GlaxoSmithKline Inc.
7333 Mississauga Road North
Mississauga, Ontario
Canada L5N 6L4

July 22, 2005

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR PAROXETINE

Dear Health Care Professional:

GlaxoSmithKline Inc. (GSK), following discussions with Health Canada, would like to inform you of important new safety information concerning, PAXIL® (paroxetine hydrochloride) and PAXIL CR™ (paroxetine hydrochloride controlled release tablets).

The concomitant use of PAXIL® or PAXIL CR™ and pimozide (Orap®) is contraindicated as paroxetine has been shown to increase plasma pimozide levels. Elevation of pimozide blood concentration may result in QT interval prolongation and severe arrhythmias including Torsade de Pointes.

Based on the results of a phase I study entitled, *"An open labelled, single sequence study to investigate the safety and pharmacokinetics of oral pimozide when co-administered with repeat dosing oral paroxetine 60mg od in healthy volunteers",* the CONTRAINDICATIONS and DRUG INTERACTIONS sections of the Product Monograph for PAXIL® and PAXIL CR™ will be revised to include the following new information:

CONTRAINDICATIONS
The concomitant use of PAXIL® and pimozide is contraindicated as paroxetine has been shown to increase plasma pimozide levels. Elevation of pimozide blood concentration may result in QT interval prolongation and severe arrhythmias including Torsade de Pointes**.**

DRUG INTERACTIONS
In an open label study of healthy volunteers, co-administration of a single dose of 2 mg pimozide, under steady state conditions of PAXIL® (titrated to 60 mg daily), was associated with mean increases in pimozide AUC of 151% and Cmax of 62%, compared to pimozide administered alone. Due to the narrow therapeutic index of pimozide and its known ability to prolong the QT interval, and produce severe cardiac arrhythmias including Torsades de Pointes, concomitant use of pimozide and PAXIL® is contraindicated (see CONTRAINDICATIONS).

GSK continues to work closely with Health Canada to monitor adverse event reporting and to ensure that up-to-date information regarding the use of PAXIL® and PAXIL CR™ is available.

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The identification, characterization and management of drug-related adverse events are dependent on the active participation of health-care professionals in adverse drug reaction reporting programs. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions in patients receiving PAXIL or PAXIL CR™ directly to GSK or Health Canada at the following addresses:

GlaxoSmithKline Inc.
7333 Mississauga Road North
Mississauga, Ontario L5N 6L4
Tel: 1-800-387-7374

Any suspected adverse reaction can also be reported to:
Canadian Adverse Drug Reaction Monitoring Program (CADRMP)
Marketed Health Products Directorate
HEALTH CANADA
Address Locator: 0701C
OTTAWA, Ontario K1A 0K9
Tel: (613) 957-0337 or Fax: (613) 957-0335
To report an Adverse Reaction, consumers and health professionals may call toll free:
Tel: 866 234-2345
Fax: 866 678-6789
cadrmp@hc-sc.gc.ca

For other inquiries: please refer to the contact information:

Bureau of Cardiology, Allergy and Neurological Sciences
BCANS_Enquiries@hc-sc.gc.ca
Tel: (613) 941-1499
Fax: (613) 941-1668

The AR Reporting Form and the AR Guidelines can be found on the Health Canada web site or in *The Canadian Compendium of Pharmaceuticals and Specialties*.

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hpfb-dgpsa/tpd-dpt/adverse_e.html

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hpfb-dgpsa/tpd-dpt/adr_guideline_e.html

Your professional commitment in this regard is important to protecting the well-being of your patients by contributing to early signal detection and informed drug use.

Any questions from health care professionals may be directed to Medical Information via GSK Customer service at 1-800-387-7374.

Sincerely,

Dr John A Dillon MB BCh MFPM
VP, Medical Division and Chief Medical Officer
GlaxoSmithKline Inc.