

**MEMORANDUM DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**

DATE: March 3rd, 2008

FROM: Dianne Murphy, MD, FAAP
Director, Office of Pediatric Therapeutics
Office of the Commissioner

SUBJECT: Overview of the March 25th, 2008, Meeting of the Pediatric Advisory Committee

TO: Members of the Pediatric Advisory Committee and invited Expert Consultants

We sincerely appreciate your making time to provide your insights and expert advice at the Pediatric Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting. Thank you for participating in the upcoming PAC meeting on March 25, 2008. The agenda for this one-day meeting is included in this mailing.

The PAC will meet to discuss adverse event reports for drugs granted pediatric exclusivity as originally mandated by Section 17 of the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act (BPCA), Title IV Section 505B(i) and Title V Section 505A(l) of the Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act (FDAAA), passed in September of 2007, extended and expanded the safety review activities of the PAC and you will hear more about this legislation at the meeting.

Drug safety reviews will be presented for your assessment for eight drug products, six new products and two products recommended for additional follow-up at a prior PAC session. At the February 14, 2005 PAC, the Committee recommended that the FDA continue monitoring esmolol and benazepril and provide another review at a future PAC.

The one-day meeting will begin with presentations for the following four cardiac drugs: **Brevibloc (esmolol), Toprol XL (metoprolol), Lotensin (benazepril), and Coreg (carvedilol)**. This will be followed by presentations for 4 other drugs: **Eloxatin (oxaliplatin), Colazal (balsalazide), Suprane (desflurane), and Celebrex (celecoxib)**. There will be 3 presentations for Celebrex (celecoxib); an overview of safety from the clinical trials in JRA, the standard post marketing adverse event review presentation and a brief presentation by Pfizer on the Celebrex post-marketing commitments.

There will also be an update on the review plans for the anticonvulsants, which will include Trileptal (oxcarbazepine). At the November 16, 2006 PAC the Committee recommended a follow-up for Trileptal (oxcarbazepine) once the Division of Neurology Products completed a review of suicidality events reported for patients receiving anticonvulsants, including a subpopulation analysis of pediatric patients.

After completing the drug product safety reporting, there will be a presentation and overview of the new FDAAA 2007 legislation signed by the President on September 27, 2007. Three of the 11 Titles in this legislation pertain to pediatric initiatives. The PAC is specifically identified in this important legislation. FDAAA 2007 mandates reporting for pediatric adverse events to include products receiving pediatric labeling resulting from PREA (Title IV) including biologics, and BPCA (Title V). Certain devices (Title III) are now required to have adverse event reporting and review by the PAC. Full training for PAC committee members regarding this legislation will take place this fall.

After the FDAAA 2007 update, the PAC will be adjourned.

The background package for this meeting will include the following documents in addition to this cover memo:

- Post-Pediatric Exclusivity Post-marketing Adverse Event Reviews for 6 drugs granted exclusivity
- Post-Pediatric Exclusivity Drug Use Reviews for the 6 drugs granted exclusivity
- The Clinical and Pharmacology/Toxicology summary of reviews for trials conducted for pediatric exclusivity for the 6 drugs (some products may have only 1 summary)
- Selected materials from the past PAC are provided for 2 products, Brevibloc (esmolol) and Lotensin (benazepril) in addition to a recent adverse event safety review
- Slides for a brief update to this committee on the plans and ongoing activities concerning the analysis of anticonvulsants, including Trileptal, and suicidality

The FDA relies heavily on the expert knowledge, judgment, experience, and wisdom of the members of advisory committees to provide us with feedback and advice on how best to promote and protect the public health of the United States. We thank you for your time and effort, and we look forward to seeing you and hearing from you at our upcoming PAC meeting.