DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES Public Health Service

Food and Drug Administration
Rockville MD 20857

NDA 20-357/S-024
NDA 21-202/S-003

Bristol-Myers Squibb
Attention: Warren C. Randolph
Director, Regulatory Science
P.O. Box 4000
Princeton, NJ 08543-4000

Dear Mr. Randolph:

Please refer to your supplemental new drug applications dated July 30, 2001, received August 2, 2001, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Glucophage® (metformin hydrochloride)Tablets, and Glucophage® XR (metformin hydrochloride extended-release) Tablets.

These "Changes Being Effected in 30 days" supplemental new drug applications provide for changes to the **PRECAUTIONS** and **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION** sections of the package insert to include information that Glucophage XR should be swallowed whole, not crushed or chewed.

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

The final printed labeling (FPL) must be identical to the submitted draft labeling (package insert and patient package insert submitted July 30, 2001).

Please submit the copies of final printed labeling (FPL) electronically to each application according to the guidance for industry titled *Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic Format - NDA* (January 1999). Alternatively, you may submit 20 paper copies of the FPL as soon as it is available but no more than 30 days after it is printed. Please individually mount ten of the copies on heavy-weight paper or similar material. For administrative purposes, these submissions should be designated "FPL for approved supplements NDA 20-357/S-024, 21-202/S-003." Approval of these submissions 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 Professional" 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, please call Ms. Jena Weber, Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 827-6422.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

David G. Orloff, M.D.
Director
Division of Metabolic and Endocrine Drug Products
Office of Drug Evaluation II
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/

David Orloff

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