LACHMAN CONSULTANT SERVICES, INC.

CONSULTANTS TO THE PHARMACEUTICAL AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES

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August 15, 2001

OVERNIGHT COURIER

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Dockets Management Branch Food and Drug Administration (HFA-305) Department of Health and Human Services 5630 Fishers Lane Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852 S 64 9

Citizen Petition

Dear Sir or Madam:

The undersigned submits this petition, in quadruplicate, pursuant to 21 CFR 10.30, and in accordance with the regulations at 21 CFR 314.93, on behalf of a client requesting the Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration to amend the "Approved Drug Products with Therapeutic Equivalence Evaluation" list (the "Orange Book"), 21st Edition, as outlined below.

A. Action Requested

The petitioner requests that the Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration amend the "Orange Book" to designate Pharmacia and Upjohn's product, NDA #08-697, Cortef Tablets (hydrocortisone) 5 mg, 10 mg, and 20 mg a second reference-listed drug product.

B. Statement of Grounds

The Food and Drug Administration maintains a list of drug products that are eligible for submission as abbreviated new drug applications. That list, referred to as the "Orange Book", contains all FDA approved drug products. The FDA has decided through the comment and rule-making process that it will designate all reference listed drug (RLD) products, and that the designated reference-listed drug products will be the same drug products selected by the Agency as the reference standard for bioequivalence testing for a duplicate generic version of the RLD (57 FR 17954). The FDA's intention in this regard was to designate a single reference listed drug against which all generic versions must be shown to be bioequivalent, and thus avoid possible variations among generic drugs and their brand name counterparts (57 FR 17954). For multiple-source NDA drug products or multiple source drug products without an NDA, the FDA has decided to generally designate the market leader as the reference-listed drug (57 FR 17958).

However, for multiple source drug products, a product **not** designated as the reference-listed drug and **not** shown to be bioequivalent to the designated reference listed drug product selected by the Agency may be shielded from direct generic competition. This is indeed the situation in regard to this request.

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In the current edition of the Orange Book (relevant page attached), there are five manufacturers listed for Hydrocortisone Tablets. Two of the manufacturers, Merck and Pharmacia / Upjohn, have approved NDAs for the product and three manufacturers hold ANDAs (approved prior to the Hatch-Waxman Act that required all generic products be bioequivalent to the RLD). The products are all rated BP in that they are considered to contain an active ingredient in a dosage form where there is a potential for causing a bioequivalence problem. None of the manufacturers have to date submitted in vivo data to support a showing of bioequivalence. The Agency on its own accord has designated NDA 08-506 held by Merck for Hydrocortone (hydrocortisone) Tablets as the reference listed drug product. Therefore, at this point in time, any ANDA applicant seeking approval of a hydrocortisone tablet product must cite the Merck product as the RLD and perform bioequivalence testing against the Merck product. This effectively shields the Pharmacia / Upjohn product from direct competition. The petitioner believes that the market share for Cortef is significant and against which it would like to compete.

Designation by the Agency of Cortef Tablets, 5 mg, 10 mg, and 20 mg, as a second reference-listed drug product in this situation will allow for generic competition in that currently protected market.

C. Environmental Impact

The petitioner claims a categorical exclusion under 21 CFR 25.31.

D. Economic Impact

The petitioner does not believe that this is applicable in this case, but will agree to provide such an analysis, if requested by the Agency.

E. Certification

The undersigned certifies, that to the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, this petition includes all information and views on which the petition relies, and that it includes representative data and information known to the petitioner that are unfavorable to the petition.

Respectfully submitted.

Robert, W. Pollock

Lachman Consultant Services, Inc.

1600 Stewart Avenue

Westbury, New York 11590

RWP/pk

Attachment: "Orange Book" Page No. 3-188

cc: L. Lachman

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Sollock

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				<u> </u>	IYDROCORTISONE			
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