DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Food and Drug Administration
Rockville, MD 20857

NDA 19-845/S-017

Alcon Laboratories, Inc.
c/o Alcon Research, Ltd.
Attn: Norma J. Schafer
Regulatory Affairs Analyst
6201 South Freeway
Fort Worth, Texas 76134-2099

Dear Ms. Schafer:

Please refer to your supplemental new drug application dated November 1, 2002, received November 4, 2002, submitted under of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Betoptic S® (betaxolol HCl ophthalmic suspension), 0.25%.

This "Changes Being Effected" supplemental new drug application provides for a Geriatric Use subsection under the **PRECAUTIONS** section and minor changes to the product package insert.

We have completed our review of this application. This application is approved, effective on the date of this letter, for use as recommended in the FPL submitted November 1, 2002. You are reminded that the typographical error in the **CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY** section of the package insert must be corrected with respect to the product name.

If a future supplement is submitted, the following revisions should be made:

1. The pH and osmolality should be added to the **DESCRIPTION** section of the package insert.
2. The **HOW SUPPLIED** section should be revised to include the type of plastic and color of the bottle, tip, and cap. The fill and container size should also be included. The storage statement should be revised to state, "Store at 15º to 25ºC (59º-77ºF)."

If you issue a letter communicating important information about this drug product (i.e., a "Dear Health Care Professional" letter), 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 reporting requirements for an approved NDA (21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81).

If you have any questions, call Mike Puglisi, Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 827-2090.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Wiley A. Chambers, M.D.
Deputy Director
Division of Anti-Inflammatory, Analgesic, and
Ophthalmic Drug Products, HFD-550
Office of Drug Evaluation V
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Enclosure

This is a representation of an electronic record that was signed electronically and this page is the manifestation of the electronic signature.

/s/

Wiley Chambers

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