.

LETTERS TO HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

If you decide to 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, at least 24 hours prior to issuing the letter, an electronic copy of the letter to this NDA, to CDERMedWatchSafetyAlerts@fda.hhs.gov, and to the following address:

MedWatch Program
Office of Special Health Issues
Food and Drug Administration
10903 New Hampshire Ave
Building 32, Mail Stop 5353
Silver Spring, MD 20993

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

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

If you have any questions, call Mehreen Hai, Ph.D., Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 796-5073.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Mary H. Parks, M.D.
Director
Division of Metabolism and Endocrinology Products
Office of Drug Evaluation II
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Enclosures:

Package Insert

Medication Guide (as previously approved on February 26, 2010)

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

/s/

MARY H PARKS
09/24/2010