



Food and Drug Authority of Ethiopia (EFDA)

GUIDELINE FOR CONDITIONAL APPROVAL OF MEDICINES

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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ABBREVIATIONS

CTD	Common Technical Dossier
EFDA	Ethiopian Food & Drug Authority
FPP	Finished Pharmaceutical Product
GMP	Good Manufacturing Practice
MA	Marketing Authorization
PIL	Patient Information Leaflet
WHO	World Health Organization
SmPC	Summary of Product Characteristics
SRA	Stringent Regulatory Authority

DEFINITION

Unmet medical need: A condition for which there exists no satisfactory method of diagnosis, prevention or treatment in the community.

1. INTRODUCTION

Marketing Authorization is one of the crucial regulatory requirements to ensure safety, efficacy and quality of medicinal products. As per the article 19 (1) of Food and Medicine Administration Proclamation No. 1112/2019, the rigor of regulatory assessment of a medicine shall be commensurate with products type, nature and potential risk to human health.

This alternative marketing approval pathway is devised to provide access to certain medicines for unmet medical need of the public such as medicines for seriously debilitating disease or life treating disease, those used under emergency situation and orphan medicines, thus providing therapeutic benefit to the patients with potentially very limited alternative choices.

The preliminary assessment of such Finished Pharmaceutical Product (FPP) should prove that benefit of the product outweighs the risk inherent in the drug products and that the additional data requested should be submitted by the applicant within agreed up on commitment period.

Therefore, this guideline is prepared to facilitate conditional approval to permit applicants get a time-limited provisional registration of medicines by EFDA.

2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Medicines with indications for seriously debilitating or life-threatening conditions (such as cancer and multi-drug resistant tuberculosis), those used in emergency situation and orphan medicines are major candidates for conditional approval.

The following criteria should be fulfilled for conditional approval

1. The benefit – risk balance of medicine is positive
2. It is likely that the applicant will provide the comprehensive data
3. Unmet medical needs will be fulfilled
4. the immediate availability of the medicine on the market outweighs the risks due to the need for additional data

5. An early access pathway for medicines that show promising therapeutic effects but for which comprehensive data are not available.
6. Investigational Medicinal product under clinical trial phase 3, but are required for critical life-threatening diseases which have no other alternatives.

3. TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS

The applicant must submit/provide at least the following information and/or documents:

3.1 Administrative and prescribing information

- 3.1.1 Cover letter should be written and submitted as indicated in the most current medicine registration guideline of the authority.
- 3.1.2 Filled and signed application form as per the guideline for registration of medicine of the authority

3.1.3 Agency Agreement:

Follow the requirements stated under the respective section of Guideline for Registration of Medicine, 4th edition, EFDA.

3.1.4 Good Manufacturing Practice:

A copy of valid current good manufacturing practice (cGMP) certificate or GMP waiver letter issued by EFDA.

A copy of valid current good manufacturing practice (cGMP) certificate issued by national authority in the country of origin or SRA .

3.1.5 Product information

Product information including the package insert, labelling, and summary of product characteristics (SmPC) should be provided. All product information label statements are required to be in English and/or Amharic. The information provided should not vary significantly from the claims made for the same product in any other jurisdiction. Any information appearing in the product information [labels, patient information leaflet (PIL), and SmPC] should be based on scientific justification.

SmPC and package insert should mention that conditional marketing authorization has been granted subject to certain specific obligation to be reviewed annually.

(Applicant may refer the product information section of the Authority Guideline for registration of medicines)

a) Labeling

Only original labels or computer-ready colour-printed labels are accepted for final approval. In the case where the text of the labels is printed directly on plastic bottles through a silk screen process, photocopies of these labels will be accepted for approval. The titles for batch number, manufacturing, and expiry dates should be part of the printing (typewritten materials, stickers, etc., are not acceptable). If the labeling technology of the manufacturer is such that this information is to be printed on the label during production, a written commitment to show all the required information on the label of the finished product must be submitted. The contents of the label should at least contain the major information such as:

- i. The name of the product
- ii. Pharmaceutical form and route of administration
- iii. Qualitative and quantitative composition of active ingredient(s) and Special excipients
- iv. The volume of the contents, and/or the number of doses, or quantity in container;
- v. Directions to consult the package insert or the carton label for complete directions for use;
- vi. Handling and storage conditions
- vii. License number of the manufacturer
- viii. Batch number;
- ix. Manufacturing date;
- x. Expiry date; and,
- xi. Name and address of manufacturer

b) Patient Information Leaflet (PIL) or Package Insert

The general content of the PIL should be prepared in line with the content of the SmPC. The information on leaflet is required to be at least in English and/or Amharic. The PIL should not be described or presented in a manner that is false, misleading, or deceptive or is likely to create an erroneous impression regarding its use in any respect, either pictorially or in words.

To enhance transparency regarding the assessment of such applications (for investigational new medicines) clear information should be provided to patients and healthcare professionals on the conditional nature of the authorizations

The summary of product characteristics and package leaflet should mention that a conditional marketing authorization has been granted & subjected to certain specific obligations.

- c) At least draft copy of Summary of product characteristics

3.1.6 Evidence for payment of Service fees

The applicant shall pay all the required application fees for the registration, laboratory testing & GMP inspection as per the rate of service fees for Food, Medicine, health professional and Health institution Registration and licensing regulation 370/2015.

3.2 Technical documentations

3.2.1 Summary of available data that shows risk-benefit balance of the product is positive

3.2.2 Product dossier (in CTD format) including the applicable protocol for the study to generate those data including which are not submitted. Available technical information on the quality, safety and efficacy compiled in CTD should be accompanied with an official signed and dated commitment that state the currently missing parts of the CTD and time period in which these missing data will be submitted (as per annex 1)

3.2.3 A proof that the conditional approval will fulfill the unmet medical needs such as confirmation of conditional approvals from WHO & SRAs or at least from NRA of exporting countries, use safety report, or other applicable evidence.

3.2.4 Commitment letter from the applicant should be submitted to provide the comprehensive data as per the proposed time frame indicated by the applicant.

3.2.5 Commitment letter to submit the Authority periodic safety update report every six months for less serious issues and immediately for more serious safety concerns following granting and/or renewal of approval with conditional approval pathway.

3.2.6 Evidence that shows a medicine has been granted conditional approval by WHO or SRA, if available ; and

4. TIME PERIOD FOR CONDITIONAL APPROVAL

- a) The maximum time period for provisional marketing authorization of medicines under conditional approval is limited to a maximum of one year unless cancelled prior to this time due to serious safety and quality concern on the product
- b) The conditional marketing authorization will automatically be discontinued at the end of a specified period unless the applicants are able to submit all relevant data required by the EFDA for full registration.
- c) Extension of provisional registration could be accepted that requires additional clinical data for transition to full registration. Such application should be submitted one month before the expiry.
- d) Based on the full dossier reports; full marketing authorization may be granted.

5. REVIEW PROCESS

- a) As the applicant submit to the Authority, director and/or team leader shall appoint the team of expert for review.
- b) The team of expert review the application and provide summary of report and recommendations to director and/or team leader of the Medicine Registration and Licensing directorate of Authority.

Annex 1: Form for commitment time frame for the missing information/data

Section of the dossier	Missing information or data	Estimated date of submission
e.g. 3.2.S.1.3	e.g. Polymorphic nature of the API was not studied and no literature available	e.g. A batch of the will be characterized and data will be submitted with 3months from the data of submission