DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Food and Drug Administration
Rockville, MD 20857

NDA 20-262/S-041

Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
P.O. Box 4000
Princeton, NJ 08543-4000

Attention: Steven J. Knapp
Executive Director, Life Cycle Management

Dear Mr. Knapp:

Please refer to your supplemental new drug application dated March 21, 2002, received March 22, 2002, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Taxol® (paclitaxel) Injection.

We also refer to your November 22, 2002, and February 13, 2003, amendments received by electronic mail on November 22, 2002, and February 13, 2003, respectively.

This supplemental new drug application provides for changes to the labeling in response to the following Phase 4 commitment from the approval of supplement 022:

> "In humans, a significant amount of paclitaxel (about 70%) is eliminated in feces and only about 14% in urine. Only 5% of the recovered radioactivity in the feces represented paclitaxel. This indicates extensive metabolism of paclitaxel, presumably by the liver. As agreed in your July 11, 1997 submission and your July 22, 1997 correspondence, you will complete a study to address the effect of hepatic impairment on paclitaxel pharmacokinetics; the final data from this study will be provided, within one year, for FDA review to address this Phase 4 request and to support labeling revisions as appropriate."

We completed our review of this application, as amended. This application is approved, effective on the date of this letter, for use as recommended in the submitted labeling text and with the minor editorial revision listed below.

> In **Table 17: Recommendations for Dosing in Patients with Hepatic Impairment Based on Clinical Trial Data**, please add a footnote to the table to indicate that the recommendations in the table are based on dosages for patients without hepatic impairment of 135 mg/m^2 over 24 hours or 175 mg/m^2 over 3 hours and that data are not available to make dose adjustment recommendations for other regimens (e.g., for AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma).

The final printed labeling (FPL) must be identical, and include the minor editorial revision indicated, to the submitted labeling (package insert and patient package insert submitted November 22, 2002). These revisions are terms of the approval of this application.

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 Christy Cottrell, Consumer Safety Officer, at (301) 594-5761.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Richard Pazdur, M.D.
Director
Division of Oncology Drug Products
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/

Richard Pazdur

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