

Reese, Cicely

From: Brenda Pelton
Sent: Thursday, December 01, 2005 2:18 PM
To: Reese, Cicely
Subject: December 2 Meeting on the Skin Patch

Dr. Reese,

I will not be able to attend the hearing on December 2nd, but I would like to express my opinion on the skin patch as a parent of an 8-year-old son who has been diagnosed with ADHD. For the past 3 years he has been taking medication for his ADHD. We have seen the benefits of the medication, but there has been a level of frustration. Our son will not swallow the medication. We started by opening up the capsules and sprinkling the beads on food and then straight onto a spoon. He took the medication that way for a while but then he started resisting. He would have panic attacks over taking the medication. As a result, we had an extended period of very bad mornings and days at school. We even took him to Kennedy Krieger last year for sessions on learning how to swallow medications. After several sessions, he still was unable to swallow the medication. So we switched to another type of medication and for the past 6 months or so he has been chewing a short acting medication twice a day (focalin is not really meant to be chewed). Recently he has started resisting taking the medication because he states that it tastes bad. He is aware that a patch may be available shortly and he is so looking forward to using it. As a matter of fact, he asked me about it last week. We know and he knows that without the medication he does not have the ability to complete his school work. We just learned that our 5-year-old daughter is now showing signs of having attention issues at school.

My family would very much like to have the FDA's approval for the skin patch if the medication is safe for our children. I would like to know if the patch administers the correct and consistent dosage of medication. How is the medication received into the body? Where do you put the patch on the body? Will any harm occur to other parts or organs in the body?

Brenda L. Pelton, CPA