



18 December 2013

Anne Whitaker
President, North America Pharmaceuticals
Sanofi U.S.
55 Corporate Drive
Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807
USA

Open letter: Appreciation for commitment by Sanofi U.S. to lower the price of rifapentine

Dear Ms. Whitaker and colleagues,

In July 2013 we wrote to you urging Sanofi U.S. to lower the price of rifapentine (Priftin®) from approximately \$51 per 32-tablet blister pack to \$35. In a letter dated December 10, 2013 and addressed to “Sanofi US Priftin® PHS Customer,” Sanofi U.S. announced its commitment to lower the price of rifapentine to \$32 per 32-tablet blister pack under 340(b) Public Health Service pricing. We commend you for making this commitment and express our confidence that this price decrease represents meaningful progress toward greatly expanding access to rifapentine, a key drug in the prevention and treatment of tuberculosis (TB).

This price decrease will make TB treatment more cost-effective for U.S. TB programs and simplify treatment for patients. With this price reduction, Sanofi U.S. is taking concrete steps to bridge the gap between TB research and practice, and is setting a laudable example that other drug companies should follow.

We also commend Sanofi U.S.’s statement that collaborations with “TB centers, the National Tuberculosis Controller’s Association, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and TB community groups” are “critical moving forward.”

This price decrease arrives at a critical juncture in the fight against TB. New regimens using rifapentine to simplify and shorten TB therapy have been developed through publicly funded research conducted by the CDC’s Tuberculosis Trials Consortium (TBTC). Sanofi has also supported these efforts through its past contributions to the CDC Foundation. Thanks to these advances, we now have the ability to shorten treatment for TB infection from nine months of daily isoniazid to just 12 once-weekly doses of isoniazid in combination with rifapentine. New trials to determine the potential of rifapentine to shorten active TB treatment are being planned by the TBTC and will require continuing support from Sanofi.

Moreover, expansion of health care access under the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid expansion provides a potential mechanism to increase early detection of latent TB infection

(LTBI) and active TB disease. Sanofi's decision to lower the price of rifapentine will make new treatment-simplification strategies easier for U.S. TB programs to implement.

We commend Sanofi for committing to reducing the price of rifapentine and encourage you to continue supporting rifapentine's development and TB research.

Sincerely,

Organizational Signatories

American Thoracic Society (USA)
Community Research Advisors Group (USA, Global)
Global TB Community Advisory Board (Global)
Migrant Clinicians Network (USA)
National TB Controllers Association (USA)
RESULTS (USA)
Stop TB USA (USA)
Treatment Action Group (New York, USA)

Individual Signatories

Note: institutions listed as affiliations only

Dr. Robert Benjamin, MD, MPH, Domestic and Global Health Consultant (California, USA)

Dr. Joseph Burzynski, Director, Bureau of Tuberculosis Control, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (New York, USA)

Ms. Andrea DeLuca, MHS, Department of Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (Maryland, USA)

Dr. Jennifer Flood, President, National TB Controllers Association (USA)

Mr. Phil Griffin, TB Controller, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (Kansas, USA)

Dr. Germaine Jacquette, MD, New Jersey Medical School Global TB Institute (New Jersey, USA)

Ms. Karen Mountain, MBA, MSN, RN, CEO, Migrant Clinicians Network (Texas, USA)

Dr. Lee Reichman, Executive Director, New Jersey Medical School Global TB Institute (New Jersey, USA)

Dr. Barbara Seaworth, President Elect, National Society of TB Clinicians (USA)

Ms. Donna Wegener, Executive Director, National TB Controllers Association (USA)

Dr. Edward L Zuroweste, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Migrant Clinicians Network (Texas, USA)

CC: Damian Braga, Senior Vice President of Commercial Operations, Sanofi
E. Jay Wilusz, Product Life Cycle Management and Business Development , Sanofi
Elias Zerhouni, President, Global R&D, Sanofi
Robert Sebbag, Vice President, Access to Medicines, Sanofi
Benedict Blayney, Associate Vice President, Neglected Diseases and TB, Sanofi
Isabelle Cieren-Puiseux, Senior Manager, Tuberculosis Program, Sanofi
Marilyn Maroni, Medical Manager, Tuberculosis, Sanofi
Neila Fourcoy, Regulatory Affairs, Sanofi
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