



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Food and Drug Administration
Rockville, MD 20857

NDA 20-983

12/31/01

GlaxoWellcome, Inc.
Five Moore Drive
P.O. Box 13398
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Attention: C. Elaine Jones, Ph.D.
Director, Regulatory Affairs

WRITTEN REQUEST

Dear Dr. Jones:

Please refer to your new drug application (NDA) dated June 30, 1998, approved April 19, 2001, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Ventolin HFA (albuterol sulfate) metered dose inhaler.

We acknowledge receipt of your submission dated August 15, 2001. This submission provided a proposal for pediatric studies.

To obtain needed pediatric information on albuterol sulfate, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is hereby making a formal Written Request, pursuant to Section 505A of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the Act) that you submit information from the following studies:

Type of Studies:

Before starting the clinical program, characterize the dose delivery from the inhaler with two different U.S.-marketed spacers with *in vitro* studies to determine the optimum doses for the clinical studies.

Study 1: Safety and efficacy of Ventolin HFA for treatment of obstructive airway disease in children from 2 to <4 years.

Study 2: Safety and efficacy of Ventolin HFA for treatment of obstructive airway disease in children from birth to <2 years.

Study 3: Safety and efficacy of cumulative dose administration of albuterol sulfate inhalation solution for the treatment of obstructive airway disease in children from birth to <2 years.

Objective/Rationale:

Study 1: Assess the safety and efficacy of Ventolin HFA delivered with facemask and two different spacers in children with obstructive airway disease between the ages of 2 to <4 years.

Study 2: Assess the safety and efficacy of Ventolin HFA delivered with facemask and two different spacers in children with obstructive airway disease between the ages of birth to <2 years.

Study 3: Assess the safety and efficacy of cumulative dose administration of albuterol sulfate inhalation solution delivered via nebulization in children with obstructive airway disease from birth to <2 years of age.

Indications to be Studied:

Studies 1 – 3: Treatment and prevention of bronchospasm in children from birth to <4 years of age with obstructive airway disease.

Study Design:

Studies 1 and 2: The studies must be randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, and parallel-group design. Evaluate two doses of Ventolin HFA, and placebo in each study. In Study 1 evaluate a dose of Ventolin HFA emitted from the spacer's mouthpiece that is deemed comparable to the adult dose of Ventolin HFA, and a lower dose. The results of Study 1 and *in vitro* data will guide you in selecting the two Ventolin HFA doses for Study 2. The study medication should be administered to all patients on a fixed schedule, either three times daily or four times daily. Treat patients for at least 4 weeks. The use of rescue inhaled or systemic corticosteroids, additional doses of beta₂-agonists, and discontinuation due to worsening respiratory symptoms should be allowed and tracked as part of the study design.

Study 3: The study must be a randomized, double-blind, parallel-group design with at least two treatment arms: albuterol 0.63mg and albuterol 1.25mg. Administer the dose cumulatively every 20 minutes for the first hour, and then hourly for the next 2 hours. Indicate in the protocol that patients who do not clinically require further dosing after any dose may be excluded from further treatment. However, enrollment must be sufficient to ensure that at least 30 patients per treatment arm complete the entire 3-hour treatment period.

Age Groups to be Studied:

Study 1: Patients between the ages of 2 and <4 years. Approximately half of the study patients in each treatment group must be below 3 years of age.

Studies 2 and 3: Patients between the ages of birth and <2 years. A reasonable number of patients below 1 year of age, including neonates, must complete the study.

Number of Patients to be Studied:

Studies 1 and 2: A minimum of 20 patients per arm per study must complete the studies. Approximately one-half of the study patients in each arm must use one type of U.S.-marketed spacer and mask, and the other half must use a different type of U.S.-marketed spacer and mask.

Study 3: A minimum of 30 patients per arm must complete the study.

Entry Criteria:

Study 1: Children between the ages of 2 to <4 years who are suitable candidates for chronic bronchodilator treatment.

Study 2: Children between the ages of birth to <2 years who are suitable candidates for chronic bronchodilator treatment.

Study 3: Children between the ages of birth to <2 years experiencing acute bronchospasm.

Clinical Endpoints:

Studies 1 and 2: The primary efficacy endpoint must include a parental scoring of asthma symptoms, such as wheeze, dyspnea, tightness in the chest, and cough. Other efficacy parameters must include use of rescue medications and treatment failures. The safety assessment must include adverse events (especially assessment of signs and symptoms of adrenergic stimulation), vital signs, ECGs (including measurement of QTc interval), and laboratory tests for blood glucose and serum potassium levels. In study 1, attempt to measure peak expiratory flow rate as an efficacy endpoint.

Study 3: The primary efficacy endpoint must include clinical scoring of asthma symptoms. The safety assessment must include adverse events (especially signs and symptoms of adrenergic stimulation), vital signs, physical examination, continuous ECG monitoring, and laboratory tests for blood glucose and serum potassium levels.

Study Evaluations:

Studies 1 and 2: Measure the primary efficacy assessment at baseline and daily throughout the study. Instruct parents or caregivers to record asthma symptoms, adverse events, and assessment of adrenergic stimulation daily on diary cards. Conduct clinic visits approximately weekly. During clinic visits, record vital signs, assess for adverse experience, assess for adrenergic stimulation, and perform physical examinations. Perform ECGs (including QTc interval) or 24-hour Holter monitoring at the first dosing visit and at a visit toward the end of the treatment period. At both of these visits, ECGs should be performed pre-dose and post-dose, at the expected T_{max} . Perform clinical laboratory measures for blood glucose and serum potassium at baseline and at the end of the treatment period (at the approximate time of expected maximal effect following dosing). Laboratory assessment within 3 months of baseline will be acceptable for the baseline assessment. The primary efficacy variable must be a comparison between active treatment and placebo on the mean change in asthma symptom scores from baseline to the end of the study. In study 1, attempt to record peak expiratory flow rate twice daily in patients able to do this maneuver.

Study 3: The primary objective of this study is the safety assessment of cumulative doses of albuterol sulfate when used in an acute bronchodilation setting. Record vital signs, assess adverse events, and assess for adrenergic stimulation after each dose. Perform physical examinations and clinical laboratory measures for blood glucose and serum potassium at baseline and at the end of the treatment period. Perform continuous ECG monitoring during the entire treatment period. The efficacy endpoint (*i.e.* asthma symptom scores) should also be determined during the period of cumulative dosing. Compare the two doses in terms of percent improvement from baseline in asthma symptoms scoring after cumulative dosing.

Drug Information:

Studies 1 and 2: Use Ventolin HFA in conjunction with two different U.S.-marketed spacers. The spacers must not replace the actuator of the inhaler. Approximately one-half of the patients in studies 1 and 2 must use one kind of spacer, and the other half must use a different kind of spacer. Use facemasks with spacers in all the studies.

Study 3: Use albuterol sulfate inhalation solution via a single type of U.S.-marketed nebulizer. Facemasks attached to the nebulizer may be utilized as needed.

Safety Concerns:

The safety of albuterol sulfate in patients between birth to <2 years is unknown. Other than pharmacologically related adverse effects, such as tremors, no unique adverse events are anticipated.

Statistical Information:

Studies 1 and 2: Analyze the data by analysis of variance or by an appropriate statistical test for the data.

Study 3: Analyze the efficacy data by analysis of variance or by an appropriate statistical test for the data. Describe the number of patients per treatment group that did not require full cumulative treatment. Perform summary statistics for the safety parameters.

Labeling That May Result from the Studies:

Appropriate sections of the label may be changed to incorporate the findings of the studies.

Format of Reports to be Submitted:

Full study reports addressing the issues outlined in this request with full analysis, assessment, and interpretation must be submitted to the Agency.

Timeframe:

Full study reports of the above studies must be submitted to the Agency on or before December 31, 2005. Please remember that pediatric exclusivity only attaches to existing patent protection or exclusivity that has not expired at the time you submit your reports of studies in response to this Written Request.

Please submit protocols for the above studies to an investigational new drug application (IND) and clearly mark your submission "**PEDIATRIC PROTOCOL SUBMITTED FOR PEDIATRIC EXCLUSIVITY STUDY**" in large font, bolded type at the beginning of the cover letter of the submission. Please notify us as soon as possible if you wish to enter into a written agreement by submitting a proposed written agreement. Clearly mark your submission "**PROPOSED WRITTEN AGREEMENT FOR PEDIATRIC STUDIES**" in large font, bolded type at the beginning of the cover letter of the submission.

Reports of the studies should be submitted as a supplement to your approved NDA with the proposed labeling changes you believe would be warranted based on the data derived from these studies. When submitting the reports, please clearly mark your submission **“SUBMISSION OF PEDIATRIC STUDY REPORTS – PEDIATRIC EXCLUSIVITY DETERMINATION REQUESTED”** in large font, bolded type at the beginning of the cover letter of the submission and include a copy of this letter. Please also send a copy of the cover letter of your submission, via fax (301-594-0183) or messenger to the Director, Office of Generic Drugs, HFD-600, Metro Park North II, 7500 Standish Place, Rockville, MD 20855-2773.

If you wish to discuss any amendments to this Written Request, please submit proposed changes and the reasons for the proposed changes to your application. Submissions of proposed changes to this request should be clearly marked **“PROPOSED CHANGES IN WRITTEN REQUEST FOR PEDIATRIC STUDIES”** in large font, bolded type at the beginning of the cover letter of the submission. You will be notified in writing if any changes to this Written Request are agreed upon by the Agency.

We hope you will fulfill this pediatric study request. We look forward to working with you on this matter in order to develop additional pediatric information that may produce health benefits in the pediatric population.

If you have any questions, call Dr. Craig Ostroff, Regulatory Management Officer, at (301) 827-5585.

Sincerely yours,

{See appended electronic signature page}

John K. Jenkins, M.D., F.C.C.P.
Director
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/

John Jenkins

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