



BLA 125514/S-160

SUPPLEMENT APPROVAL

Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC
Attention: Corina Nolasco, MSc, MBA
Director, Global Regulatory Affairs
126 East Lincoln Ave
Rahway, NJ 07065

Dear Corina Nolasco:

Please refer to your supplemental biologics license application (sBLA), dated March 1, 2024, received March 1, 2024, submitted under section 351(a) of the Public Health Service Act for Keytruda (pembrolizumab) injection.

We also refer to our letter dated February 1, 2024, notifying you, under Section 505(o)(4) of the FDCA, of new safety information that pertains to the risk of transplant (including corneal graft) rejection, that we have determined should be included in the labeling for the class of immune checkpoint inhibitors.

This supplemental biologics license application provides for revisions to the labeling for Keytruda (pembrolizumab), consistent with our February 1, 2024, Safety Labeling Change Notification Letter. Corresponding revisions were made to Section 17 Patient Counseling Information and the Medication Guide was revised to reflect the changes in the Full Prescribing Information.

APPROVAL & LABELING

We have completed our review of this application. It is approved, effective on the date of this letter, for use as recommended in the enclosed agreed-upon labeling.

WAIVER OF HIGHLIGHTS ½ PAGE LENGTH REQUIREMENT FOR HIGHLIGHTS

Please note that we have previously granted a waiver of the requirements of 21 CFR 201.57(d)(8) regarding the length of Highlights of Prescribing Information.

CONTENT OF LABELING

As soon as possible, but no later than 14 days from the date of this letter, submit, via the FDA automated drug registration and listing system (eLIST), the content of labeling [21 CFR 601.14(b)] in structured product labeling (SPL) format, as described at

FDA.gov,¹ that is identical to the enclosed labeling (text for the Prescribing Information and Medication Guide) and include the labeling changes proposed in any pending “Changes Being Effectuated” (CBE) supplements. If the content of labeling in SPL format initially submitted with this CBE-0 labeling supplement is identical to the attached approved labeling, an additional submission of content of labeling in SPL format is not required.

Information on submitting SPL files using eLIST may be found in the guidance for industry *SPL Standard for Content of Labeling Technical Qs and As*.²

The SPL will be accessible via publicly available labeling repositories.

Also within 14 days, amend all pending supplemental applications that include labeling changes for this BLA, including pending “Changes Being Effectuated” (CBE) supplements, for which FDA has not yet issued an action letter, with the content of labeling [21 CFR 601.12(f)] in Microsoft Word format that includes the changes approved in this supplemental application, as well as annual reportable changes. To facilitate review of your submission(s), provide a highlighted or marked-up copy that shows all changes, as well as a clean Microsoft Word version. The marked-up copy should provide appropriate annotations, including supplement number(s) and annual report date(s).

REQUIRED PEDIATRIC ASSESSMENTS

Under the Pediatric Research Equity Act (PREA) (21 U.S.C. 355c), all applications for new active ingredients (which includes new salts and new fixed combinations), new indications, new dosage forms, new dosing regimens, or new routes of administration are required to contain an assessment of the safety and effectiveness of the product for the claimed indication(s) in pediatric patients unless this requirement is waived, deferred, or inapplicable.

Because none of these criteria apply to your application, you are exempt from this requirement.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

You may request advisory comments on proposed introductory advertising and promotional labeling. For information about submitting promotional materials, see the final guidance for industry *Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic and Non-Electronic Format—Promotional Labeling and Advertising Materials for Human Prescription Drugs*.³

¹ <http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/DataStandards/StructuredProductLabeling/default.htm>

² We update guidances periodically. For the most recent version of a guidance, check the FDA Guidance Documents Database <https://www.fda.gov/RegulatoryInformation/Guidances/default.htm>.

³ For the most recent version of a guidance, check the FDA guidance web page at <https://www.fda.gov/media/128163/download>.

As required under 21 CFR 601.12(f)(4), you must submit final promotional materials, and the Prescribing Information, at the time of initial dissemination or publication, accompanied by a Form FDA 2253. Form FDA 2253 is available at FDA.gov.⁴ Information and Instructions for completing the form can be found at FDA.gov.⁵

All promotional materials for your drug product that include representations about your drug product must be promptly revised to make it consistent with the labeling changes approved in this supplement, including any new safety-related information [21 CFR 601.12(a)(4)]. The revisions to your promotional materials should include prominent disclosure of the important new safety-related information that appears in the revised labeling. Within 7 days of receipt of this letter, submit your statement of intent to comply with 21 CFR 601.12(a)(4).

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

We remind you that you must comply with reporting requirements for an approved BLA (in 21 CFR 600.80 and in 21 CFR 600.81).

If you have any questions, contact Kelly Chiang, Safety Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 796-5822 or Kelly.Chiang@fda.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

{See appended electronic signature page}

Abhilasha Nair, M.D.
Supervisory Associate Director for Safety
Office of Oncologic Diseases
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

ENCLOSURE(S):

- Content of Labeling
 - Prescribing Information
 - Medication Guide

⁴ <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/AboutFDA/ReportsManualsForms/Forms/UCM083570.pdf>

⁵ <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/AboutFDA/ReportsManualsForms/Forms/UCM375154.pdf>

This is a representation of an electronic record that was signed electronically. Following this are manifestations of any and all electronic signatures for this electronic record.

/s/

ABHILASHA NAIR
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