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October 30, 2003

OVERNIGHT COURIER 10/30/03

Division of Dockets Management
Food and Drug Administration
Department of Health and Human Services
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

CITIZEN PETITION

The undersigned, on behalf of a client, submits this petition in quadruplicate under Section 505(j)(2)(C) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act ("the FDC Act"), 21 U.S.C. § 355(j)(2)(C), and 21 C.F.R. §§ 10.20, 10.30, and 314.93 to request that the Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration make a determination that an abbreviated new drug application (ANDA) may be submitted for the following drug product, Acetaminophen, Caffeine and Orphenadrine Citrate Tablets, in two strengths of 770 mg / 60 mg / 50 mg and 385 mg / 30 mg / 25 mg, respectively.

A. Action Requested

The petitioner requests that the Commissioner of Food and Drugs make a determination that an Acetaminophen, Caffeine and Orphenadrine Citrate Tablet combination drug product, in two strengths of 770 mg / 60 mg / 50 mg and 385 mg / 30 mg / 25 mg, is suitable for submission as an ANDA. The reference-listed drug product upon which this petition is based is NORGESIC FORTE® Tablets (aspirin, caffeine and orphenadrine citrate, 770 mg / 60 mg / 50 mg) NDA number 13-416 manufactured by 3M. It is also noted NORGESIC® Tablets, a one-half strength version of the above-referenced listed drug is also approved in the same NDA which contains aspirin, caffeine and orphenadrine citrate 385 mg / 30 mg / 25 mg. Therefore, this petition requests the substitution of an equipotent dose of one of the active ingredients for another of the same therapeutic class (i.e. 770 mg of Aspirin to 770 mg of Acetaminophen and 385 mg of Aspirin to 385 mg of acetaminophen) in the above-referenced combination products.

B. Statement of Grounds

Section 505(j)(2)(C) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act provides for the submission of an ANDA for a new drug that differs in active ingredient from a listed drug, provided that the FDA has approved a petition seeking permission to file such an application. This petition requests a change in one of the active ingredients of NORGESIC FORTE® and its half strength counterpart (Aspirin, Caffeine and Orphenadrine Citrate Tablets, 770 mg / 60 mg / 50 mg and 385 mg / 30 mg / 25 mg) from 770 mg and 385 mg Aspirin to an equipotent dose of Acetaminophen, 770 mg and 385 mg, respectively.

2003P-0505 CP 1

NORGESIC FORTE®, the designated reference listed drug product upon which this petition is based is manufactured by 3M. The listing of NORGESIC FORTE® (Aspirin, Caffeine and Orphenadrine Citrate Tablets, 770 mg / 60 mg / 50 mg) may be found on page 3-36 of the 23rd Edition of the *Approved Drug Products with Therapeutic Equivalence Evaluations* (commonly referred to as "The Orange Book"). Please see Attachment A.

The approved package insert for NORGESIC FORTE® (Aspirin, Caffeine and Orphenadrine Citrate Tablets, 770 mg / 60 mg / 50 mg) is included in Attachment B. The dosing and administration section of the approved labeling specifies a dose of one-half to one tablet of NORGESIC FORTE® to be taken 3 to 4 times a day. This dosing recommendation is consistent with the dosing for the full and half-strength approved product. The dosage for the proposed drug product, in two strengths, is identical to the dosage indicated in the approved labeling for the reference listed drug product. The maximum daily dose of acetaminophen will be 3080 mg for either of the proposed products (i.e. maximum of 4 tablets of the higher strength (4 x 770 mg) and 8 tablets of the lower strength [8 x 385 mg] per day). This is well below the total daily-recommended limit of 4000 mg for this component. Therefore, there should be no safety or efficacy concern regarding the substitution of acetaminophen for aspirin in the proposed drug product.

The proposed labeling for Acetaminophen, Caffeine and Orphenadrine Citrate Tablets, in two strengths of 770 mg / 60 mg / 50 mg and 385 mg / 30 mg / 25 mg, is included as Attachment C.

In further support of the substitution of equipotent doses of acetaminophen for aspirin, the petitioner references FDA's February 13, 2003 approval of Docket No. 02P-0297/CP1 wherein the Agency permitted a similar substitution of 389 mg equipotent does of acetaminophen for 389 mg of aspirin in a combination product. (See petition approval letter, Attachment D.)

In summary, the proposed substitution of an equipotent dose of one active ingredient for another of the same pharmacologic class in a fixed combination listed drug product will not affect the product's safety and efficacy. The indication remains unchanged and the proposed dosing is consistent with dosing recommendation in the approved labeling of the reference listed drug product. Therefore, the Agency should conclude that investigations are not necessary to demonstrate the proposed product's safety or effectiveness and grant the petition.

C. Environmental Impact

The petitioner claims a categorical exclusion under 21 C.F.R. 25.31.

D. Economic Impact Statement

According to 21 C.F.R. § 10.30(b), petitioner will, upon request by the Commissioner, submit economic impact information.

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, which are unfavorable to the petition.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Pollock

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RWP/pk

Attachments:

A. Page 3-36, Approved Drug Products with Therapeutic Equivalence Evaluations, 23rd Edition

B. NORGESIC FORTE® (Aspirin, Caffeine and Orphenadrine Citrate Tablets, 770 mg / 60 mg / 50 mg) Insert Labeling

C. Draft insert Labeling for Proposed Drug Product

D. Petition Approval Letter for Docket No. 02P-0297/CP1

cc: Martin Shimer (Office of Generic Drugs)

M24P3303