DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Food and Drug Administration
Rockville, MD 20857

NDA 20-766/S-026

Hoffmann-La Roche, Inc.
Attention: Margaret J. Jack
Program Director
340 Kingsland Street
Nutley, NJ 07110-1199

Dear Ms. Jack:

Please refer to your supplemental new drug application dated August 11, 2008, received August 12, 2008, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Xenical (orlistat) Capsules, 120 mg.

We acknowledge receipt of your submission dated January 22, 2009.

This "Changes Being Effected" supplemental new drug application provides for incorporation of the following new information into the package insert (PI) and patient package insert (PPI) regarding a potentially important drug-drug interaction between Xenical and levothyroxine.

Package Insert

- To the **PRECAUTIONS** section, **Drug Interactions** subsection, the following was added:

  Levothyroxine

  Hypothyroidism has been reported in patients treated concomitantly with orlistat and levothyroxine postmarketing (see **ADVERSE REACTIONS: Other Clinical Studies or Postmarketing Surveillance**). Patients treated concomitantly with orlistat and levothyroxine should be monitored for changes in thyroid function. Administer levothyroxine and orlistat at least 4 hours apart.

- To the **ADVERSE REACTIONS** section, **Other Clinical Studies or Postmarketing Surveillance** subsection, the following sentence was added:

  Hypothyroidism has been reported in patients treated concomitantly with orlistat and levothyroxine.

- To the **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION** section, the following was added:

  For patients receiving both orlistat and levothyroxine therapy, administer levothyroxine and orlistat at least 4 hours apart.

Patient Package Insert

- **To the section titled, "What should I tell my doctor before taking XENICAL?** Before beginning treatment with XENICAL, make sure your doctor knows if you are:"
  - "Taking thyroid medicine" has been added.

- **To the section titled, "Can I take XENICAL while taking other medications?"**
  - **"**If you are taking levothyroxine, XENICAL and levothyroxine should be taken at least 4 hours apart." has been added.

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 agreed-upon labeling text.

We note that your January 22, 2009, submission included content of labeling in the structured product labeling (SPL) format.

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
Food and Drug Administration
Suite 12B05
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 Patricia Madara, Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 796-1249.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Mary H. Parks, M.D.
Director
Division of Metabolism and Endocrinology Products
Office of Drug Evaluation II
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Enclosure: package insert
patient information

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

/s/

Eric Colman
2/11/2009 03:02:15 PM
Eric Colman for Mary Parks