

ROUTING SLIP
GENERATED BY: HF-40
DATE: NOV 13, 2003

FDA CONTROL NUMBER: 03 5433

TRACER #: **OS #:** 1112030018

DATE OF CORRESPONDENCE: 10/27/03

DATE INTO FDA: 11/13/03

TO: TOMMY G THOMPSON, SECRETARY, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FROM: KEVIN MARCHMAN, NOAAH, NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN AMERICANS IN HOUSING

SYNOPSIS: EXPRESSES CONCERNS REGARDING THE INAPPROPRIATE FORCED SWITCH OF RX DRUGS TO OTC STATUS. FORWARDS A 06.12.03 LETTER FROM KWEISI MFUME (PRESIDENT/CEO NAACP) THAT SUPPORTS THE POSITION OF THE NOAAH. REFERENCE DOCKET #S 98P-0610 & 02P-0163.

LEAD OFFICE: HF-40

HOME OFFICE: HF-40

CONTACT/PHONE#: CAPRI R MCCLENDON 301-827-5903

COPIES: GENERAL DISTRIBUTION

- HF-1 MARK B MCCLELLAN
- HF-2 LESTER M CRAWFORD
- HF-3 MURRAY M LUMPKIN
- HF-10 PETER PITTS
- HF-10 MARY L REUTHER
- HF-40 LA JUANA D CALDWELL
- HF-40 ELIZABETH A CLARKE

COORDINATION: HFD-1
HFA-305

SIGNATURE REQUIRED:

REFERRALS FROM HF-40

ASSIGNED TO	ACTION	DUE DATE
----- HF-40 OSBORNEW	----- PREPARE DIRECT REPLY	----- 11/26/03
REMARKS: PLEASE FORWARD COPY OF RESPONSE TO CAPRI MCCLENDON AT HF-40. THANK YOU.		

Secretary's Correspondence

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

From: Kevin Marchman *OS#:* 111220030018
Organization: NOAAH National
Organization of African Americans i *Date on Letter:* 10/27/03
City/State: Washington DC *Date Received:* 11/12/03
On Behalf Of: *Type:* General Public
Subject: re. 102820030023. Forwards concerns regarding forced over-the-counter switching of prescription drugs

Assigned to: FDA *Dep.ES:* Dick Eisinger
PC: Tom Kuchenberg *Date Assigned:* 11/12/03
Action Required: Direct Reply *Date Reassigned:*
Reply Due Date: 11/26/03

Info Copies To: SWIFT, CMS

Interim (YIN): No *Date Interim Sent:*

Comments:

File Index: PO-4-5 *CCC:* Elaine Gross

03 5433



NOAAH
National Organization of
African Americans in Housing

The Advocate for All People of Color

October 27, 2003

The Honorable Tommy Thompson
US Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201


Dear Secretary Thompson:

The National Organization for African-Americans in Housing has recently undertaken an outreach campaign to other advocacy organizations to educate them about our concerns related to forced over-the-counter switching of prescription drugs. We recently sent your office a letter on this topic, and have previously commented on a pending petition before the Food and Drug Administration (dockets # 98P-0610 & 02P-0163).

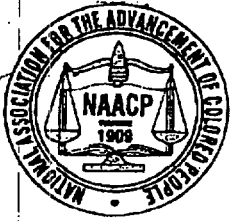
As a result of our efforts, we received the attached letter from Kweisi Mfume, president and chief executive officer of the NAACP, in which that organization shows its support for our campaign to halt the inappropriate switching of these drugs. We hope that if your office continues to consider the petition that due regard will be afforded the comments included.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,


Kevin Marchman
Executive Director
Ph: (202) 544-1058
Fx: (202) 544-1059
Email: kevinmarchman@noaah.org

Attached: NAACP letter to NOAAH



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
4805 MT. HOPE DRIVE • BALTIMORE, MD 21215-3297 • (410) 358-8900

*** RECEIVED ***
Nov 12 2003 08:54:58 WS# 06
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE
CONTROL CENTER

KWEISI MFUME
President & Chief Executive Officer

June 12, 2003

Kevin Marchman
Executive Director
NOAAH
507 Capitol Court, NE
Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002

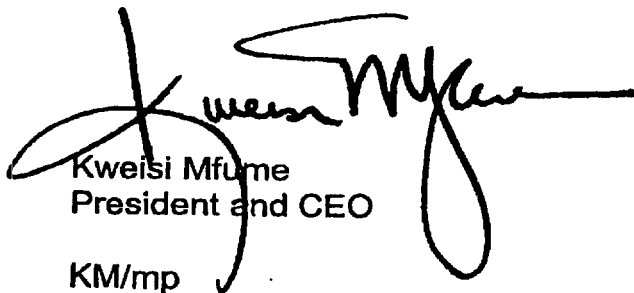
Dear Mr. Marchman:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding over the counter drugs. Please know that the NAACP understands your concerns.

I have already spoken with Willarda Edwards, M.D., Director of the NAACP National Health Advocacy Division, regarding the issues you raised. We are in complete agreement and totally support your position. I will certainly speak on this issue at every available opportunity, and Dr. Edwards has incorporated it into the NAACP health advocacy agenda. Thank you again for sharing this information and for your own dedicated efforts.

With best wishes for the future and warm personal regards, I am,

Sincerely,



Kweisi Mfume
President and CEO

KM/mp

cc: Willarda V. Edwards, M.D.