

must identify this information as “confidential.” Any information marked as “confidential” will not be disclosed except in accordance with 21 CFR 10.20 and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA’s posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469, September 18, 2015, or access the information at: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf>.

**Docket:** For access to the docket to read background documents or the electronic and written/paper comments received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and insert the docket number, found in brackets in the heading of this document, into the “Search” box and follow the prompts and/or go to the Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

You may submit comments on any guidance at any time (see 21 CFR 10.115(g)(5)).

Submit written requests for single copies of the draft guidance to the Division of Drug Information, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10001 New Hampshire Ave., Hillandale Building, 4th Floor, Silver Spring, MD 20993–0002. Send one self-addressed adhesive label to assist that office in processing your requests. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for electronic access to the draft guidance document.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Sandra Benton, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 22, Rm. 1132, Silver Spring, MD 20993, 301–796–1042; [sandra.benton@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:sandra.benton@fda.hhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

FDA is announcing the availability of a draft guidance for industry entitled “Clinical Immunogenicity Considerations for Biosimilar and Interchangeable Insulin Products.” The purpose of this draft guidance is to provide recommendations to applicants regarding whether and when comparative clinical immunogenicity studies may be needed to support licensure of proposed biosimilar and interchangeable recombinant human insulins, recombinant human insulin mix products, and recombinant insulin analog products that are intended for the treatment of patients with Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes mellitus (collectively referred to as “insulin products”).

Section 7002(e)(4) of the Biologics Price Competition and Innovation Act of 2009 (BPCI Act) requires that on March

23, 2020, an approved application for a biological product under section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) (21 U.S.C. 355) will be deemed to be a license for the biological product under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act (PHS Act) (42 U.S.C. 262). Although the majority of therapeutic biological products have been licensed under section 351 of the PHS Act, some protein products historically have been approved under section 505 of the FD&C Act. The BPCI Act clarified the statutory authority under which certain protein products will be regulated by amending the definition of a “biological product” in section 351(i) of the PHS Act to include a “protein (except any chemically synthesized polypeptide),” and describing procedures for submission of a marketing application for certain “biological products.”

The biological products affected by this transition include insulin products. On March 23, 2020, the approved new drug applications (NDAs) for insulin products will be deemed to be licenses under section 351(a) of the PHS Act. Such deemed BLAs will then be available to be used as reference products by applicants seeking licensure of proposed biosimilar and interchangeable insulin products under section 351(k) of the PHS Act.

This draft guidance is being issued consistent with FDA’s good guidance practices regulation (21 CFR 10.115). The draft guidance, when finalized, will represent the current thinking of FDA on “Clinical Immunogenicity Considerations for Biosimilar and Interchangeable Insulin Products.” It does not establish any rights for any person and is not binding on FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if it satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations.

**II. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995**

This draft guidance refers to information collection provisions that are subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3521). The submission of an investigational new drug application is covered under 21 CFR part 312 and approved under OMB control number 0910–0014. The submission of a BLA under section 351(a) of the PHS Act is covered under 21 CFR part 601 and approved under OMB control number 0910–0338. The submission of a BLA under section 351(k) of the PHS Act is covered under 21 CFR part 601 and approved under OMB control number 0910–0719.

**III. Electronic Access**

Persons with access to the internet may obtain the draft guidance at either <https://www.fda.gov/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/default.htm> or <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Dated: November 21, 2019.

**Brett P. Giroir,**

*Acting Commissioner of Food and Drugs.*

[FR Doc. 2019–25919 Filed 11–27–19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4164–01–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Food and Drug Administration**

[Docket No. FDA–2018–E–4429]

**Determination of Regulatory Review Period for Purposes of Patent Extension; CRYSVITA**

**AGENCY:** Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or the Agency) has determined the regulatory review period for CRYSVITA and is publishing this notice of that determination as required by law. FDA has made the determination because of the submission of applications to the Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), Department of Commerce, for the extension of patents which claim that human biological product.

**DATES:** Anyone with knowledge that any of the dates as published (see the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section) are incorrect may submit either electronic or written comments and ask for a redetermination by January 28, 2020. 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 by May 27, 2020. See “Petitions” in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for more information.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments as follows. Please note that late, untimely filed comments will not be considered. Electronic comments must be submitted on or before January 28, 2020. The <https://www.regulations.gov> electronic filing system will accept comments until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time at the end of January 28, 2020. Comments received by mail/hand delivery/courier (for written/paper submissions) will be considered timely if they are postmarked or the delivery

service acceptance receipt is on or before that date.

#### Electronic Submissions

Submit electronic comments in the following way:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments submitted electronically, including attachments, to <https://www.regulations.gov> will be posted to the docket unchanged. Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for ensuring that your comment does not include any confidential information that you or a third party may not wish to be posted, such as medical information, your or anyone else's Social Security number, or confidential business information, such as a manufacturing process. Please note that if you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>.

- If you want to submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made available to the public, submit the comment as a written/paper submission and in the manner detailed (see "Written/Paper Submissions" and "Instructions").

#### Written/Paper Submissions

Submit written/paper submissions as follows:

- **Mail/Hand delivery/Courier (for written/paper submissions):** Dockets Management Staff (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.
- For written/paper comments submitted to the Dockets Management Staff, FDA will post your comment, as well as any attachments, except for information submitted, marked and identified, as confidential, if submitted as detailed in "Instructions."

**Instructions:** All submissions received must include the Docket No. FDA-2018-E-4429 for "Determination of Regulatory Review Period for Purposes of Patent Extension; CRYSVITA." Received comments, those filed in a timely manner (see **ADDRESSES**), will be placed in the docket and, except for those submitted as "Confidential Submissions," publicly viewable at <https://www.regulations.gov> or at the Dockets Management Staff between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

- **Confidential Submissions**—To submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made publicly available, submit your comments only as a written/paper

submission. You should submit two copies total. One copy will include the information you claim to be confidential with a heading or cover note that states "THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION." The Agency will review this copy, including the claimed confidential information, in its consideration of comments. The second copy, which will have the claimed confidential information redacted/blacked out, will be available for public viewing and posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>. Submit both copies to the Dockets Management Staff. If you do not wish your name and contact information to be made publicly available, you can provide this information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify this information as "confidential." Any information marked as "confidential" will not be disclosed except in accordance with § 10.20 (21 CFR 10.20) and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA's posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469, September 18, 2015, or access the information at: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf>.

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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Beverly Friedman, Office of Regulatory Policy, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 51, Rm. 6250, Silver Spring, MD 20993, 301-796-3600.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### 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 product 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 USPTO 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 CRYSVITA (burosumab-twza). CRYSVITA is indicated for the treatment of X-linked hypophosphatemia in adult and pediatric patients 1 year of age and older. Subsequent to this approval, the USPTO received patent term restoration applications for CRYSVITA (U.S. Patent Nos. 7,314,618; 7,883,705; and 9,290,569) from Indiana University Research and Technology Institute and Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, and the USPTO requested FDA's assistance in determining the patents' eligibility for patent term restoration. In a letter dated May 13, 2019, FDA advised the USPTO that this human biological product had undergone a regulatory review period and that the approval of CRYSVITA 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 CRYSVITA is 3,485 days. Of this time, 3,241 days occurred during the testing phase of the regulatory review period, while 244 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:* October 3, 2008. FDA has verified the applicants' claim that the date the investigational new drug

application became effective was on October 3, 2008.

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):* August 17, 2017. FDA has verified the applicants' claim that the biologics license application (BLA) for CRYSVITA (BLA 761068) was initially submitted on August 17, 2017.

3. *The date the application was approved:* April 17, 2018. FDA has verified the applicants' claim that BLA 761068 was approved on April 17, 2018.

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 the applications for patent extension, these applicants seek 5 days, 1,168 days, or 501 days, respectively, 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, under 21 CFR 60.24, ask for a redetermination (see **DATES**). Furthermore, as specified in § 60.30 (21 CFR 60.30), 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 comply with all the requirements of § 60.30, including but not limited to: Must be timely (see **DATES**), must be filed in accordance with § 10.20, must contain sufficient facts to merit an FDA investigation, and must certify that a true and complete copy of the petition has been served upon the patent applicant. (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 <https://www.regulations.gov> at Docket No. FDA–2013–S–0610. Submit written petitions (two copies are required) to the Dockets Management Staff (HFA–305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

Dated: November 21, 2019.

**Lowell J. Schiller,**

*Principal Associate Commissioner for Policy.*

[FR Doc. 2019–25821 Filed 11–27–19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4164–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA–2019–N–1614]

#### Tzvi Lexier: Final Debarment Order

**AGENCY:** Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is issuing an order under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) debarring Tzvi Lexier for a period of 10 years from importing any drug into the United States. FDA bases this order on a finding that Mr. Lexier was convicted, as defined in the FD&C Act, of one felony count under Federal law for conspiracy to smuggle into and distribute within the United States misbranded drugs and one felony count under Federal law for unlicensed wholesale distribution of prescription drugs. The factual basis supporting both felony convictions, as described below, is conduct relating to the importation into the United States of a drug or controlled substance. Mr. Lexier was given notice of the proposed debarment and, in accordance with the FD&C Act, was given an opportunity to request a hearing to show why he should not be debarred. As of August 2, 2019 (30 days after receipt of the notice), Mr. Lexier had not responded. Mr. Lexier's failure to respond and request a hearing constitutes a waiver of his right to a hearing concerning this matter.

**DATES:** This order is applicable November 29, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit applications for termination of debarment to the Dockets Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jaime Espinosa, Division of Enforcement, Office of Strategic Planning and Operational Policy, Office of Regulatory Affairs, Food and Drug Administration, 12420 Parklawn Dr., Rockville, MD 20857 or at [debarments@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:debarments@fda.hhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### I. Background

Section 306(b)(1)(D) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. 335a(b)(1)(D)) permits debarment of an individual from importing or offering for import any drug into the United States if FDA finds, as required by section 306(b)(3)(C) of the FD&C Act, that the individual has been convicted of a felony for conduct

relating to the importation into the United States of any drug or controlled substance. On January 18, 2019, Mr. Lexier was convicted as defined in section 306(l)(1)(B) of the FD&C Act, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, when the court accepted his plea of guilty and entered judgment against him for the offenses of conspiracy in violation of 18 U.S.C. 371 and unlicensed wholesale distribution of prescription drugs in violation of section 301(t) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. 331(t)).

FDA's finding that debarment is appropriate is based on the felony convictions referenced herein. The factual basis for these convictions is as follows: As contained in the Stipulation of Facts incorporated into the Plea Agreement, filed on October 25, 2018, from on or about April 2011 to December 2014, Tzvi Lexier conspired with certain other named individuals to smuggle into and distribute within the United States, on multiple occasions, misbranded drugs. During this time, Mr. Lexier served as a principal of SB Medical and TC Medical. In that role, he coordinated the supply of drugs from foreign countries ultimately intended for the illegal importation into and sale inside the United States. The misbranded and unapproved prescription drugs smuggled and sold in the United States by the conspiracy include: Aclasta; Mabthera; and Bonviva, as well as foreign, unapproved versions of FDA-approved drug products Actemra; Botox; Botox Cosmetic; Dysport; Lucentis; Orencia; Prolia; Remicade; and, Zometa.

As a result of this conviction, FDA sent Mr. Lexier by certified mail on June 24, 2019, a notice proposing to debar him for two consecutive 5-year periods (10 years) from importing or offering for import any drug into the United States. The proposal was based on a finding under section 306(b)(3)(C) of the FD&C Act that Mr. Lexier's felony convictions for conspiracy in violation of 18 U.S.C. 371 and unlicensed wholesale distribution of prescription drugs in violation of section 301(t) of the FD&C Act were for conduct relating to the importation into the United States of any drug or controlled substance because he conspired with others to smuggle into and distribute within the United States, on multiple occasions, misbranded drugs. In proposing a debarment period, FDA weighed the considerations set forth in section 306(c)(3) of the FD&C Act that it considered applicable to Mr. Lexier's offenses, concluded that each of these felony offenses independently warranted a five-year period of