

Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. Submit electronic comments to <http://www.fda.gov/dockets/ecomments>. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for electronic access to the guidances.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kyong Kang, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (HFD-160), Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, 301-827-7510, or George Q. Mills, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (HFM-573), Food and Drug Administration, 1401 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852-1448, 301-827-5097.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

In the **Federal Register** of October 14, 1998 (63 FR 55067), FDA published a notice announcing the availability of a draft guidance for industry entitled "Developing Medical Imaging Drugs and Biologics" (the medical imaging draft guidance). In a document published in the **Federal Register** of January 5, 1999 (64 FR 457), FDA reopened the comment period on the medical imaging draft guidance until February 12, 1999. In a document published in the **Federal Register** of February 16, 1999 (64 FR 7561), FDA extended the comment period until April 14, 1999.

FDA received numerous written comments on the medical imaging draft guidance. In addition, the agency held public meetings on January 25 and March 26, 1999, to discuss various issues concerning the medical imaging draft guidance. In the **Federal Register** of July 31, 2000 (65 FR 46674), the agency published a notice announcing the availability of a revised draft guidance.

After considering the comments that FDA received on the revised draft guidance, the agency has decided to issue the guidance again as a draft for comment. The agency has divided the draft guidance into three parts to make it more user-friendly. These three draft

guidances are intended to assist developers of medical imaging agents in planning and coordinating their clinical investigations and preparing and submitting INDs, NDAs, BLAs, ANDAs, and supplements to NDAs or BLAs.

Part 1 of "Medical Imaging Drug and Biological Products," entitled "Conducting Safety Assessments," discusses how to conduct safety assessments of medical imaging agents. Part 2, entitled "Clinical Indications," discusses how clinical development programs for medical imaging agents can be tailored to reflect the use of these agents for diagnosis and monitoring of diseases and conditions. Part 3, entitled "Design, Analysis, and Interpretation of Clinical Studies," discusses how to design a clinical development program for a medical imaging agent, including selecting subjects, and how to acquire, analyze, and interpret medical imaging data. Collectively, once finalized these draft guidances will provide information on how FDA will interpret and apply certain provisions in the final rule, published in the **Federal Register** of May 17, 1999 (64 FR 26657), on the evaluation and approval of in vivo radiopharmaceuticals used in diagnosis and monitoring.

These draft guidances are being issued consistent with FDA's good guidance practices regulation (21 CFR 10.115). The guidances represent the agency's current thinking on different aspects of the development of medical imaging agents. They do not create or confer any rights for or on any person and do not operate to bind FDA or the public. An alternative approach may be used if such approach satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations.

II. Comments

Interested persons may submit to the Dockets Management Branch (see **ADDRESSES**) written or electronic comments on the draft guidances. Submit a single copy of electronic comments or two paper copies of any

mailed comments, except that individuals may submit one paper copy. Comments are to be identified with the docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document. The guidances and received comments may be seen in the Dockets Management Branch between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

III. Electronic Access

Persons with access to the Internet may obtain the documents at <http://www.fda.gov/cder/guidance/index.htm>, <http://www.fda.gov/cber/guidelines.htm>, or <http://www.fda.gov/ohrms/dockets/default.htm>.

IV. The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

These guidances contain information collection provisions that are subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520). The guidances would not impose any additional reporting burden because information on the safety and effectiveness of medical imaging agents in applications for marketing approval and INDs is already required by existing regulations. In fact, clarification by the guidances of FDA's standards for evaluation of medical imaging agents is expected to reduce the overall burden of information collection. FDA received no comments on the analysis of information collection burdens stated in the notice of availability of the original draft guidance published in the **Federal Register** on October 14, 1998 (63 FR 55067). In the **Federal Register** of July 31, 2000 (65 FR 46674), the agency requested comments on the revised proposed collections of information. No comments were received.

Dated: May 10, 2003.

Jeffrey Shuren,

Assistant Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 03-12370 Filed 5-16-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-01-S