



Our STN: BL 103552/6277

## SUPPLEMENT APPROVAL

Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp.  
Attention: Louise Parks Saldutti, Ph.D.  
351 N. Sumneytown Pike  
P.O. Box 1000  
UG2D-68  
North Wales, PA 19454

February 27, 2023

Dear Dr. Saldutti:

We have approved your request received April 29, 2022, to supplement your Biologics License Application (BLA) submitted under section 351(a) of the Public Health Service Act for Varicella Virus Vaccine Live (VARIVAX), manufactured at your West Point, Pennsylvania and (b) (4) locations, to include safety and immunogenicity data that support the intramuscular route as an additional route of administration for VARIVAX, and associated product labeling changes.

The review of this supplement was associated with the following National Clinical Trial number: 00432523.

### LABELING

We hereby approve the draft content of labeling: Package Insert submitted under amendment 25, dated February 27, 2023, and the draft carton and container labels submitted under amendment 7, dated September 13, 2022.

### CONTENT OF LABELING

As soon as possible, but no later than 14 days from the date of this letter, please submit the final content of labeling (21 CFR 601.14) in Structured Product Labeling (SPL) format via the FDA automated drug registration and listing system (eLIST), as described at <http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/DataStandards/StructuredProductLabeling/default.htm>. Content of labeling must be identical to the Package Insert, submitted on February 27, 2023. 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* at <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM072392.pdf>.

The SPL will be accessible via publicly available labeling repositories.

## **CARTON AND CONTAINER LABELS**

Please electronically submit final printed carton and container labels identical to the carton and container labels submitted on September 13, 2022, according to the guidance for industry *Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic Format — Certain Human Pharmaceutical Product Applications and Related Submissions Using the eCTD Specifications* at <https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/providing-regulatory-submissions-electronic-format-certain-human-pharmaceutical-product-applications>.

All final labeling should be submitted as Product Correspondence to this BLA, STN BL 103552, at the time of use and include implementation information on Form FDA 356h.

## **ADVERTISING AND PROMOTIONAL LABELING**

You may submit two draft copies of the proposed introductory advertising and promotional labeling with Form FDA 2253 to the Advertising and Promotional Labeling Branch at the following address:

Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research  
Document Control Center  
10903 New Hampshire Ave.  
WO71–G112  
Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002

You must submit copies of your final advertising and promotional labeling at the time of initial dissemination or publication, accompanied by Form FDA 2253 (21 CFR 601.12(f)(4)).

All promotional claims must be consistent with and not contrary to approved labeling. You should not make a comparative promotional claim or claim of superiority over other products unless you have substantial evidence or substantial clinical experience to support such claims (21 CFR 202.1(e)(6)).

Please submit an amendment to all pending supplemental applications for this BLA that include revised labeling incorporating a revised content of labeling that includes these changes.

## **PEDIATRIC REQUIREMENTS**

Under the Pediatric Research Equity Act (PREA) (21 U.S.C. 355c), all applications for new active ingredients, 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 in pediatric patients unless this requirement is waived, deferred, or inapplicable.

We are waiving the pediatric study requirement for pediatric age group 0 to less than 12 months of age because the product does not represent a meaningful therapeutic benefit over existing therapies for pediatric patients in this age group and is not likely to be used in a substantial number of pediatric patients in this group.

We note that you have fulfilled the pediatric study requirement for ages 12 months through 16 years for this application.

We will include information contained in the above-referenced supplement in your BLA file.

Sincerely,

For Joseph G. Toerner, MD, MPH  
Acting Deputy Director - Clinical  
Division of Vaccines and  
Related Products Applications  
Office of Vaccines  
Research and Review  
Center for Biologics  
Evaluation and Research