National Drug Scheduling Advisory Committee Teleconference Meeting Minutes  
January 25, 2008

A meeting of the National Drug Scheduling Advisory Committee (NDSAC) was held by teleconference on Friday, January 25, 2008 starting at 1:30 pm EST. The purpose of the meeting was to continue discussion of the request to re-schedule “Ranitidine and its salts, when sold in concentrations of 150 mg or less per oral dosage unit and indicated for the treatment of heartburn, in package sizes containing more than 4500 mg of ranitidine” from Schedule II to Schedule III.

Participants

Committee members
Margot Priddle, Chair; Dawn Frail, Vice Chair; Kim Abbass; Dr. Sheldon Koven; Dr. Larry Lynd; Dr. Nancy MacDonald; Dr. Ruth Wilson; Dr. Peter Zed

Observers
Don Hoffman – Therapeutic Products Directorate, Health Canada
Joan Sayer – Consumers Association of Canada

Staff
Karen Wolfe – Executive Director, NAPRA
Barbara Wells – NDSAC Secretariat

1.0 Call to order

1.1 Call to Order
Margot Priddle called the session to order at 1:30 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1.2 Conflict of interest declarations
Ms. Priddle called for conflict of interest declarations. Dr. MacDonald indicated that she was a former employee of McNeil Consumer Health Care, the scheduling request applicant.
It was agreed that the involvement disclosed did not present conflicts of interest.

2.0 Approval of the agenda
The agenda was approved as circulated

3.0 Ranitidine and its salts
Ms Priddle reviewed the information requested by the committee at the previous meeting and that which was provided. At the December 2007 meeting, the scheduling applicant (McNeil Consumer Healthcare) had been asked to obtain additional information in a number of areas, for the committee’s consideration. In addition, the committee reviewed further information obtained by the Ottawa Valley Regional Drug Information Service, as requested. The Chair asked if Committee members now had sufficient information to continue their deliberations, and all agreed.
After reviewing all the scheduling factors, the Committee agreed that factors #III-1, 2, and 4 only, applied.
It was moved by S. Koven, seconded by L. Lynd, that “ranitidine and its salts, when sold in concentrations of 150 mg or less per oral dosage unit and indicated for the treatment of heartburn, in package sizes containing more than 4500 mg of ranitidine” be granted Schedule III status.

Motion carried.

4.0 Date of next meeting
March 9-10, 2008. The meeting agenda is expected to require a full two days.

5.0 Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.