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Dated: June 23, 1995.

Joseph A. Levitt,

Deputy Director for Regulations Policy, Center for Devices and Radiological Health.

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Food and Drug Administration

Grassroots Regulatory Partnership Meeting; Southwest Region Device Industry

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) (Office of External Affairs, Office of Regulatory Affairs, Office of the Southwest Region, and Center for Devices and Radiological Health) is announcing a free public meeting as a followup to a meeting held in April 1995. The FDA office of the Southwest Region will meet with interested persons in the Southwest Region to address specific issues related to the medical device industry, Southwest Region, and FDA. The agency is holding this meeting to promote the President's initiative for a partnership approach with front-line regulators and the people affected by the work of this agency, and to create local partnerships.

DATES: The public meeting will be held on Friday, August 25, 1995, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held at the Sheraton Denver West Hotel, 360 Union Blvd., Lakewood, CO.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Virlie Walker, FDA Denver District, Bldg. 20, Entrance W-10, Denver Federal Center, Sixth and Kipling Sts., Denver, CO 80255-0087, 303-236-3018, FAX 303-236-3099.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Those persons interested in attending this meeting should FAX their comments and registration by Monday, August 21, 1995, including name, firm name, address, and telephone number to 303-236-3099. There is no registration fee for this meeting, but advance registration is required. Space is limited and all interested parties are encouraged to register early.

Dated: July 27, 1995.

William B. Schultz,

Deputy Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 95-19058 Filed 8-2-95; 8:45 am]

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[Docket No. 95N-0226]

Current Issues in AIDS Clinical Trials; Notice of a Public Workshop

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of a public workshop.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing a public workshop on current issues in acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) clinical trials. The workshop will be followed by a joint meeting of subcommittees of the Antiviral Drugs Advisory Committee and the National Task Force on AIDS Drug Development, announced elsewhere in this issue of the **Federal Register**. The workshop will enable experts in the field of AIDS clinical trials, interested representatives of industry, and interested members of the public to exchange ideas regarding clinical trials of drugs for the treatment of AIDS. While the workshop is not intended to result in consensus among participants or to contribute to the formulation of agency policy, discussions regarding current issues in AIDS clinical trials may provide assistance to pharmaceutical sponsors in designing appropriate study protocols and expediting drug development.

DATES: The public workshop will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, September 6 and 7, 1995, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration must be received by August 18, 1995.

ADDRESSES: The public workshop will be held at the National Institutes of Health, William H. Natcher Conference Center, 45 Center Dr., 2BC-02, Bethesda, MD. Written comments may be submitted at any time to the Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, rm. 1-23, 12420 Parklawn Dr., Rockville, MD 20857. A transcript and summary of the workshop will be available from the Docket Management Branch (address above) and from the Freedom of Information Office (HFI-35), Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Heidi C. Marchand or Kimberley M. Miles, Office of AIDS and Special Health Issues (HF-12), Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, 301-443-0104. Persons interested in attending this meeting should FAX their registration to one of the individuals named above at 301-443-9216, including the participant's name; organization name, if any; address; and telephone number. There is no registration fee for any part of this workshop, but advance

registration is required. Interested parties are encouraged to register early because space is limited.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Current Federal regulations allow for the accelerated approval of drugs intended to treat serious and life-threatening diseases, including AIDS and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)-related diseases, on the basis of clinical trials showing that the drugs have an effect on surrogate endpoints. Following approval, FDA may require that the drug applicant study the drug further to verify the clinical efficacy of the product by performing clinical trials designed to demonstrate therapeutic benefit by clinical endpoints. In AIDS, the clinical endpoints that have been considered meaningful are survival and disease progression as manifested by the development of AIDS-defining opportunistic infections.

One of the major challenges facing developers of HIV therapeutics is the successful design and conduct of the clinical trials intended to provide the data needed to confirm the clinical benefit of drugs that have received accelerated approval. Study design issues include, but are not limited to, choice of patient population, control groups, treatment modifications on study, and analysis of heterogeneous endpoints. Study conduct issues include efficient recruitment of volunteers and retention of study subjects in trials long enough to gather sufficient endpoint data. These studies are being designed and conducted in the context of a rapidly changing world of new information and treatment strategies and increasing reliance on the use of surrogate markers to make treatment decisions.

The goal of this workshop is to discuss critical issues in the conduct of clinical trials in HIV in accelerated approval matters and to suggest strategies to overcome identified obstacles so that new drugs and information on the best use of these new drugs can be made available more quickly.

A transcript and summary of the workshop will be available from the Freedom of Information Office (address above) approximately 10 business days after the workshop at a cost of 10 cents per page.

Interested persons may submit, at any time, to the Dockets Management Branch (address above) comments on the workshop. Two copies of any comments are to be submitted, except that individuals may submit one copy. Comments are to be identified with the docket number found in brackets in the