



NDA 208271

**NDA APPROVAL**

Salix Pharmaceuticals  
Attention: Mary Harrell  
Director, Regulatory Affairs  
400 Somerset Corporate Boulevard  
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Dear Mary Harrell:

Please refer to your New Drug Application (NDA) dated June 19, 2015, received June 19, 2015, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA) for Relistor (methylnaltrexone bromide) 150 mg tablets.

We acknowledge receipt of your major amendments dated February 5, 2016, February 10, 2016, March 10, 2016, March 16, 2016 and March 17, 2016, which extended the goal date by three months to July 19, 2016.

This new drug application provides for the use of Relistor (methylnaltrexone bromide) 150 mg tablets for the treatment of opioid-induced constipation (OIC) in adult patients with chronic non-cancer pain.

We have completed our review of this application, as amended. It is approved, effective on the date of this letter, for use as recommended in the enclosed agreed-upon labeling text.

**WAIVER OF HIGHLIGHTS SECTION**

We are waiving the requirements of 21 CFR 201.57(d)(8) regarding the length of Highlights of prescribing information. This waiver applies to all future supplements containing revised labeling unless we notify you otherwise.

**CONTENT OF LABELING**

As soon as possible, but no later than 14 days from the date of this letter, submit the content of labeling [21 CFR 314.50(l)] in structured product labeling (SPL) format using the FDA automated drug registration and listing system (eLIST), as described at <http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/DataStandards/StructuredProductLabeling/default.htm>. Content of labeling must be identical to the enclosed labeling (text for the package insert, text for the patient package insert, Medication Guide). Information on submitting SPL files using eLIST may be found in the guidance for industry *SPL Standard for Content of Labeling Technical Qs*

and As, available at

<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM072392.pdf>.

The SPL will be accessible via publicly available labeling repositories.

### **CARTON AND IMMEDIATE CONTAINER LABELS**

Submit final printed carton and immediate container labels that are identical to the carton and immediate container labels submitted on June 10, 2016, 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 *Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic Format – Human Pharmaceutical Product Applications and Related Submissions Using the eCTD Specifications (June 2008)*. 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 208271**.”

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.

### **MARKET PACKAGE**

Please submit one market package of the drug product when it is available to the following address:

Lawrence Allan  
Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research  
White Oak Building #22, Room: 5353  
10903 New Hampshire Avenue  
Silver Spring, Maryland  
*Use zip code 20903 if shipping via United States Postal Service (USPS).*  
*Use zip code 20993 if sending via any carrier other than USPS (e.g., UPS, DHL, FedEx).*

### **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 this application because the necessary studies are impossible or highly impracticable. This is due to the low number of pediatric patients with

chronic opioid use for chronic non-cancer pain and therefore few patients with OIC associated with chronic opioid use.

### **POSTMARKETING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 505(o)**

Section 505(o)(3) of the FDCA authorizes FDA to require holders of approved drug and biological product applications to conduct postmarketing studies and clinical trials for certain purposes, if FDA makes certain findings required by the statute.

We have determined that an analysis of spontaneous postmarketing adverse events reported under subsection 505(k)(1) of the FDCA will not be sufficient to identify an unexpected serious risk of major adverse cardiovascular events.

Furthermore, the new pharmacovigilance system that FDA is required to establish under section 505(k)(3) of the FDCA will not be sufficient to assess this serious risk.

Therefore, based on appropriate scientific data, FDA has determined that you are required to conduct the following:

3046 – 1: A post-marketing, observational epidemiologic study comparing oral Relistor (methylnaltrexone bromide) to other treatments of opioid induced constipation in patients with chronic non-cancer pain. The study's primary outcome is a composite of major adverse cardiovascular events (MACE): cardiovascular (CV) death, nonfatal myocardial infarction, and nonfatal stroke. Secondary outcomes include, but are not limited to, CV death, nonfatal myocardial infarction, and nonfatal stroke separately. Specify concise case definitions and validation algorithms for the primary and secondary outcomes. Justify the choice of appropriate comparator population(s) and estimated background rate(s) relative to oral Relistor (methylnaltrexone bromide)-exposed patients; clearly define the primary comparator population for the primary objective. Design the study around a testable hypothesis to assess, with sufficient sample size and power, MACE risk among oral Relistor (methylnaltrexone bromide) users relative to comparator(s) considering important potential confounders including lifestyle risk factors and over the counter (OTC) medications with potential for cardiovascular effects, with a pre-specified statistical analysis method. For the oral Relistor (methylnaltrexone bromide)-exposed and comparator(s), clearly define the new user clean period, including any exclusion and inclusion criteria. Ensure an adequate number of patients with at least 12 months of oral Relistor (methylnaltrexone bromide) exposure at the end of the study.

The timetable you submitted on May 20, 2016, states that you will conduct this study according to the following schedule:

Final Protocol Submission:	July 2017
Study Completion:	April 2024
Final Report Submission:	July 2025

Submit the protocol(s) to your IND 067452, with a cross-reference letter to this NDA. Submit all final report(s) to your NDA. Prominently identify the submission with the following wording in bold capital letters at the top of the first page of the submission, as appropriate: **“Required Postmarketing Protocol Under 505(o),” “Required Postmarketing Final Report Under 505(o),” “Required Postmarketing Correspondence Under 505(o).”**

Section 505(o)(3)(E)(ii) of the FDCA requires you to report periodically on the status of any study or clinical trial required under this section. This section also requires you to periodically report to FDA on the status of any study or clinical trial otherwise undertaken to investigate a safety issue. Section 506B of the FDCA, as well as 21 CFR 314.81(b)(2)(vii) requires you to report annually on the status of any postmarketing commitments or required studies or clinical trials.

FDA will consider the submission of your annual report under section 506B and 21 CFR 314.81(b)(2)(vii) to satisfy the periodic reporting requirement under section 505(o)(3)(E)(ii) provided that you include the elements listed in 505(o) and 21 CFR 314.81(b)(2)(vii). We remind you that to comply with 505(o), your annual report must also include a report on the status of any study or clinical trial otherwise undertaken to investigate a safety issue. Failure to submit an annual report for studies or clinical trials required under 505(o) on the date required will be considered a violation of FDCA section 505(o)(3)(E)(ii) and could result in enforcement action.

## **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, Medication Guide, and patient PI (as applicable) to:

OPDP Regulatory Project Manager  
Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research  
Office of Prescription Drug Promotion  
5901-B Ammendale Road  
Beltsville, MD 20705-1266

Alternatively, you may submit a request for advisory comments electronically in eCTD format. For more information about submitting promotional materials in eCTD format, see the draft Guidance for Industry (available at: <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM443702.pdf> ).

As required under 21 CFR 314.81(b)(3)(i), you must submit final promotional materials, and the package insert, at the time of initial dissemination or publication, accompanied by a Form FDA 2253. Form FDA 2253 is available at <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/AboutFDA/ReportsManualsForms/Forms/UCM083570.pdf>.

Information and Instructions for completing the form can be found at <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/AboutFDA/ReportsManualsForms/Forms/UCM375154.pdf>. For more information about submission of promotional materials to the Office of Prescription Drug Promotion (OPDP), see <http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/CentersOffices/CDER/ucm090142.htm>.

### **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 Lawrence Allan, Regulatory Project Manager, at (240) 402 – 2786.

Sincerely,

*{See appended electronic signature page}*

Donna Griebel, MD  
Director  
Division of Gastroenterology and Inborn  
Errors Products  
Office of Drug Evaluation III  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Enclosure(s):  
Content of Labeling  
Carton and Container Labeling

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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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DONNA J GRIEBEL  
07/19/2016