CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH

Approval Package for:

APPLICATION NUMBER:

NDA 20-699/S-043

Name:	Effexor XR Extended-Release Capsules
Generic Name:	venlafaxine hydrochloride
Sponsor:	Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Inc.
Approval Date:	09/02/03

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APPLICATION NUMBER:

NDA 20-699/S-043

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APPLICATION NUMBER:

NDA 20-699/S-043

APPROVAL LETTER

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES Public Health Service

Food and Drug Administration
Rockville MD 20857

NDA 20-699/S-038/S-043

Wyeth Pharmaceuticals
Attention: Tracy D. Rockney, JD
Director, Global Brand Management
Worldwide Regulatory Affairs
P.O. Box 8299
Philadelphia, PA 19101-1245

Dear Ms. Rockney:

Please refer to the your supplemental new drug applications dated March 7, 2003 (S-043), and April 16, 2003 (S-038), submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Effexor XR (venlafaxine hydrochloride) Extended Release 37.5 mg, 75 mg, and 150 mg Capsules.

The above submissions, submitted as "Changes Being Effected" supplemental applications, provide for the following revisions to labeling:

S-043

- This supplement provides for revisions to the Effexor XR Patient Brief Summary to add the new indication of social anxiety disorder which was approved in an Agency letter dated February 11, 2003 under S-022 as well as the addition of the term "palpitation" under the list of most common side effects.

S-038

- This supplement provides for revisions to the Effexor XR Patient Brief Summary to add the term "seizures" to the list of discontinuation symptoms.

We have completed the review of these supplemental applications, and have concluded that adequate information has been presented to demonstrate that the drug product is safe and effective for use as recommended in the submitted final printed labeling. Accordingly, these supplemental applications are approved effective on the date of this letter.

If a letter communicating important information about this drug product (i.e., a "Dear Health Care Practitioner" letter) is issued to physicians and others responsible for patient care, 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 the requirements for an approved NDA set forth under 21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, call Mr. Paul David, R.Ph., Senior Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 594-5530.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Russell Katz, M.D.
Director
Division of Neuropharmacological Drug Products
Office of Drug Evaluation I
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

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/s/

Russell Katz
9/2/03 04:48:00 PM

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APPLICATION NUMBER:

NDA 20-699/S-043

MEDICAL REVIEW(S)

Review and Evaluation of Clinical Data
NDA #20-699

Sponsor:	Wyeth
Drug:	Effexor XR (venlafaxine HCl extended-release capsules)
Indications:	MDD, GAD, SAD
Material Submitted:	Special Supplement - CBE SLR-043
Correspondence Date:	March 7, 2003
Date Received:	March 10, 2003

I. Background

Wyeth had submitted this CBE labeling supplement to amend the Effexor XR Patient Brief Summary which was approved on 2-26-03 (under NDA 20-699/S-032). Changes are reviewed below.

II. Changes to the Effexor XR Patient Brief Summary

The sponsor has proposed the following changes:

- under the heading **What is Effexor XR?**, the sponsor has added the recently approved indication of Social Anxiety Disorder (approved 2-11-03 under NDA 20-699/S-022).
- a new section describing the nature of Social Anxiety Disorder has been added to follow the analogous descriptions of depression and generalized anxiety disorder.
- under the heading **What are the possible side effects of Effexor XR?**, the adverse event term "palpitation" has been added. Although this event was not considered a common, drug-related event in short-term, placebo-controlled study pools for any of the approved indications (i.e., reported in at least 5% of Effexor XR patients at an incidence at least twice that in the placebo group), it is listed in the 2% AE Table for Social Anxiety Disorder (reported in 3% of Effexor XR and 1% of placebo patients) in Effexor XR approved labeling.

III. Conclusions and Recommendations

These changes were previously reviewed under another CBE supplement to this NDA and found to be acceptable (please see SLR-038 which was submitted on 4-16-03 and my clinical review of that supplement dated 8-7-03).

It is recommended that this supplement be approved.

Gregory M. Dubitsky, M.D.
August 25, 2003

cc: NDA #20-699
HFD-120 (Div. File)
HFD-120/GDubitsky
/TLaughren
/PAndreason
/PDavid

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/s/

Greg Dubitsky
8/25/03 12:59:06 PM
MEDICAL OFFICER

Thomas Laughren
8/25/03 01:14:05 PM
MEDICAL OFFICER

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APPLICATION NUMBER:

NDA 20-699/S-043

ADMINISTRATIVE and CORRESPONDENCE DOCUMENTS

REGULATORY PROJECT MANAGER
LABELING REVIEW

Drug: Effexor XR (venlafaxine hydrochloride) Extended Release 37.5 mg, 75 mg, and 150 mg Capsules
NDA: 20-699
Sponsor: Wyeth
Indication: Major Depressive Disorder (MDD)/Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD)/Social Anxiety Disorder (SAD)
Supplements:

NDA	Supplement	Dated	Action
Effexor XR (venlafaxine hydrochloride) Extended Release 37.5 mg, 75 mg, and 150 mg Capsules			
20-699	SLR-032	11-21-02, and amended on 1-23-03	AP letter dated 2-26-03
20-699	SLR-043	3-7-03	Open
20-699	SLR-038	4-16-03	Open

Notes of Interest

- The Agency approved an Effexor XR Patient Brief Summary in an action letter dated 2-11-03 (SLR-032).

Review

20-699/SLR-043
Dated: 3-7-03
CBE: Yes
Label Code: N/A
Reviewed by Medical Officer: Yes, Acceptable

- This supplement provides for revisions to the Effexor XR Patient Brief Summary to add the new indication of social anxiety disorder which was approved in an Agency letter dated 2-11-03 under SE1-022 as well as the addition of the term "palpitation" under the list of most common side effects.

20-699/SLR-038
Dated: 4-16-03
CBE: Yes
Label Code: N/A
Reviewed by Medical Officer: Yes, Acceptable

- This supplement provides for revisions to the Effexor XR Patient Brief Summary to add the term "seizures" to the list of discontinuation symptoms.

Conclusions

1. I compared the last approved Effexor XR Patient Brief Summary (approval letter dated 2-26-03) to the revisions proposed by the sponsor, and there were no other changes than those noted above.

2. The medical officer finds the revisions to the Patient Brief Summary acceptable.

3. I recommend that an approval letter issue.

{See appended electronic signature page}

Paul David, R.Ph., Senior Regulatory Health Project Manager

{See appended electronic signature page}

Robbin Nighswander, R.Ph., Supervisory Regulatory Health Project Manager

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/s/

Paul David
8/27/03 11:49:55 AM
CSO

Robbin Nighswander
8/27/03 12:01:24 PM
CSO