Food and Drug Administration Rockville, MD 20857

NDA 19-594/S-021

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation Attention: Ayanna J. Abadie, Pharm.D. One Health Plaza East Hanover, New Jersey 07936-1080

Dear Dr. Abadie:

We have received your supplemental new drug application submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Actigall® (ursodiol) Capsules dated January 30, 2002, received February 5, 2002.

This supplemental new drug application provides for the addition of a Geriatric Use subsection of the PRECAUTIONS section of the currently approved package insert.

We have completed the review of this application and have concluded that adequate information has been presented to demonstrate that the drug product is safe and effective for use as recommended in the agreed upon labeling text. Accordingly, this application is approved effective on the date of this letter.

The final printed labeling (FPL) must be identical to the submitted labeling (package insert submitted January 30, 2002).

Please submit 20 copies of the FPL as soon as it is available, in no case more than 30 days after it is printed. Please mount individually ten of the copies on heavy-weight paper or similar material. Alternatively, you may submit the FPL electronically according to the guidance for industry titled, *Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic Format – NDAs* (January 1999). For administrative purposes, this submission should be designated "FPL for approved supplement NDA 19-594/S-021". Approval of this submission by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.

If a letter communicating important information about this drug product (i.e., a "Dear Health Care Practitioner" letter) is issued to physicians and others responsible for patient care, we request that you submit a copy of the letter to this NDA and a copy to the following address:

MEDWATCH, HF-2 FDA 5600 Fishers Lane Rockville, MD 20857 We remind you that you must comply with the requirements for an approved NDA set forth under 21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81.

If you have any questions, call Brian Strongin, R.Ph., M.B.A., Regulatory Health Project Manager, at (301) 827-7310.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Victor F. C. Raczkowski, M.D., M.Sc. Acting Director Division of Gastrointestinal & Coagulation Drug Products Office of Drug Evaluation III Center for Drug Evaluation and Research This is a representation of an electronic record that was signed electronically and this page is the manifestation of the electronic signature.

/s/

\_\_\_\_\_\_

Joyce Korvick 8/14/02 02:09:54 PM for Victor Raczkowski