



IND 69,928

Merck & Co., Inc.  
Attention: Robert A. Fromtling, Ph.D.  
Director, Worldwide Regulatory Affairs  
126 E. Lincoln Avenue  
P.O. Box 2000, RY33-208  
Rahway, NJ 07065-0900

Dear Dr. Fromtling:

Reference is made to your April 25, 2006 Proposed Pediatric Study Request submitted to IND 69,928 for MK-0518 (formerly L-000900612).

To obtain needed pediatric information on MK-0518, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is hereby making a formal Written Request, pursuant to Section 505A of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the Act), that you submit information from the following studies:

**Types of studies:**

Multiple-dose pharmacokinetic, safety, and activity study of MK-0518 in combination with other antiretroviral agents in HIV-infected pediatric patients.

Multiple-dose pharmacokinetic and safety study of MK-0518 in addition to the standard of care in HIV-exposed neonates (born to HIV-infected mothers).

The objective of these studies will be to determine the pharmacokinetic and safety profile of MK-0518 across the age range studied, identify an appropriate dose for use in HIV-infected pediatric patients and exposed neonates, and evaluate the activity of this dose (or doses) in treatment and/or prophylaxis.

**Indication to be studied:**

Treatment of HIV infection in pediatric patients and/or prophylaxis of HIV infection in exposed neonates.

**Age group in which studies will be performed:**

HIV-infected pediatric patients from 1 month to adolescence and HIV-exposed neonates (born to HIV-infected mothers).

**Drug Information**

Dosage form: Age appropriate-formulation.

Route of administration: oral

Regimen: to be determined by development program

Use an age-appropriate formulation in the studies described above. If the studies you conduct in response to this Written Request demonstrate this drug will benefit children, then an age-appropriate dosage form must be made available for children. This requirement can be fulfilled by developing and testing a new dosage form for which you will seek approval for commercial marketing. Any new commercially marketable formulation you develop for use in children must meet agency standards for marketing approval.

Development of a commercially-marketable formulation is preferable. If you cannot develop a commercially marketable age-appropriate formulation, you must provide the Agency with documentation of your attempts to develop such a formulation and the reasons such attempts failed. If we agree that you have valid reasons for not developing a commercially marketable, age-appropriate formulation, then you must submit instructions for compounding an age-appropriate formulation from commercially available ingredients acceptable to the Agency. If you conduct the requested studies using a compounded formulation, the following information must be provided and will appear in the product label upon approval: active ingredients, diluents, suspending and sweetening agents; detailed step-by-step compounding instructions; packaging and storage requirements; and formulation stability information.

Bioavailability of any formulation used in the studies should be characterized, and if necessary, a relative bioavailability study comparing the approved drug to the age appropriate formulation may be conducted in adults.

**Drug specific safety concerns:**

Based on available toxicity information with your product, please provide safety data including gastrointestinal disorders, headache, hepatic toxicity, metabolic disturbances, and any other parameters pertinent to use in the pediatric population.

Safety of MK-0518 must be studied in an adequate number of pediatric patients or neonates to characterize adverse events across the age range. A minimum of 100 patients with at least 24 weeks safety data is needed.

**Statistical information, including power of study and statistical assessments:**

Descriptive analyses of multiple-dose pharmacokinetic, safety and activity data in HIV-infected pediatric patients and descriptive analyses of multiple-dose pharmacokinetic and safety data in HIV-exposed neonates (born to HIV-infected mothers).

A minimum number of pediatric patients (as stated below) must complete the pharmacokinetic studies conducted to characterize pharmacokinetics for dose selection. Final selection of sample size for each age group should take into account all potential sources of variability. As study data are evaluated, the sample size should be increased as necessary for characterization of pharmacokinetics across the intended age range.

- Birth to < 6 weeks: 8
- 6 weeks to < 6 months: 6
- 6 months to < 2 years: 6
- 2 years to < 6 years: 12
- 6 years to < 12 years: 8
- 12 years to 18 years: 6

Studies must include an adequate number of patients to characterize pharmacokinetics and select a therapeutic dose for the age ranges studied, taking into account inter-subject and intra-subject variability. The number of patients should be approximately evenly distributed across the age range studied.

**Study Endpoints:**

Pharmacokinetics

Parameters including:  $C_{max}$ ,  $C_{min}$ ,  $T_{max}$ ,  $t_{1/2}$ , AUC, and apparent oral clearance.

Safety and tolerability

HIV-infected pediatric patients should be followed for safety for a minimum of 24 weeks at the recommended dose. HIV-exposed neonates (born to HIV-infected mothers) should have safety assessments, on or off treatment (as appropriate), for a minimum of 24 weeks after start of therapy.

Activity

Assessment of changes in plasma HIV RNA levels and in CD4<sup>+</sup> cell counts.

Resistance

Collect and submit information regarding the resistance profile (genotypic and phenotypic) of clinical isolates at baseline and during treatment from pediatric patients receiving MK-0518, particularly from those who experience loss of virologic response.

**Labeling that may result from the studies:**

Information regarding dosing, safety, and activity in the HIV-infected pediatric population and information regarding dosing and safety in HIV-exposed neonates (born to HIV-infected mothers).

**Format of reports to be submitted:**

You must submit full study reports not previously submitted to the Agency addressing the issues outlined in this request with full analysis, assessment, and interpretation. In addition, the reports are to include information on the representation of pediatric patients of ethnic and racial minorities. All pediatric patients enrolled in the studies should be categorized using one of the following designations for race: American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, or White. For ethnicity one of the following designations should be used: Hispanic/Latino or not Hispanic/ Latino.

**Timeframe for submitting reports of the studies:**

Reports of the above studies must be submitted to the Agency on or before June 30, 2011. Please keep in mind that pediatric exclusivity attaches only to existing patent protection or exclusivity that has not expired at the time you submit your reports of the studies in response to this Written Request.

**Response to Written Request:**

As per the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act, section 4(A), within 180 days of receipt of this Written Request you must notify the Agency of your intent to act on the Written Request. If you agree to the request then you must indicate when the pediatric studies will be initiated.

Please submit protocols for the above studies to an investigational new drug application (IND) and clearly mark your submission "**PEDIATRIC PROTOCOL SUBMITTED FOR PEDIATRIC EXCLUSIVITY STUDY**" in large font, bolded type at the beginning of the cover letter of the submission. Please notify us as soon as possible if you wish to enter into a written agreement by submitting a proposed written agreement. Please clearly mark your submission "**PROPOSED WRITTEN AGREEMENT FOR**

**PEDIATRIC STUDIES**" in large font, bolded type at the beginning of the cover letter of the submission.

Reports of the studies should be submitted as a new drug application or as a supplement to your approved NDA with the proposed labeling changes you believe would be warranted based on the data derived from these studies. When submitting the reports, please clearly mark your submission "**SUBMISSION OF PEDIATRIC STUDY REPORTS – PEDIATRIC EXCLUSIVITY DETERMINATION REQUESTED**" in large font, bolded type at the beginning of the cover letter of the submission and include a copy of this letter. Please also send a copy of the cover letter of your submission, via fax (301-594-0183) or messenger to the Director, Office of Generic Drugs, HFD-600, Metro Park North II, 7500 Standish Place, Rockville, MD 20855-2773.

In accordance with section 9 of the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act, *Dissemination of Pediatric Information*, if a pediatric supplement is submitted in response to a Written Request and filed by FDA, FDA will make public a summary of the medical and clinical pharmacology reviews of pediatric studies conducted. This disclosure, which will occur within 180 days of supplement submission, will apply to all supplements submitted in response to a Written Request and filed by FDA, regardless of the following circumstances:

1. The type of response to the Written Request (complete or partial);
2. The status of the supplement (withdrawn after the supplement has been filed or pending);
3. The action taken (i.e., approval, approvable, not approvable); or
4. The exclusivity determination (i.e., granted or denied).

FDA will post the medical and clinical pharmacology review summaries on the FDA website at <http://www.fda.gov/cder/pediatric/Summaryreview.htm> and publish in the Federal Register a notification of availability.

If you wish to discuss any amendments to this Written Request, please submit proposed changes and the reasons for the proposed changes to your application. Submissions of proposed changes to this request should be clearly marked "**PROPOSED CHANGES IN WRITTEN REQUEST FOR PEDIATRIC STUDIES**" in large font, bolded type at the beginning of the cover letter of the submission. You will be notified in writing if any changes to this Written Request are agreed upon by the Agency.

As required by the Food and Drug Modernization Act and the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act, you are also responsible for registering certain clinical trials involving your drug product in the Clinical Trials Data Bank (<http://clinicaltrials.gov> & <http://prsinfo.clinicaltrials.gov/>). If your drug is intended for the treatment of a serious or life-threatening disease or condition and you are conducting clinical trials to test its effectiveness, then you must register these trials in the Data Bank. Although not required, we encourage you to register effectiveness trials for non-serious diseases or conditions as well as non-effectiveness trials for all diseases or conditions, whether or not

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they are serious or life-threatening. Additional information on registering your clinical trials, including the required and optional data elements and the FDA Draft Guidance for Industry, "Information Program on Clinical Trials for Serious or Life-Threatening

Diseases and Conditions," is available at the Protocol Registration System (PRS) Information Site <http://prsinfo.clinicaltrials.gov/>.

We hope you will fulfill this pediatric study request. We look forward to working with you on this matter in order to develop additional pediatric information that may produce health benefits in the pediatric population.

If you have any questions, please contact Monica Zeballos, Pharm.D., Regulatory Project Manager at (301) 796-0840.

Sincerely yours,

*{See appended electronic signature page}*

Edward Cox, M.D.  
Deputy Director  
Office of Antimicrobial Products  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

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**This is a representation of an electronic record that was signed electronically and  
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Edward Cox  
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