



founded 1881

July 3, 2007

Jayne Peterson
Advisors and Consultants Staff (HFD-21)
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Via e-mail to jayne.peterson@fda.hhs.gov

Re: CHPA's Nomination for Industry Representative to the Nonprescription Drugs
Advisory Committee

Dear Ms. Peterson:

With this letter, the Consumer Healthcare Products Association (CHPA) expresses its great interest in the selection of the industry representative to serve on the Nonprescription Drugs Advisory Committee (NDAC), as requested in the *Federal Register* notice of June 8, 2007. CHPA has polled its members and identified Edward B. Nelson, M.D., Ph.D., as the consensus candidate to be the industry representative on NDAC.

CHPA, founded in 1881, is the national trade organization representing manufacturers and distributors of nonprescription medicines and dietary supplements. Our members account for more than 90% of the domestic retail sales of over-the-counter (OTC) medicines. Throughout the years, the association has had an active interest in all aspects of OTC regulation, including Rx-to-OTC switch decisions as well as issues under the OTC review.

Given the association's strong presence in matters affecting nonprescription drugs, it is important for CHPA to participate in the selection process for the industry representative to NDAC. The majority of OTC drug issues will affect more CHPA members as an organization than any other industry trade group. If other industry organizations notify FDA of their interest in participating in the selection process for the representative to NDAC, we will, as we have in the past, work to reach consensus with them on the nomination.

As is evident from the attached curriculum vitae, Dr. Nelson has an impressive medical career history, including 14 years in the pharmaceutical industry, and he understands the scope and nature of the pharmaceutical issues that come before NDAC. In positions of vice president, medical and research and development, and then vice president, scientific affairs, at McNeil Consumer and Specialty Pharmaceuticals, he dealt with a broad array of OTC products, from

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development through approval, marketing, and postmarketing safety surveillance. He came to industry after having served in several positions in academic medicine. He has extensive experience in conducting clinical trials, both from the corporate and academic positions. Those include faculty positions at the State University of New York School of Medicine and Baylor College of Medicine. He was also an associate attending physician at the Texas Medical Center Methodist Hospital in Houston.

Please call me at 202-429-3535 if you need additional information about Dr. Nelson.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,


Heinz Schneider, Dr.Med.
Vice President
Regulatory & Scientific Affairs

Attachment: Curriculum Vitae for Edward Blake Nelson, M.D., Ph.D.