



BLA 125526

**BLA APPROVAL**

GlaxoSmithKline LLC  
Five Moore Drive  
P.O. Box 13398  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Attention: Thomas Lampkin, PharmD  
Senior Director, Global Regulatory Affairs

Dear Dr. Lampkin:

Please refer to your Biologics License Application (BLA) dated November 4, 2014, received November 4, 2014, submitted under section 351(a) of the Public Health Service Act for Nucala (mepolizumab) Lyophilized Powder for Subcutaneous Injection, 100 mg.

We acknowledge receipt of your amendments dated November 7 and 19, and December 11 and 18, 2014, and January 19, 20, and 28, February 2, 5, and 6, March 3, 9 (3), and 27, April 1 (2), 3, 10 (2), and 30, May 6, 7, 8 (2), 14 (2), and 27 (2), June 10, 23 (2), 26, and 29, July 1, 7, 13, 17, 21, and 27, August 4, 13, and 19, September 10, 15, 18, 22, and 24, October 2, 7, 16 and 23, and 29, and November 2, 3 (2), and 4, 2015.

**LICENSING**

We have approved your BLA for Nucala (mepolizumab) effective this date. You are hereby authorized to introduce or deliver for introduction into interstate commerce, Nucala, under your existing Department of Health and Human Services U.S. License No. 1727. Nucala is indicated for the add-on maintenance treatment of patients with severe asthma aged 12 years and older, and with an eosinophilic phenotype.

**MANUFACTURING LOCATIONS**

Under this license, you are approved to manufacture mepolizumab drug substance at GlaxoSmithKline LLC in Conshohocken, Pennsylvania. The final formulated product will be manufactured, filled, labeled, and packaged at GlaxoSmithKline Manufacturing S.p.A., Parma, Italy. You may label your product with the proprietary name, Nucala, and will market it in cartons of 1 single-dose glass vial of 100 mg lyophilized powder for reconstitution and subcutaneous injection.

### **DATING PERIOD**

The dating period for Nucala shall be 24 months from the date of manufacture when stored at  $\leq 25^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The date of manufacture shall be defined as the date of final sterile filtration of the formulated drug product. The dating period for your drug substance shall be <sup>(b)(4)</sup> months from the date of manufacture when stored at <sup>(b)(4)</sup> C.

We have approved the stability protocols in your license application for the purpose of extending the expiration dating period of your drug substance and drug product under 21 CFR 601.12.

### **FDA LOT RELEASE**

You are not currently required to submit samples of future lots of Nucala to the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER) for release by the Director, CDER, under 21 CFR 610.2. We will continue to monitor compliance with 21 CFR 610.1, requiring completion of tests for conformity with standards applicable to each product prior to release of each lot.

Any changes in the manufacturing, testing, packaging, or labeling of Nucala, or in the manufacturing facilities, will require the submission of information to your biologics license application for our review and written approval, consistent with 21 CFR 601.12.

### **APPROVAL & LABELING**

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.

### **CONTENT OF LABELING**

As soon as possible, but no later than 14 days from the date of this letter, submit, via the FDA automated drug registration and listing system (eLIST), the content of labeling [21 601.14(b)] in structured product labeling (SPL) format, 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). 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/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 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* (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 BLA 125526.**" Approval of this submission by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.

Marketing the product with final printed labeling (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 patients less than 6 years of age because necessary studies are impossible or highly impracticable. This is because the disease (severe asthma with an eosinophilic phenotype) is unlikely to exist in sufficient numbers to allow for a study to be conducted.

We are deferring submission of your pediatric studies for ages 6 years to 11 years because this product is ready for approval for use in adults and the pediatric studies have not been completed.

Your deferred pediatric studies required by section 505B(a) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA) are required postmarketing studies. The status of these postmarketing studies must be reported annually according to 21 CFR 601.28 and section 505B(a)(3)(C) of the FDCA. These required studies are listed below.

2979-1      Conduct a 12 week, randomized, open-label, pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamics study of Nucala (mepolizumab) in pediatric patients with asthma 6 years to 11 years of age (Part A of Study 200363).

Final Protocol Submission:    November 2015  
Study Completion:                September 2017  
Final Report Submission:        September 2019

2979-2      Conduct a 12 month long-term safety and pharmacodynamics extension study of Nucala (mepolizumab) in pediatric patients with asthma 6 years to 11 years of age (Part B of Study 200363).

Final Protocol Submission:    November 2015  
Study Completion:                March 2019  
Final Report Submission:        September 2019

Submit the protocols to your IND 006971, with a cross-reference letter to this BLA.

Reports of these required pediatric postmarketing studies must be submitted as a BLA or as a supplement to your approved BLA with the proposed labeling changes you believe are warranted based on the data derived from these studies. When submitting the reports, please clearly mark your submission "**SUBMISSION OF REQUIRED PEDIATRIC ASSESSMENTS**" in large font, bolded type at the beginning of the cover letter of the submission.

**POSTMARKETING COMMITMENTS NOT SUBJECT TO THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS UNDER SECTION 506B**

We remind you of your postmarketing commitment:

2979-3 To qualify the bioburden test at the (b) (4) in the drug product manufacturing process using a sample volume of 100 mL and to implement a (b) (4) bioburden limit of (b) (4)/100 mL. Submit the qualification and implementation of this bioburden test as a CBE-0.

The timetable you submitted on October 2, 2015, states that you will conduct this study according to the following schedule:

Final Report Submission: June 2016

Submit nonclinical and chemistry, manufacturing, and controls protocols and all postmarketing final reports to this BLA. In addition, under 21 CFR 601.70 you should include a status summary of each commitment in your annual progress report of postmarketing studies to this BLA. The status summary should include expected summary completion and final report submission dates, any changes in plans since the last annual report, and, for clinical studies/trials, number of patients entered into each study/trial. All submissions, including supplements, relating to these postmarketing commitments should be prominently labeled "**Postmarketing Commitment Protocol**," "**Postmarketing Commitment Final Report**," or "**Postmarketing Commitment Correspondence**."

**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 to:

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

As required under 21 CFR 601.12(f)(4), 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**

You must submit adverse experience reports under the adverse experience reporting requirements for licensed biological products (21 CFR 600.80). You should submit postmarketing adverse experience reports to:

Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research  
Central Document Room  
5901-B Ammendale Road  
Beltsville, MD 20705-1266

Prominently identify all adverse experience reports as described in 21 CFR 600.80.

You must submit distribution reports under the distribution reporting requirements for licensed biological products (21 CFR 600.81).

You must submit reports of biological product deviations under 21 CFR 600.14. You should promptly identify and investigate all manufacturing deviations, including those associated with processing, testing, packing, labeling, storage, holding and distribution. If the deviation involves a distributed product, may affect the safety, purity, or potency of the product, and meets the other criteria in the regulation, you must submit a report on Form FDA-3486 to:

Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research  
Division of Compliance Risk Management and Surveillance  
5901-B Ammendale Road  
Beltsville, MD 20705-1266

Biological product deviations, sent by courier or overnight mail, should be addressed to:

Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research  
Division of Compliance Risk Management and Surveillance  
10903 New Hampshire Avenue, Bldg. 51, Room 4206  
Silver Spring, MD 20903

### **MEDWATCH-TO-MANUFACTURER PROGRAM**

The MedWatch-to-Manufacturer Program provides manufacturers with copies of serious adverse event reports that are received directly by the FDA. New molecular entities and important new biologics qualify for inclusion for three years after approval. Your firm is eligible to receive copies of reports for this product. To participate in the program, please see the enrollment instructions and program description details at <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/HowToReport/ucm166910.htm>.

### **POST APPROVAL FEEDBACK MEETING**

New molecular entities and new biologics qualify for a post approval feedback meeting. Such meetings are used to discuss the quality of the application and to evaluate the communication process during drug development and marketing application review. The purpose is to learn from successful aspects of the review process and to identify areas that could benefit from improvement. If you would like to have such a meeting with us, call the Regulatory Project Manager for this application.

### **PDUFA V APPLICANT INTERVIEW**

FDA has contracted with Eastern Research Group, Inc. (ERG) to conduct an independent interim and final assessment of the Program for Enhanced Review Transparency and Communication for NME NDAs and Original BLAs under PDUFA V ('the Program'). The PDUFA V Commitment Letter states that these assessments will include interviews with applicants following FDA action on applications reviewed in the Program. For this purpose, first-cycle actions include approvals, complete responses, and withdrawals after filing. The purpose of the interview is to better understand applicant experiences with the Program and its ability to improve transparency and communication during FDA review.

ERG will contact you to schedule a PDUFA V applicant interview and provide specifics about the interview process. Your responses during the interview will be confidential with respect to the FDA review team. ERG has signed a non-disclosure agreement and will not disclose any identifying information to anyone outside their project team. They will report only anonymized results and findings in the interim and final assessments. Members of the FDA review team will be interviewed by ERG separately. While your participation in the interview is voluntary, your feedback will be helpful to these assessments.

If you have any questions, call Nina Ton, Senior Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 796-1648.

Sincerely,

*{See appended electronic signature page}*

Mary H. Parks, MD  
Deputy Director  
Office of Drug Evaluation II  
Office of New Drugs  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

ENCLOSURES:

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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MARY H PARKS  
11/04/2015