(f) *Proposed order.* After reviewing the conclusions and recommendations of the advisory review panel, the Commissioner of Food and Drugs shall publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER a proposed order containing:

(1) A statement designating the biological products in the category under review that are determined by the Commissioner of Food and Drugs to be safe and effective and not misbranded. This statement may include any condition relating to active components, labeling, tests required prior to release of lots, product standards, or other conditions necessary or appropriate for their safety and effectiveness, and may propose corresponding amendments in other regulations under this subchapter F.

(2) A statement designating the biological products in the category under review that are determined by the Commissioner of Food and Drugs to be unsafe or ineffective, or to be misbranded, together with the reasons therefor. All licenses for such products shall be proposed to be revoked.

(3) A statement designating the biological products not included in either of the above two statements on the basis of the Commissioner of Food and Drugs determination that the available data are insufficient to classify such biological products under either paragraph (f) (1) or (2) of this section. Licenses for such products may be proposed to be revoked or to remain in effect on an interim basis. Where the Commissioner determines that the potential benefits outweigh the potential risks, the proposed order shall provide that the biologics license for any biological product, falling within this paragraph, will not be revoked but will remain in effect on an interim basis while the data necessary to support its continued marketing are being obtained for evaluation by the Food and Drug Administration. The tests necessary to resolve whatever safety or effectiveness questions exist shall be described.[2]

(4) The full report or reports of the panel to the Commissioner of Food and Drugs.

The summary minutes of the panel meeting or meetings shall be made available to interested persons upon request. Any interested person may within 90 days after publication of the proposed order in the FEDERAL REGISTER, file with the Hearing Clerk of the Food and Drug Administration written comments in quintuplicate. Comments may be accompanied by a memorandum or brief in support thereof. All comments may be reviewed at the office of the Division of Dockets Management during regular working hours, Monday through Friday.

(g) *Final order.* After reviewing the comments, the Commissioner of Food and Drugs shall publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER a final order on the matters covered in the proposed order. The final order shall become effective as specified in the order.

(h) [Reserved]

(i) *Court Appeal.* The final order(s) published pursuant to paragraph (g) of this section, and any notice published pursuant to paragraph (h) of this section, constitute final agency action from which appeal lies to the courts. The Food and Drug Administration will request consolidation of all appeals in a single court. Upon court appeal, the Commissioner of Food and Drugs may, at his discretion, stay the effective date for part or all of the final order or notice, pending appeal and final court adjudication.

[38 FR 32052, Nov. 20, 1973, as amended at 39 FR 11535, Mar. 29, 1974; 40 FR 13498, Mar. 27, 1975; 43 FR 44838, Sept. 29, 1978; 47 FR 44071, Oct. 5, 1982; 47 FR 50211, Nov. 5, 1982; 51 FR 15607, Apr. 25, 1986; 55 FR 11014, Mar. 26, 1990; 62 FR 53538, Oct. 15, 1997; 64 FR 56452, Oct. 20, 1999]

§ 601.26 Reclassification procedures to determine that licensed biological products are safe, effective, and not misbranded under prescribed, recommended, or suggested conditions of use.

This regulation establishes procedures for the reclassification of all biological products that have been classified into Category IIIA. A Category

[2] As of November 4, 1982, the provisions under paragraphs (e)(3) and (f)(3) of this section for the interim marketing of certain biological products pending completion of additional studies have been superseded by the review and reclassification procedures under § 601.26 of this chapter. The superseded text is included for the convenience of the user only.

IIIA biological product is one for which an advisory review panel has recommended under § 601.25(e)(3), the Commissioner of Food and Drugs (Commissioner) has proposed under § 601.25(f)(3), or the Commissioner has finally decided under § 601.25(g) that available data are insufficient to determine whether the product license should be revoked or affirmed and which may be marketed pending the completion of further testing. All of these Category IIIA products will either be reclassified into Category I (safe, effective, and not misbranded) or Category II (unsafe, ineffective, or misbranded) in accordance with the procedures set forth below.

(a) *Advisory review panels.* The Commissioner will appoint advisory review panels and use existing advisory review panels to (1) evaluate the safety and effectiveness of all Category IIIA biological products; (2) review the labeling of such products; and (3) advise the Commissioner on which Category IIIA biological products are safe, effective, and not misbranded. These advisory review panels will be established in accordance with procedures set forth in § 601.25(a).

(b) *Deliberations of advisory review panels.* The deliberations of advisory review panels will be conducted in accordance with § 601.25(d).

(c) *Advisory review panel report to the Commissioner.* An advisory review panel shall submit to the Commissioner a report containing the panel's conclusions and recommendations with respect to the biological products falling within the category of products reviewed by the panel. The panel report shall include:

(1) A statement designating the biological products in the category under review in accordance with either § 601.25(e)(1) or § 601.25(e)(2).

(2) A statement identifying those biological products designated under § 601.25(e)(2) that the panel recommends should be designated as safe and presumptively effective and should remain on the market pending completion of further testing because there is a compelling medical need and no suitable alternative therapeutic, prophylactic, or diagnostic agent that is available in sufficient quantities to meet current medical needs. For the products or categories of products so recommended, the report shall include:

(i) A description and evaluation of the available evidence concerning effectiveness and an explanation why the evidence shows that the product has any benefit; and

(ii) A description of the alternative therapeutic, prophylactic, or diagnostic agents considered and a statement of why such alternatives are not suitable. In making this recommendation the panel shall also take into account the seriousness of the condition intended to be treated, prevented, or diagnosed by the product, the risks involved in the continued use of the product, and the likelihood that, based upon existing data, the effectiveness of the product can eventually be established by further testing and new test development. The report shall also recommend with as much specificity as possible the type of further testing required and the time period within which it might reasonably be concluded.

(d) *Proposed order.* After reviewing the conclusions and recommendations of the advisory review panels, the Commissioner shall publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER a proposed order containing:

(1) A statement designating the biological products in the category under review in accordance with either § 601.25(e)(1) or 601.25(e)(2);

(2) A notice of availability of the full panel report or reports. The full panel report or reports shall be made publicly available at the time of publication of the proposed order.

(3) A proposal to accept or reject the findings of the advisory review panel required by § 601.26(c)(2)(i) and (ii).

(4) A statement identifying those biological products that the Commissioner proposes should be designated as safe and presumptively effective under § 601.26(c)(2) and should be permitted to remain on the market pending completion of further testing because there is a compelling medical need and no suitable alternative therapeutic, prophylactic, or diagnostic agent for the product that is available in sufficient quantities to meet current medical needs. In making this proposal, the Commissioner shall take into account the seriousness of the condition to be treated,

prevented, or diagnosed by the product, the risks involved in the continued use of the product, and the likelihood that, based upon existing data, the effectiveness of the product can eventually be established by further testing.

(e) *Final order.* After reviewing the comments on the proposed order, the Commissioner shall publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER a final order on the matters covered in the proposed order. Where the Commissioner determines that there is a compelling medical need and no suitable alternative therapeutic, prophylactic, or diagnostic agent for any biological product that is available in sufficient quantities to meet current medical needs, the final order shall provide that the biologics license application for that biological product will not be revoked, but will remain in effect on an interim basis while the data necessary to support its continued marketing are being obtained for evaluation by the Food and Drug Administration. The final order shall describe the tests necessary to resolve whatever effectiveness questions exist.

(f) *Additional studies and labeling.* (1) Within 60 days following publication of the final order, each licensed manufacturer for a biological product designated as requiring further study to justify continued marketing on an interim basis, under paragraph (e) of this section, shall submit to the Commissioner a written statement intended to show that studies adequate and appropriate to resolve the questions raised about the product have been undertaken. The Federal Government may undertake the studies. Any study involving a clinical investigation that involves human subjects shall be conducted in compliance with the requirements for informed consent under part 50 of this chapter. Such a study is also subject to the requirements for institutional review under part 56 of this chapter unless exempt under § 56.104 or § 56.105. The Commissioner may extend this 60-day period if necessary, either to review and act on proposed protocols or upon indication from the licensed manufacturer that the studies will commence at a specified reasonable time. If no such commitment is made, or adequate and appropriate studies are not undertaken, the biologics license or licenses shall be revoked.

(2) A progress report shall be filed on the studies by January 1 and July 1 until completion. If the progress report is inadequate or if the Commissioner concludes that the studies are not being pursued promptly and diligently, or if interim results indicate the product is not a medical necessity, the biologics license or licenses shall be revoked.

(3) Promptly upon completion of the studies undertaken on the product, the Commissioner will review all available data and will either retain or revoke the biologics license or licenses involved. In making this review the Commissioner may again consult the advisory review panel which prepared the report on the product, or other advisory committees, professional organizations, or experts. The Commissioner shall take such action by notice published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(4) Labeling and promotional material for those biological products requiring additional studies shall bear a box statement in the following format:

Based on a review by the (*insert name of appropriate advisory review panel*) and other information, the Food and Drug Administration has directed that further investigation be conducted before this product is conclusively determined to be effective for labeled indication(s).

(5) A written informed consent shall be obtained from participants in any additional studies required under paragraph (f)(1) of this section, explaining the nature of the product and the investigation. The explanation shall consist of such disclosure and be made so that intelligent and informed consent be given and that a clear opportunity to refuse is presented.

(g) *Court appeal.* The final order(s) published pursuant to paragraph (e) of this section constitute final agency action from which appeal lies to the courts. The Food and Drug Administration will request consolidation of all appeals in a single court. Upon court appeal, the Commissioner of Food and Drugs may, at the Commissioner's discretion, stay the effective date for part or all of the final order or notice, pending appeal and final court adjudication.

(h) [Reserved]

(i) *Institutional review and informed consent.* Information and data submitted under this section after July 27, 1981, shall include statements regarding each clinical investigation involving human subjects, that it was conducted in compliance with the requirements for informed consent under part 50 of this chapter. Such a study is also subject to the requirements for institutional review under part 56 of this chapter, unless exempt under § 56.104 or § 56.105.

[47 FR 44071, Oct. 5, 1982, as amended at 64 FR 56452, Oct. 20, 1999]

§ 601.27 Pediatric studies.

(a) *Required assessment.* Except as provided in paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of this section, each application for a new active ingredient, new indication, new dosage form, new dosing regimen, or new route of administration shall contain data that are adequate to assess the safety and effectiveness of the product for the claimed indications in all relevant pediatric subpopulations, and to support dosing and administration for each pediatric subpopulation for which the product is safe and effective. Where the course of the disease and the effects of the product are similar in adults and pediatric patients, FDA may conclude that pediatric effectiveness can be extrapolated from adequate and well-controlled effectiveness studies in adults, usually supplemented with other information in pediatric patients, such as pharmacokinetic studies. In addition, studies may not be needed in each pediatric age group, if data from one age group can be extrapolated to another. Assessments required under this section for a product that represents a meaningful therapeutic benefit over existing treatments must be carried out using appropriate formulations for the age group(s) for which the assessment is required.

(b) *Deferred submission.* (1) FDA may, on its own initiative or at the request of an applicant, defer submission of some or all assessments of safety and effectiveness described in paragraph (a) of this section until after licensing of the product for use in adults. Deferral may be granted if, among other reasons, the product is ready for approval in adults before studies in pediatric patients are complete, pediatric studies should be delayed until additional safety or effectiveness data have been collected. If an applicant requests deferred submission, the request must provide an adequate justification for delaying pediatric studies, a description of the planned or ongoing studies, and evidence that the studies are being or will be conducted with due diligence and at the earliest possible time.

(2) If FDA determines that there is an adequate justification for temporarily delaying the submission of assessments of pediatric safety and effectiveness, the product may be licensed for use in adults subject to the requirement that the applicant submit the required assessments within a specified time.

(c) *Waivers*—(1) *General.* FDA may grant a full or partial waiver of the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section on its own initiative or at the request of an applicant. A request for a waiver must provide an adequate justification.

(2) *Full waiver.* An applicant may request a waiver of the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section if the applicant certifies that:

(i) The product does not represent a meaningful therapeutic benefit over existing therapies for pediatric patients and is not likely to be used in a substantial number of pediatric patients;

(ii) Necessary studies are impossible or highly impractical because, e.g., the number of such patients is so small or geographically dispersed; or

(iii) There is evidence strongly suggesting that the product would be ineffective or unsafe in all pediatric age groups.

(3) *Partial waiver.* An applicant may request a waiver of the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section with respect to a specified pediatric age group, if the applicant certifies that:

(i) The product does not represent a meaningful therapeutic benefit over existing therapies for pediatric patients in that age group, and is not likely to be used in a substantial number of patients in that age group;

(ii) Necessary studies are impossible or highly impractical because, e.g., the