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Generic + Biosimilar Medicines Conference

Acquisitions/Licensing and Mergers
What Are the Regulatory Requirements
& Strategies to Consider?

Scott D. Tomsky VP, Regulatory Affairs, Generics, North America, Teva Pharmaceuticals











Agenda

- Due Diligence
- Change in ownership of an application
- NDC / Labeling transition
- Site Transfers



Due Diligence

- Cannot underestimate the challenges that will be encountered when merging or acquiring a company or product(s)
 - Use of different
 - document management systems
 - submission publishing tools
 - Databases / spreadsheets
 - Pros/cons with respect to
 - keeping existing systems in place at legacy sites
 - Switching one or more acquired/merged sites to a common system
- Attention to detail
 - Compliance with regulations for ARs, Labeling updates, etc

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Change in Ownership of an application

- UPDATE
- New and former owners of application are required to submit notification of the transfer to FDA (see 21 CFR 314.72)
 - Former owner must state that all rights to the application have been transferred to the new owner
 - New owner
 - must commit to agreements, promises, and conditions made by the former owner and contained in the application
 - clarify the effective date of the change
 - Include a statement that they have a complete copy of the application, or request for a copy of the application from FDA's files



Change in ownership (cont)

- Coordination of transferring the application(s)
 - Need to ensure adequate time and resources
 - Gather and or scan applications for transfer, especially for older files that were submitted in paper and may be stored offsite
 - Files of scanned paper submissions are often large and present challenges for sharing via cloud based sites
 - Indexing / naming of files
 - Answering questions about old files that lack any history or knowledge transfer



NDC and Labeling Transition

- Clearly lay out responsibilities in technical service agreements (TSAs)
 - target completion dates before merger/acquisition is finalized
 - ensure all labeling source files and drug listings are transferred for applications part of the deal
- new owner must ensure labeling is updated with
 - new NDC number
 - new company trade dress
 - new contact information for reporting ADEs, located in the PI/medguide, if applicable
- Once labeling is updated, new NDCs/labeling needs to be drug listed



NDC and Labeling Transition (cont)

- If labeler codes are transferred to a new owner:
 - update ALL acquired Labeler Code Registrations with new company name and contact information
 - update should occur within 30 calendar days
 - FDA relies on this information to communicate with companies regarding their drug listings
 - Per 21 CFR 207.33(c)(2)
 - If a change in company name or DUNS number is made
 - all affected drug listings should be re-submitted to the agency when the change occurs [OR] in June or December, of that calendar year, per the regulations



Site Transfers

- It is critical that there is a good understanding of the differences between the originating site and receiving site
 - aid in the assessment and regulatory strategy
 - establish a clear understanding of the documents necessary to support the site transfer
 - e.g. split tablet testing
 - dissolution testing requirements, etc.
- Ensure that there is a realistic timeline for these activities and enough stock from the current site to prevent a drug shortage or supply interruption.
- Even if there are minimal changes proposed, there is no guarantee that everything will proceed without incident.



