**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

Public Health Service

Food and Drug Administration
Rockville, MD 20857

NDA 20-634/S-035
NDA 20-635/S-035
NDA 21-721/S-003

Ortho McNeil Pharmaceutical, Inc.
c/o Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceutical Research & Development, L.L.C.
Attention: Manisha Padhye, Ph.D.
Associate Director, Regulatory Affairs
US Highway 202, P.O. Box 300
Raritan, NJ 08869-0602

Dear Dr. Padhye:

Please refer to your supplemental new drug applications submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for the following:

| NDA Number | Supplement Number | Drug Product | Submission Date | Receipt Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 20-634 | 035 | Levaquin® (levofloxacin) Tablets, 250 mg, 500 mg, and 750 mg | May 25, 2004 | May 26, 2004 |
| 20-635 | 035 | Levaquin® (levofloxacin) Injection and Levaquin (levofloxacin in 5% dextrose) Injection | May 25, 2004 | May 26, 2004 |
| 21-721 | 003 | Levaquin® (levofloxacin) Oral Solution, 25 mg/mL | November 11, 2004 | November 12, 2004 |

We acknowledge receipt of your submissions dated:

May 2, 2002
June 12, 2002
January 16, 2003
January 12, 2004
February 12, 2004
March 2, 2004
March 8, 2004
June 7, 2004
July 23, 2004
August 25, 2004
September 16, 2004
September 17, 2004
September 24, 2004
October 5, 2004
October 14, 2004
October 15, 2004
November 11, 2004
November 16, 2004
November 23, 2004
November 24, 2004 (2)

These supplemental new drug applications provide for the use of Levaquin® for the treatment of inhalational anthrax (post-exposure).

We completed our review of these applications, as amended, according to the regulations for accelerated approval, and have concluded that adequate information has been presented to approve Levaquin for use as recommended in the agreed upon labeling text (enclosed). Accordingly, these applications are approved under 21 CFR 314 Subpart H. Approval is effective on the date of this letter. Marketing of these drug products and related activities are to be in accordance with the substance and procedures of the referenced accelerated approval regulations.

The final printed labeling (FPL) must be identical to the enclosed labeling (text for the package insert submitted November 24, 2004). Marketing the products with FPL that is not identical to the approved labeling text may render the products misbranded and unapproved new drugs.

The electronic labeling rule published December 11, 2003, (68 FR 69009) requires submission of labeling content in electronic format effective June 8, 2004. For additional information, consult the following guidances for industry regarding electronic submissions: *Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic Format - NDAs* (January 1999) and *Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic Format – Content of Labeling* (February 2004). The guidances specify that labeling to be submitted in *pdf* format. To assist in our review, we request that labeling also be submitted in MS Word format. If formatted copies of all labeling pieces (i.e., package insert, patient package insert, container labels, and carton labels) are submitted electronically, labeling does not need to be submitted in paper. For administrative purposes, designate this submission "**FPL for approved NDA 20-634/S-035, NDA 20-635/S-035, and NDA 21-721/S-003**." Approval of this submission by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.

Products approved under the accelerated approval regulation, 21 CFR 314.510, require further studies to verify and describe clinical benefit. We remind you of your postmarketing study commitment (Subpart H, Postmarketing Commitment) specified in your submission dated November 24, 2004. This commitment is listed below:

1. To cooperate with U.S.-based public health agencies in evaluating data on the use of Levaquin® (levofloxacin) in a large U.S. population for inhalational anthrax (post-exposure) prophylaxis, should an exposure occur. This includes long-term safety data from treatment greater than 28 days, if such data becomes available.

Final study reports should be submitted to these NDAs as supplemental applications. For administrative purposes, all submissions relating to this postmarketing commitment must be clearly designated "Subpart H, Postmarketing Study Commitment."

All applications for new active ingredients, new dosage forms, new indications, new routes of administration, and new dosing regimens are required to contain an assessment of the safety and effectiveness of the product in pediatric patients unless this requirement is waived or deferred. We are deferring pediatric studies for ages 0 to 16 years for the treatment of inhalational anthrax (post-exposure) for these applications.

Your deferred pediatric studies required under section 2 of the Pediatric Research Equity Act (PREA) are considered required postmarketing study commitments. The statuses of these postmarketing studies shall be reported annually according to 21 CFR 314.81. This commitment is:

2. Deferred pediatric study under PREA for the treatment of inhalational anthrax (post-exposure) in pediatric patients ages 0 to 16 years.

In addition, as required by 21 CFR 314.550, submit three copies of all promotional materials including promotional labeling and advertisements that you intend to use for this new indication within 120 days following approval of these products. Submit all proposed materials in draft or mock up form, not final print. Send one copy to this Division and two copies of both the promotional materials and the proposed package inserts directly to:

Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising
and Communications, HFD-42
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville MD 20857

If you issue a letter communicating important information about these drug products (i.e., a "Dear Health Care Professional" letter), we request that you submit a copy of the letter to these NDAs and a copy to the following address:

MEDWATCH, HFD-410
FDA
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

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 Rebecca D. Saville, Pharm.D., Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 827-2127.

Sincerely,

*{See appended electronic signature page}*

Renata Albrecht, M.D.
Director
Division of Special Pathogen and
Immunologic Drug Products
Office of Drug Evaluation IV
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Enclosure

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

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/s/

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Renata Albrecht

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