



King Pharmaceuticals

Docket 2004P-0140
February 13, 2007 Supplemental Submission
Exhibit B

Thomas K. Rogers, III M.S.
EVP and Corporate Head
Regulatory Affairs

King Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
501 Fifth Street
Bristol, TN 37620
423.989.8172
fax 423.989.6133
www.kingpharm.com
NYSE:KG

December 21, 2006

**TIME SENSITIVE PATENT
INFORMATION**

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Central Document Room
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
Food and Drug Administration
5901-B Ammendale Rd.
Beltsville, MD 20705-1266

Re: Skelaxin® (metaxalone), NDA 13-217

Dear Sir or Madam:

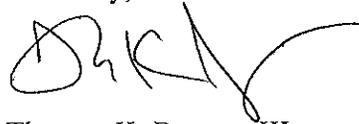
Pursuant to 21 C.F.R. § 314.53, the enclosed Forms FDA 3542 provide updated information on United States Patent Nos. 6,407,128, and 6,683,102 (expiration dates December 3, 2021), in light of the November 24, 2006 approval of supplement S-046 to NDA 13-217, providing for revised prescribing information for the approved Skelaxin® (metaxalone) drug product.

As referenced in prior correspondence, the previously marketed 400mg strength of Skelaxin® has been withdrawn from the market for safety and/or effectiveness reasons. At this time, however, the 400mg strength still appears in the discontinued section of the Orange Book. Therefore, the updated patent information on the enclosed Forms FDA 3542 references, and applies to, both the currently-marketed 800mg strength of the drug, and the discontinued 400mg strength.

Central Document Room
December 21, 2006
Page 2

This information is being provided in duplicate, as archival and review copies, and is concurrently being submitted to FDA's Office of Generic Drugs Orange Book Staff. I may be contacted directly at (423) 989-8172 if there are any questions regarding this submission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TKR', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Thomas K. Rogers, III
Executive Vice President & Corporate Head
Regulatory Affairs

cc: FDA Office of Generic Drugs, Orange Book Staff

Department of Health and Human Services
Food and Drug Administration

Form Approved: OMB No. 0910-0513
Expiration Date: 07/31/06
See OMB Statement on Page 3.

**PATENT INFORMATION SUBMITTED UPON AND
AFTER APPROVAL OF AN NDA OR SUPPLEMENT**

*For Each Patent That Claims a Drug Substance
(Active Ingredient), Drug Product (Formulation or
Composition) and/or Method of Use*

NDA NUMBER
13-217

NAME OF APPLICANT / NDA HOLDER
KING PHARMACEUTICALS RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT, INC.

The following is provided in accordance with Section 505(b) and (c) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

TRADE NAME
SKELAXIN

ACTIVE INGREDIENT(S)
METAXALONE

STRENGTH(S)
400MG
800MG

DOSAGE FORM
TABLETS

APPROVAL DATE OF NDA OR SUPPLEMENT
11/24/2006

This patent declaration form is required to be submitted to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) within thirty (30) days after approval of an NDA or supplement or within thirty (30) days of issuance of a patent as required by 21 CFR 314.53(c)(2)(II) at the address provided in 21 CFR 314.53(d)(4). To expedite review of this patent declaration form, you may submit an additional copy of this declaration form to the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research "Orange Book" staff.

For hand-written or typewriter versions of this report: If additional space is required for any narrative answer (i.e., one that does not require a "Yes" or "No" response), please attach an additional page referencing the question number.

FDA will not list patent information if you file an incomplete patent declaration or the patent declaration indicates the patent is not eligible for listing.

For each patent submitted for the approved NDA or supplement referenced above, you must submit all the information described below. If you are not submitting any patents for this NDA or supplement, complete above section and sections 5 and 6.

1. GENERAL

a. United States Patent Number
6,683,102

b. Issue Date of Patent
01/27/2004

c. Expiration Date of Patent
12/03/2021

d. Name of Patent Owner
KING PHARMACEUTICALS RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT, INC.

Address (of Patent Owner)
4000 CENTREGREEN WAY, CENTREGREEN TWO, SUITE 300

City/State
CARY/NORTH CAROLINA

ZIP Code
27513

FAX Number (if available)
(919) 653-7099

Telephone Number
(919) 653-7030

E-Mail Address (if available)

e. Name of agent or representative who resides or maintains a place of business within the United States authorized to receive notice of patent certification under section 505(b)(3) and (j)(2)(B) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and 21 CFR 314.52 and 314.95 (if patent owner or NDA applicant/holder does not reside or have a place of business within the United States)

Address (of agent or representative named in 1.e.)

City/State

ZIP Code

FAX Number (if available)

Telephone Number

E-Mail Address (if available)

f. Is the patent referenced above a patent that has been submitted previously for the approved NDA or supplement referenced above?

Yes

No

g. If the patent referenced above has been submitted previously for listing, is the expiration date a new expiration date?

Yes

No

For the patent referenced above, provide the following information on each patent that claims the drug substance, drug product, or method of use that is the subject of the approved NDA or supplement. FDA will not list patent information if you file an incomplete patent declaration or the patent declaration indicates the patent is not eligible for listing. FDA will consider an incomplete patent declaration to be a declaration that does not include a response to all the questions contained within each section below applicable to the patent referenced above.

2. Drug Substance (Active Ingredient)

2.1 Does the patent claim the drug substance that is the active ingredient in the drug product described in the approved NDA or supplement? Yes No

2.2 Does the patent claim a drug substance that is a different polymorph of the active ingredient described in the NDA? Yes No

2.3 If the answer to question 2.2 is "Yes," do you certify that, as of the date of this declaration, you have test data demonstrating that a drug product containing the polymorph will perform the same as the drug product described in the NDA? The type of test data required is described at 21 CFR 314.53(b). Yes No

2.4 Specify the polymorphic form(s) claimed by the patent for which you have the test results described in 2.3.

2.5 Does the patent claim only a metabolite of the approved active ingredient? (Complete the information in section 4 below if the patent claims an approved method of using the approved drug product to administer the metabolite.) Yes No

2.6 Does the patent claim only an intermediate? Yes No

2.7 If the patent referenced in 2.1 is a product-by-process patent, is the product claimed in the patent novel? (An answer is required only if the patent is a product-by-process patent.) Yes No

FDA will not list the patent in the Orange Book as claiming the drug substance if:

- the answers to 2.1 and 2.2 are "No," or,
- the answer to 2.2 is "Yes" and the answer to 2.3 is "No," or,
- the answer to 2.3 is "Yes" and there is no response to 2.4, or,
- the answer to 2.5 or 2.6 is "Yes,"
- the answer to 2.7 is "No."

3. Drug Product (Composition/Formulation)

3.1 Does the patent claim the approved drug product as defined in 21 CFR 314.3? Yes No

3.2 Does the patent claim only an intermediate? Yes No

3.3 If the patent referenced in 3.1 is a product-by-process patent, is the product claimed in the patent novel? (An answer is required only if the patent is a product-by-process patent.) Yes No

FDA will not list the patent in the Orange Book as claiming the drug product if:

- the answer to question 3.1 is "No," or,
- the answer to question 3.2 is "Yes," or,
- the answer to question 3.3 is "No."

4. Method of Use

Sponsors must submit the information in section 4 separately for each patent claim claiming an approved method of using the approved drug product. For each method of use claim referenced, provide the following information:

4.1 Does the patent claim one or more approved methods of using the approved drug product? Yes No

4.2 Patent Claim Number (as listed in the patent) CLAIMS 1-15 Does the patent claim referenced in 4.2 claim an approved method of use of the approved drug product? Yes No

4.2a If the answer to 4.2 is "Yes," identify the use with specific reference to the approved labeling for the drug product. Use: (Submit indication or method of use information as identified specifically in the approved labeling.) PLEASE SEE ATTACHED

<p>4.2b If the answer to 4.2 is "Yes," also provide the information on the indication or method of use for the Orange Book "Use Code" description.</p>	<p>Use: (Submit the description of the approved indication or method of use that you propose FDA include as the "Use Code" in the Orange Book, using no more than 240 total characters including spaces.) U-189 - ENHANCEMENT OF THE BIOAVAILABILITY OF THE DRUG SUBSTANCE</p>
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FDA will not list the patent in the Orange Book as claiming the method of use if:

- the answer to question 4.1 or 4.2 is "No," or
- if the answer to 4.2 is "Yes" and the information requested in 4.2a and 4.2b is not provided in full.

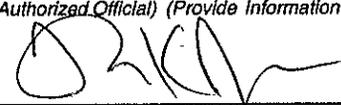
5. No Relevant Patents

For this NDA or supplement, there are no relevant patents that claim the approved drug substance (active ingredient) or the approved drug product (formulation or composition) or approved method(s) of use with respect to which a claim of patent infringement could reasonably be asserted if a person not licensed by the owner of the patent engaged in the manufacture, use, or sale of the drug product. Yes

6. Declaration Certification

6.1 The undersigned declares that this is an accurate and complete submission of patent information for the NDA or supplement approved under section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. This time-sensitive patent information is submitted pursuant to 21 CFR 314.53. I attest that I am familiar with 21 CFR 314.53 and this submission complies with the requirements of the regulation. I verify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Warning: A willfully and knowingly false statement is a criminal offense under 18 U.S.C. 1001.

<p>6.2 Authorized Signature of NDA Applicant/Holder or Patent Owner (Attorney, Agent, Representative or other Authorized Official) (Provide Information below)</p> 	<p>Date Signed</p> <p>12/21/06</p>
--	------------------------------------

NOTE: Only an NDA applicant/holder may submit this declaration directly to the FDA. A patent owner who is not the NDA applicant/holder is authorized to sign the declaration but may not submit it directly to FDA. 21 CFR 314.53(c)(4) and (d)(4).

Check applicable box and provide information below.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NDA Applicant/Holder	<input type="checkbox"/> NDA Applicant's/Holder's Attorney, Agent (Representative) or other Authorized Official
<input type="checkbox"/> Patent Owner	<input type="checkbox"/> Patent Owner's Attorney, Agent (Representative) or Other Authorized Official
Name THOMAS K. ROGERS, III	
Address 501 FIFTH STREET	City/State BRISTOL/TENNESSEE
ZIP Code 37620	Telephone Number (423) 989-8172
FAX Number (if available) (423) 989-6133	E-Mail Address (if available) Thomas.Rogers@Kingpharm.com

The public reporting burden for this collection of information has been estimated to average 9 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to:

Food and Drug Administration
CDER (HFD-007)
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

(Metaxalone) Tablets

* * *

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Mechanism of Action: The mechanism of action of metaxalone in humans has not been established, but may be due to general central nervous system depression. Metaxalone has no direct action on the contractile mechanism of striated muscle, the motor end plate or the nerve fiber.

Pharmacokinetics:

The pharmacokinetics of metaxalone have been evaluated in healthy adult volunteers after single dose administration of SKELAXIN under fasted and fed conditions at doses ranging from 400 mg to 800 mg.

Absorption

Peak plasma concentrations of metaxalone occur approximately 3 hours after a 400 mg oral dose under fasted conditions. Thereafter, metaxalone concentrations decline log-linearly with a terminal half-life of 9.0 ± 4.8 hours. Doubling the dose of SKELAXIN from 400 mg to 800 mg results in a roughly proportional increase in metaxalone exposure as indicated by peak plasma concentrations (C_{max}) and area under the curve (AUC). Dose proportionality at doses above 800 mg has not been studied. The absolute bioavailability of metaxalone is not known.

The single-dose pharmacokinetic parameters of metaxalone in two groups of healthy volunteers are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Mean (%CV) Metaxalone Pharmacokinetic Parameters					
Dose (mg)	C_{max} (ng/mL)	T_{max} (h)	AUC_{∞} (ng·h/mL)	$t_{1/2}$ (h)	CL/F (L/h)
400 ¹	983 (53)	3.3 (35)	7479 (51)	9.0 (53)	68 (50)
800 ²	1816 (43)	3.0 (39)	15044 (46)	8.0 (58)	66 (51)

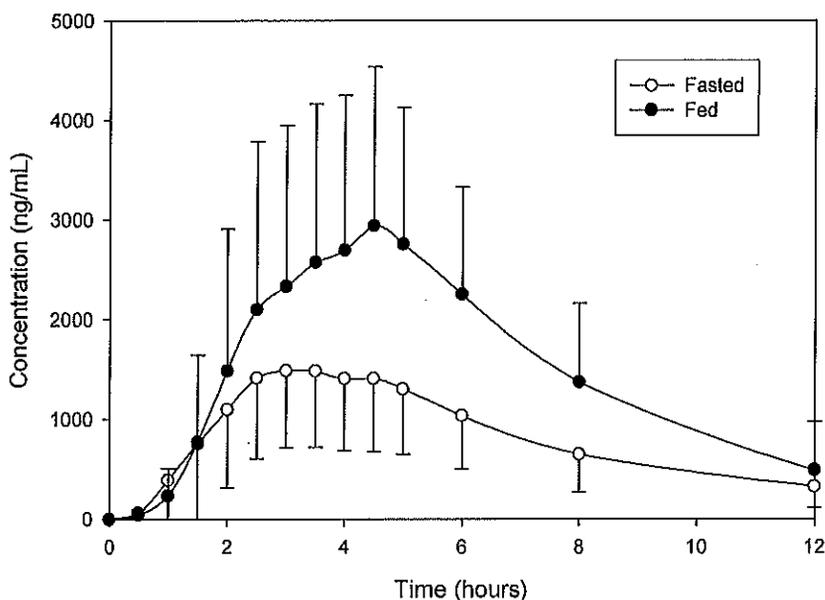
¹Subjects received 1×400 mg tablet under fasted conditions (N=42)
²Subjects received 2×400 mg tablets under fasted conditions (N=59)

Food Effects

A randomized, two-way, crossover study was conducted in 42 healthy volunteers (31 males, 11 females) administered one 400 mg SKELAXIN tablet under fasted conditions and following a standard high-fat breakfast. Subjects ranged in age from 18 to 48 years (mean age = 23.5 ± 5.7 years). Compared to fasted conditions, the presence of high fat meal at the time of drug administration increased C_{max} by 177.5% and increased AUC (AUC_{0-t} , AUC_{∞}) by 123.5% and 115.4%, respectively. Time-to-peak concentration (T_{max}) was also delayed (4.3 h *versus* 3.3 h) and terminal half-life was decreased (2.4 h *versus* 9.0 h) under fed conditions compared to fasted.

In a second food effect study of similar design, two 400 mg SKELAXIN tablets (800 mg) were administered to healthy volunteers (N=59, 37 males, 22 females), ranging in age from 18-50 years (mean age = 25.6 ± 8.7 years). Compared to fasted conditions, the presence of a high fat meal at the time of drug administration increased C_{max} by 193.6% and increased AUC (AUC_{0-t} , AUC_{∞}) by 146.4% and 142.2%, respectively. Time-to-peak concentration (T_{max}) was also delayed (4.9 h *versus* 3.0 h) and terminal half-life was decreased (4.2 h *versus* 8.0 h) under fed conditions compared to fasted conditions. Similar food effect results were observed in the above study when one SKELAXIN 800 mg tablet was administered in place of two SKELAXIN 400 mg tablets. The increase in metaxalone exposure coinciding with a reduction in half-life may be attributed to more complete absorption of metaxalone in the presence of a high fat meal (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Mean (SD) Concentrations of Metaxalone following an 800 mg Dose under Fasted and Fed Conditions



Distribution, Metabolism, and Excretion

Although plasma protein binding and absolute bioavailability of metaxalone are not known, the apparent volume of distribution ($V/F \sim 800$ L) and lipophilicity ($\log P = 2.42$) of metaxalone suggest that the drug is extensively distributed in the tissues. Metaxalone is metabolized by the liver and excreted in the urine as unidentified metabolites.

Pharmacokinetics in Special Populations

Age: The effects of age on the pharmacokinetics of metaxalone were determined following single administration of two 400 mg tablets (800 mg) under fasted and fed conditions. The results were analyzed separately, as well as in combination with the results from three other studies. Using the combined data, the results indicate that the pharmacokinetics of metaxalone are significantly more affected by age under fasted

conditions than under fed conditions, with bioavailability under fasted conditions increasing with age.

The bioavailability of metaxalone under fasted and fed conditions in three groups of healthy volunteers of varying age is shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Mean (%CV) Pharmacokinetics Parameters Following Single Administration of Two 400 mg SKELAXIN Tablets (800 mg) under Fed Conditions						
	Younger Volunteers		Older Volunteers			
Age (years)	25.6 ± 8.7		39.3 ± 10.8		71.5 ± 5.0	
N	59		21		23	
Food	Fasted	Fed	Fasted	Fed	Fasted	Fed
C_{max} (ng/mL)	1816	3510	2719	2915	3168	3680
	(43)	(41)	(46)	(55)	(43)	(59)
T_{max} (h)	3.0	4.9	3.0	8.7	2.6	6.5
	(39)	(48)	(40)	(91)	(30)	(67)
AUC_{0-t} (ng·h/mL)	14531	20683	19836	20482	23797	24340
	(47)	(41)	(40)	(37)	(45)	(48)
AUC_∞ (ng·h/mL)	15045	20833	20490	20815	24194	24704
	(46)	(41)	(39)	(37)	(44)	(47)

Gender: The effect of gender on the pharmacokinetics of metaxalone was assessed in an open label study, in which 48 healthy adult volunteers (24 males, 24 females) were administered two SKELAXIN 400 mg tablets (800 mg) under fasted conditions. The bioavailability of metaxalone was significantly higher in females compared to males as evidenced by C_{max} (2115 ng/mL versus 1335 ng/mL) and AUC_∞ (17884 ng·h/mL versus 10328 ng·h/mL). The mean half-life was 11.1 hours in females and 7.6 hours in males. The apparent volume of distribution of metaxalone was approximately 22% higher in males than in females, but not significantly different when adjusted for body weight. Similar findings were also seen when the previously described combined dataset was used in the analysis

Hepatic/Renal Insufficiency: The impact of hepatic and renal disease on the pharmacokinetics of metaxalone has not been determined. In the absence of such information, SKELAXIN should be used with caution in patients with hepatic and/or renal impairment.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

SKELAXIN (metaxalone) is indicated as an adjunct to rest, physical therapy, and other measures for the relief of discomforts associated with acute, painful musculoskeletal

conditions. The mode of action of this drug has not been clearly identified, but may be related to its sedative properties. Metaxalone does not directly relax tense skeletal muscles in man.

* * *

PRECAUTIONS

* * *

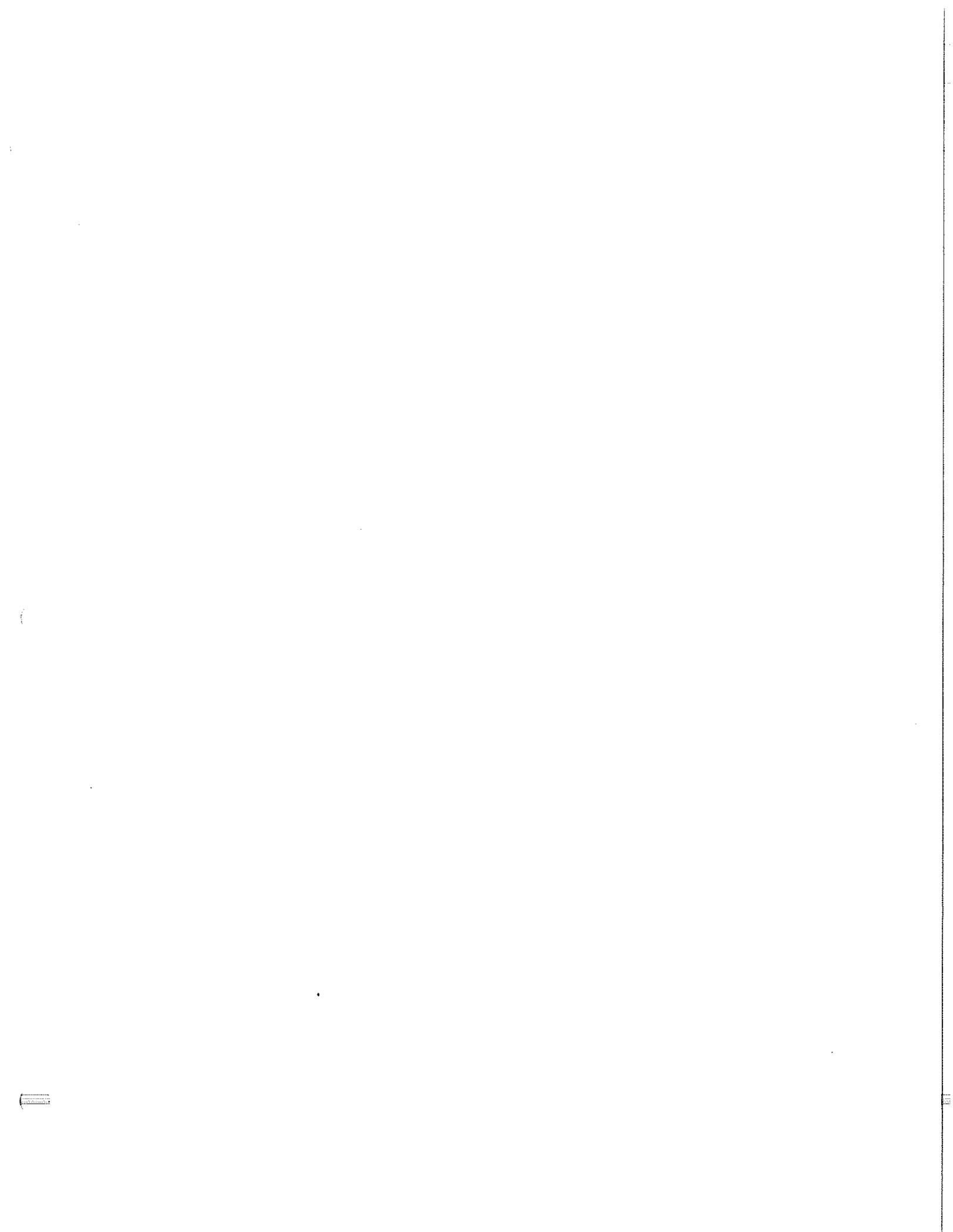
Taking SKELAXIN with food may enhance general CNS depression; elderly patients may be especially susceptible to this CNS effect. (See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Pharmacokinetics and PRECAUTIONS: Information for Patients section).

* * *

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

The recommended dose for adults and children over 12 years of age is one 800 mg tablet three to four times a day.

* * *



Department of Health and Human Services
Food and Drug Administration

Form Approved: OMB No. 0910-0513
Expiration Date: 07/31/06
See OMB Statement on Page 3.

**PATENT INFORMATION SUBMITTED UPON AND
AFTER APPROVAL OF AN NDA OR SUPPLEMENT**

*For Each Patent That Claims a Drug Substance
(Active Ingredient), Drug Product (Formulation or
Composition) and/or Method of Use*

NDA NUMBER
13-217

NAME OF APPLICANT / NDA HOLDER
KING PHARMACEUTICALS RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT, INC.

The following is provided in accordance with Section 505(b) and (c) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

TRADE NAME
SKELAXIN

ACTIVE INGREDIENT(S)
METAXALONE

STRENGTH(S)
400MG
800MG

DOSAGE FORM
TABLETS

APPROVAL DATE OF NDA OR SUPPLEMENT
11/24/2006

This patent declaration form is required to be submitted to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) within thirty (30) days after approval of an NDA or supplement or within thirty (30) days of issuance of a patent as required by 21 CFR 314.53(c)(2)(ii) at the address provided in 21 CFR 314.53(d)(4). To expedite review of this patent declaration form, you may submit an additional copy of this declaration form to the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research "Orange Book" staff.

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1. GENERAL

a. United States Patent Number
6,407,128

b. Issue Date of Patent
06/18/2002

c. Expiration Date of Patent
12/03/2021

d. Name of Patent Owner
KING PHARMACEUTICALS RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT, INC.

Address (of Patent Owner)
4000 CENTREGREEN WAY, CENTREGREEN TWO, SUITE 300

City/State
CARY/NORTH CAROLINA

ZIP Code
27513

FAX Number (if available)
(919) 653-7099

Telephone Number
(919) 653-7030

E-Mail Address (if available)

e. Name of agent or representative who resides or maintains a place of business within the United States authorized to receive notice of patent certification under section 505(b)(3) and (j)(2)(B) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and 21 CFR 314.52 and 314.95 (if patent owner or NDA applicant/holder does not reside or have a place of business within the United States)

Address (of agent or representative named in 1.e.)

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ZIP Code

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Telephone Number

E-Mail Address (if available)



f. Is the patent referenced above a patent that has been submitted previously for the approved NDA or supplement referenced above?

Yes

No

g. If the patent referenced above has been submitted previously for listing, is the expiration date a new expiration date?

Yes

No

For the patent referenced above, provide the following information on each patent that claims the drug substance, drug product, or method of use that is the subject of the approved NDA or supplement. FDA will not list patent information if you file an incomplete patent declaration or the patent declaration indicates the patent is not eligible for listing. FDA will consider an incomplete patent declaration to be a declaration that does not include a response to all the questions contained within each section below applicable to the patent referenced above.

2. Drug Substance (Active Ingredient)

2.1 Does the patent claim the drug substance that is the active ingredient in the drug product described in the approved NDA or supplement? Yes No

2.2 Does the patent claim a drug substance that is a different polymorph of the active ingredient described in the NDA? Yes No

2.3 If the answer to question 2.2 is "Yes," do you certify that, as of the date of this declaration, you have test data demonstrating that a drug product containing the polymorph will perform the same as the drug product described in the NDA? The type of test data required is described at 21 CFR 314.53(b). Yes No

2.4 Specify the polymorphic form(s) claimed by the patent for which you have the test results described in 2.3.

2.5 Does the patent claim only a metabolite of the approved active ingredient? (Complete the information in section 4 below if the patent claims an approved method of using the approved drug product to administer the metabolite.) Yes No

2.6 Does the patent claim only an intermediate? Yes No

2.7 If the patent referenced in 2.1 is a product-by-process patent, is the product claimed in the patent novel? (An answer is required only if the patent is a product-by-process patent.) Yes No

FDA will not list the patent in the Orange Book as claiming the drug substance if:

- the answers to 2.1 and 2.2 are "No," or,
- the answer to 2.2 is "Yes" and the answer to 2.3 is "No," or,
- the answer to 2.3 is "Yes" and there is no response to 2.4, or,
- the answer to 2.5 or 2.6 is "Yes,"
- the answer to 2.7 is "No."

3. Drug Product (Composition/Formulation)

3.1 Does the patent claim the approved drug product as defined in 21 CFR 314.3? Yes No

3.2 Does the patent claim only an intermediate? Yes No

3.3 If the patent referenced in 3.1 is a product-by-process patent, is the product claimed in the patent novel? (An answer is required only if the patent is a product-by-process patent.) Yes No

FDA will not list the patent in the Orange Book as claiming the drug product if:

- the answer to question 3.1 is "No," or,
- the answer to question 3.2 is "Yes," or,
- the answer to question 3.3 is "No."

4. Method of Use

Sponsors must submit the information in section 4 separately for each patent claim claiming an approved method of using the approved drug product. For each method of use claim referenced, provide the following information:

4.1 Does the patent claim one or more approved methods of using the approved drug product? Yes No

4.2 Patent Claim Number (as listed in the patent) CLAIMS 1-22 Does the patent claim referenced in 4.2 claim an approved method of use of the approved drug product? Yes No

4.2a If the answer to 4.2 is "Yes," identify the use with specific reference to the approved labeling for the drug product. Use: (Submit indication or method of use information as identified specifically in the approved labeling.)
PLEASE SEE ATTACHED

4.2b If the answer to 4.2 is "Yes," also provide the information on the indication or method of use for the Orange Book "Use Code" description.

Use: (Submit the description of the approved indication or method of use that you propose FDA include as the "Use Code" in the Orange Book, using no more than 240 total characters including spaces.)
 U-189 - ENHANCEMENT OF THE BIOAVAILABILITY OF THE DRUG SUBSTANCE

FDA will not list the patent in the Orange Book as claiming the method of use if:

- the answer to question 4.1 or 4.2 is "No," or
- if the answer to 4.2 is "Yes" and the information requested in 4.2a and 4.2b is not provided in full.

5. No Relevant Patents

For this NDA or supplement, there are no relevant patents that claim the approved drug substance (active ingredient) or the approved drug product (formulation or composition) or approved method(s) of use with respect to which a claim of patent infringement could reasonably be asserted if a person not licensed by the owner of the patent engaged in the manufacture, use, or sale of the drug product. Yes

6. Declaration Certification

6.1 The undersigned declares that this is an accurate and complete submission of patent information for the NDA or supplement approved under section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. This time-sensitive patent information is submitted pursuant to 21 CFR 314.53. I attest that I am familiar with 21 CFR 314.53 and this submission complies with the requirements of the regulation. I verify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Warning: A willfully and knowingly false statement is a criminal offense under 18 U.S.C. 1001.

6.2 Authorized Signature of NDA Applicant/Holder or Patent Owner (Attorney, Agent, Representative or other Authorized Official) (Provide information below)



Date Signed: 12/21/06

NOTE: Only an NDA applicant/holder may submit this declaration directly to the FDA. A patent owner who is not the NDA applicant/holder is authorized to sign the declaration but may not submit it directly to FDA. 21 CFR 314.53(c)(4) and (d)(4).

Check applicable box and provide information below.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NDA Applicant/Holder	<input type="checkbox"/> NDA Applicant's/Holder's Attorney, Agent (Representative) or other Authorized Official
<input type="checkbox"/> Patent Owner	<input type="checkbox"/> Patent Owner's Attorney, Agent (Representative) or Other Authorized Official
Name THOMAS K. ROGERS, III	
Address 501 FIFTH STREET	City/State BRISTOL/TENNESSEE
ZIP Code 37620	Telephone Number (423) 989-8172
FAX Number (if available) (423) 989-6133	E-Mail Address (if available) Thomas.Rogers@Kingpham.com

The public reporting burden for this collection of information has been estimated to average 9 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to:

Food and Drug Administration
 CDER (HFD-007)
 5600 Fishers Lane
 Rockville, MD 20857

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

(Metaxalone) Tablets

* * *

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Mechanism of Action: The mechanism of action of metaxalone in humans has not been established, but may be due to general central nervous system depression. Metaxalone has no direct action on the contractile mechanism of striated muscle, the motor end plate or the nerve fiber.

Pharmacokinetics:

The pharmacokinetics of metaxalone have been evaluated in healthy adult volunteers after single dose administration of SKELAXIN under fasted and fed conditions at doses ranging from 400 mg to 800 mg.

Absorption

Peak plasma concentrations of metaxalone occur approximately 3 hours after a 400 mg oral dose under fasted conditions. Thereafter, metaxalone concentrations decline log-linearly with a terminal half-life of 9.0 ± 4.8 hours. Doubling the dose of SKELAXIN from 400 mg to 800 mg results in a roughly proportional increase in metaxalone exposure as indicated by peak plasma concentrations (C_{max}) and area under the curve (AUC). Dose proportionality at doses above 800 mg has not been studied. The absolute bioavailability of metaxalone is not known.

The single-dose pharmacokinetic parameters of metaxalone in two groups of healthy volunteers are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Mean (%CV) Metaxalone Pharmacokinetic Parameters					
Dose (mg)	C_{max} (ng/mL)	T_{max} (h)	AUC_{∞} (ng·h/mL)	$t_{1/2}$ (h)	CL/F (L/h)
400 ¹	983 (53)	3.3 (35)	7479 (51)	9.0 (53)	68 (50)
800 ²	1816 (43)	3.0 (39)	15044 (46)	8.0 (58)	66 (51)

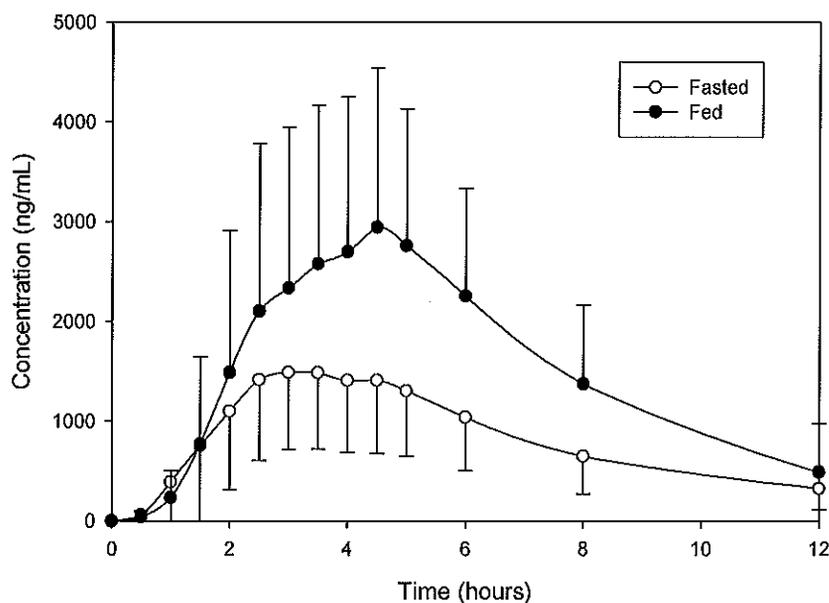
¹Subjects received 1×400 mg tablet under fasted conditions (N=42)
²Subjects received 2×400 mg tablets under fasted conditions (N=59)

Food Effects

A randomized, two-way, crossover study was conducted in 42 healthy volunteers (31 males, 11 females) administered one 400 mg SKELAXIN tablet under fasted conditions and following a standard high-fat breakfast. Subjects ranged in age from 18 to 48 years (mean age = 23.5 ± 5.7 years). Compared to fasted conditions, the presence of high fat meal at the time of drug administration increased C_{max} by 177.5% and increased AUC (AUC_{0-t} , AUC_{∞}) by 123.5% and 115.4%, respectively. Time-to-peak concentration (T_{max}) was also delayed (4.3 h *versus* 3.3 h) and terminal half-life was decreased (2.4 h *versus* 9.0 h) under fed conditions compared to fasted.

In a second food effect study of similar design, two 400 mg SKELAXIN tablets (800 mg) were administered to healthy volunteers (N=59, 37 males, 22 females), ranging in age from 18-50 years (mean age = 25.6 ± 8.7 years). Compared to fasted conditions, the presence of a high fat meal at the time of drug administration increased C_{max} by 193.6% and increased AUC (AUC_{0-t} , AUC_{∞}) by 146.4% and 142.2%, respectively. Time-to-peak concentration (T_{max}) was also delayed (4.9 h *versus* 3.0 h) and terminal half-life was decreased (4.2 h *versus* 8.0 h) under fed conditions compared to fasted conditions. Similar food effect results were observed in the above study when one SKELAXIN 800 mg tablet was administered in place of two SKELAXIN 400 mg tablets. The increase in metaxalone exposure coinciding with a reduction in half-life may be attributed to more complete absorption of metaxalone in the presence of a high fat meal (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Mean (SD) Concentrations of Metaxalone following an 800 mg Dose under Fasted and Fed Conditions



Distribution, Metabolism, and Excretion

Although plasma protein binding and absolute bioavailability of metaxalone are not known, the apparent volume of distribution ($V/F \sim 800$ L) and lipophilicity ($\log P = 2.42$) of metaxalone suggest that the drug is extensively distributed in the tissues. Metaxalone is metabolized by the liver and excreted in the urine as unidentified metabolites.

Pharmacokinetics in Special Populations

Age: The effects of age on the pharmacokinetics of metaxalone were determined following single administration of two 400 mg tablets (800 mg) under fasted and fed conditions. The results were analyzed separately, as well as in combination with the results from three other studies. Using the combined data, the results indicate that the pharmacokinetics of metaxalone are significantly more affected by age under fasted

conditions than under fed conditions, with bioavailability under fasted conditions increasing with age.

The bioavailability of metaxalone under fasted and fed conditions in three groups of healthy volunteers of varying age is shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Mean (%CV) Pharmacokinetics Parameters Following Single Administration of Two 400 mg SKELAXIN Tablets (800 mg) under Fed Conditions						
	Younger Volunteers		Older Volunteers			
Age (years)	25.6 ± 8.7		39.3 ± 10.8		71.5 ± 5.0	
N	59		21		23	
Food	Fasted	Fed	Fasted	Fed	Fasted	Fed
C_{max} (ng/mL)	1816 (43)	3510 (41)	2719 (46)	2915 (55)	3168 (43)	3680 (59)
T_{max} (h)	3.0 (39)	4.9 (48)	3.0 (40)	8.7 (91)	2.6 (30)	6.5 (67)
AUC_{0-t} (ng·h/mL)	14531 (47)	20683 (41)	19836 (40)	20482 (37)	23797 (45)	24340 (48)
AUC_∞ (ng·h/mL)	15045 (46)	20833 (41)	20490 (39)	20815 (37)	24194 (44)	24704 (47)

Gender: The effect of gender on the pharmacokinetics of metaxalone was assessed in an open label study, in which 48 healthy adult volunteers (24 males, 24 females) were administered two SKELAXIN 400 mg tablets (800 mg) under fasted conditions. The bioavailability of metaxalone was significantly higher in females compared to males as evidenced by C_{max} (2115 ng/mL versus 1335 ng/mL) and AUC_∞ (17884 ng·h/mL versus 10328 ng·h/mL). The mean half-life was 11.1 hours in females and 7.6 hours in males. The apparent volume of distribution of metaxalone was approximately 22% higher in males than in females, but not significantly different when adjusted for body weight. Similar findings were also seen when the previously described combined dataset was used in the analysis

Hepatic/Renal Insufficiency: The impact of hepatic and renal disease on the pharmacokinetics of metaxalone has not been determined. In the absence of such information, SKELAXIN should be used with caution in patients with hepatic and/or renal impairment.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

SKELAXIN (metaxalone) is indicated as an adjunct to rest, physical therapy, and other measures for the relief of discomforts associated with acute, painful musculoskeletal

conditions. The mode of action of this drug has not been clearly identified, but may be related to its sedative properties. Metaxalone does not directly relax tense skeletal muscles in man.

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PRECAUTIONS

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Taking SKELAXIN with food may enhance general CNS depression; elderly patients may be especially susceptible to this CNS effect. (See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Pharmacokinetics and PRECAUTIONS: Information for Patients section).

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DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

The recommended dose for adults and children over 12 years of age is one 800 mg tablet three to four times a day.

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