I. Background

The Drug Price Competition and Patent Term Restoration Act of 1984 (Pub. L. 98–417) and the Generic Animal Drug and Patent Term Restoration Act (Pub. L. 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 biological products, the testing phase begins when the exemption to permit the clinical investigations of the biological becomes effective and runs until the approval phase begins. The approval phase starts with the initial...
submission of an application to market the human biological product and continues until FDA grants permission to market the biological 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 biological product will include all of the testing phase and approval phase as specified in 35 U.S.C. 156(g)(1)(B).

FDA has approved for marketing the human biologic product, ENTYVIO (vedolizumab). ENTYVIO is indicated for adult ulcerative colitis and adult Crohn’s disease. Subsequent to this approval, the USPTO received a patent term restoration application for ENTYVIO (U.S. Patent No. 7,147,851) from Millenium Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and the USPTO requested FDA’s assistance in determining this patent’s eligibility for patent term restoration. In a letter dated January 6, 2016, FDA advised the USPTO that this human biological product had undergone a regulatory review period and that the approval of ENTYVIO represented the first permitted commercial marketing or use of the product. Thereafter, the USPTO requested that FDA determine the product’s regulatory review period.

II. Determination of Regulatory Review Period

FDA has determined that the applicable regulatory review period for ENTYVIO is 5,066 days. Of this time, 4,731 days occurred during the testing phase of the regulatory review period, while 335 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 (21 U.S.C. 355(i)) became effective: July 8, 2000. The applicant claims August 18, 2000, as the date the investigational new drug application (IND) became effective. However, FDA records indicate that the IND effective date was July 8, 2000, which was 30 days after FDA receipt of the IND.

2. The date the application was initially submitted with respect to the human biological product under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 262): June 20, 2013. FDA has verified the applicant’s claim that the biological license application (BLA) for ENTYVIO (BLA 125476) was initially submitted on June 20, 2013.

3. The date the application was approved: May 20, 2014. FDA has verified the applicant’s claim that BLA 125476 was approved on May 20, 2014. This determination of the regulatory review period establishes the maximum potential length of a patent extension. However, the USPTO applies several statutory limitations in its calculations of the actual period for patent extension. In its application for patent extension, this applicant seeks 1,526 days of patent term extension.

III. Petitions

Anyone with knowledge that any of the dates as published are incorrect may submit either electronic or written comments and ask for a redetermination (see DATES). 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. To meet its burden, the petition must be timely (see DATES) and 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 format specified in 21 CFR 10.30.

Submit petitions electronically to http://www.regulations.gov, Docket No. FDA–2013–S–0610. Submit written petitions (two copies are required) to the Division of Dockets Management (HFA–305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

Dated: September 12, 2016.

Leslie Kux,
Associate Commissioner for Policy.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration [Docket No. FDA–2016–N–0001] Coordinated Development of Antimicrobial Drugs and Antimicrobial Susceptibility Test Devices

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of public workshop.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or Agency) is announcing a public workshop regarding “Coordinated Development of Antimicrobial Drugs and Antimicrobial Susceptibility Test Devices (ASTs).” This public workshop is intended to facilitate discussion between drug sponsors and device manufacturers who are planning to develop new antimicrobial drugs or ASTs and who wish to coordinate development of these products, such that the AST device could be cleared either at the time of new drug approval or shortly thereafter. The input from this public workshop will also help in developing topics for future discussion.

DATES: Dates and Times: The public workshop will be held on September 29, 2016, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. See the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section for registration information.

ADDRESSES: Location: The public workshop will be held at the Sheraton Silver Spring Hotel, 8777 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910. The hotel’s phone number is 301–589–0800.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Persons: Lori Benner and/or Jessica Barnes, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 22, Rm. 6221, Silver Spring, MD 20993–0002, 301–796–1300.

Registration: Registration is free for the public workshop. Interested parties are encouraged to register early. Seating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. To register electronically, email your registration information (including name, title, firm name, address, telephone number, and fax number) to AntimicrobialSusceptibilitytestingWorkshop2016@fda.hhs.gov.

If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please contact Jessica Barnes or Lori Benner (see Contact Persons above) at least 7 days in advance.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: FDA is announcing a public workshop pertaining to the coordinated development of antimicrobial drugs and ASTs. Discussions will focus on assisting drug sponsors and device manufacturers who are planning to develop new antimicrobial drugs or ASTs and who seek to coordinate development of these products.

The goals of the workshop are to: (1) Outline the regulatory considerations for submitting separate applications to the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research and the Center for Devices and Radiological Health for antimicrobial drugs and ASTs, respectively; (2) identify the challenges related to obtaining data supporting the clearance of an AST device coincident with or soon after antimicrobial drug approval; and (3) discuss ideas for addressing these challenges.