

DDM
Display Date 11-14-08
Publication Date 11-17-08
Case # 5855

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA-2008-E-0111]

Determination of Regulatory Review Period for Purposes of Patent Extension; SOMATULINE
DEPOT

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has determined the regulatory review period for SOMATULINE DEPOT and is publishing this notice of that determination as required by law. FDA has made the determination because of the submission of an application to the Director of Patents and Trademarks, Department of Commerce, for the extension of a patent which claims that human drug product.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments and petitions to the Division of Dockets Management (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. Submit electronic comments to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Beverly Friedman,
Office of Regulatory Policy,
Food and Drug Administration,
10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 51, rm. 6222,
Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002,
301-796-3602.

FDA 2008.E.0111

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Drug Price Competition and Patent Term Restoration Act of 1984 (Public Law 98-417) and the Generic Animal Drug and Patent Term Restoration Act (Public Law 100-670) generally provide that a patent may be extended for a period of up to 5 years so long as the patented item (human drug product, animal drug product, medical device, food additive, or color additive) was subject to regulatory review by FDA before the item was marketed. Under these acts, a product's regulatory review period forms the basis for determining the amount of extension an applicant may receive.

A regulatory review period consists of two periods of time: A testing phase and an approval phase. For human drug products, the testing phase begins when the exemption to permit the clinical investigations of the drug becomes effective and runs until the approval phase begins. The approval phase starts with the initial submission of an application to market the human drug product and continues until FDA grants permission to market the drug product. Although only a portion of a regulatory review period may count toward the actual amount of extension that the Director of Patents and Trademarks may award (for example, half the testing phase must be subtracted as well as any time that may have occurred before the patent was issued), FDA's determination of the length of a regulatory review period for a human drug product will include all of the testing phase and approval phase as specified in 35 U.S.C. 156(g)(1)(B).

FDA recently approved for marketing the human drug product SOMATULINE DEPOT (lanreotide). SOMATULINE DEPOT is indicated for the long-term treatment of acromegalic patients who have had an inadequate response to or cannot be treated with surgery and/or radiotherapy. Subsequent to this approval, the Patent and Trademark Office received a patent term restoration application for SOMATULINE DEPOT (U.S. Patent No. 5,595,760) from

Society De Conseils De Recherches Et D' Applications Scientifiques, and the Patent and Trademark Office requested FDA's assistance in determining this patent's eligibility for patent term restoration. In a letter dated April 22, 2008, FDA advised the Patent and Trademark Office that this human drug product had undergone a regulatory review period and that the approval of SOMATULINE DEPOT represented the first permitted commercial marketing or use of the product. Shortly thereafter, the Patent and Trademark Office requested that FDA determine the product's regulatory review period.

FDA has determined that the applicable regulatory review period for SOMATULINE DEPOT is 3,629 days. Of this time, 3,324 days occurred during the testing phase of the regulatory review period, while 305 days occurred during the approval phase. These periods of time were derived from the following dates:

1. The date an exemption under section 505(i) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the act) (21 U.S.C. 355) became effective: September 24, 1997. FDA has verified the applicant's claim that the date the investigational new drug application became effective was on September 24, 1997.

2. The date the application was initially submitted with respect to the human drug product under section 505(b) of the act: October 30, 2006. FDA has verified the applicant's claim that the new drug application (NDA) for SOMATULINE DEPOT (NDA 22-074) was initially submitted on October 30, 2006.

3. The date the application was approved: August 30, 2007. FDA has verified the applicant's claim that NDA 22-074 was approved on August 30, 2007.

This determination of the regulatory review period establishes the maximum potential length of a patent extension. However, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office applies several

statutory limitations in its calculations of the actual period for patent extension. In its application for patent extension, this applicant seeks 5 years of patent term extension.

Anyone with knowledge that any of the dates as published are incorrect may submit to the Division of Dockets Management (see ADDRESSES) written or electronic comments and ask for a redetermination by [insert date 60 days after date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER]. Furthermore, any interested person may petition FDA for a determination regarding whether the applicant for extension acted with due diligence during the regulatory review period by [insert date 180 days after date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER]. To meet its burden, the petition must contain sufficient facts to merit an FDA investigation. (See H. Rept. 857, part 1, 98th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 41-42, 1984.) Petitions should be in the form as specified in 21 CFR 10.30.

Comments and petitions should be submitted to the Division of Dockets Management. Three copies of any mailed information are to be submitted, except that individuals may submit one copy. Comments are to be identified with the docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document. Comments and petitions may be seen in the Division of Dockets Management between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Please note that on January 15, 2008, the FDA Division of Dockets Management Web site transitioned to the Federal Dockets Management System (FDMS). FDMS is a Government-wide, electronic docket management system. Electronic comments or submissions will be accepted by FDA only through FDMS at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Dated: October 20, 2008
October 20, 2008.



Jane A. Axelrad
Associate Director for Policy
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

CERTIFIED TRUE
COPY OF


