

Related to Surprise Billing: Qualifying Payment Amount, Notice and Consent, Disclosure on Patient Protections Against Balance Billing, and State Law Opt-in; *Use*: On December 27, 2020, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Pub. L. 116–260), which included the No Surprises Act, was signed into law. The No Surprises Act provides Federal protections against surprise billing and limits out-of-network cost sharing under many of the circumstances in which surprise medical bills arise most frequently. The July 13, 2021 interim final rules “Requirements Related to Surprise Billing; Part I” (86 FR 36872, July 2021 interim final rules) issued by the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor, the Department of the Treasury, and the Office of Personnel Management, implement provisions of the No Surprises Act that apply to group health plans, health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage, and carriers in the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program that provide protections against balance billing and out-of-network cost sharing with respect to emergency services, non-emergency services furnished by nonparticipating providers related to patient visits to certain types of participating health care facilities, and services furnished by nonparticipating providers of air ambulance services. The July 2021 interim final rules prohibit nonparticipating providers, emergency facilities, and providers of air ambulance services from balance billing participants, beneficiaries, and enrollees in certain situations unless they satisfy certain notice and consent requirements. The No Surprises Act and the July 2021 interim final rules require group health plans and issuers of health insurance coverage to provide information about qualifying payment amounts (QPAs) to nonparticipating providers and facilities and to provide disclosures on patient protections against balance billing to participants, beneficiaries and enrollees. Self-insured plans opting in to a specified State law are required to provide a disclosure to participants. Certain nonparticipating providers and nonparticipating emergency facilities may provide participants, beneficiaries, and enrollees with notice and obtain their consent to waive balance billing protections, provided certain requirements are met. In addition, certain providers and facilities are required to provide disclosures on patient protections against balance billing to participants, beneficiaries and enrollees. The No

Surprises Act requires the Secretary of HHS to audit no more than 25 group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage annually, and permits additional audits based on complaints, to ensure that such plans and coverage are in compliance with the requirement of applying a QPA and that the QPA applied satisfies the definition under the No Surprises Act with respect to the year involved. *Form Number*: CMS–10780 (OMB control number: 0938–1401); *Frequency*: On Occasion; *Affected Public*: Individuals, State, Local, or Tribal Governments, Private Sector; *Number of Respondents*: 2,477,197; *Total Annual Responses*: 85,148,199; *Total Annual Hours*: 6,006,654. (For policy questions regarding this collection, contact Russell Tipps at 667–290–9640.)

**William N. Parham, III,**

*Director, Division of Information Collections and Regulatory Impacts, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2025–08307 Filed 5–9–25; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4120–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA–2023–E–3272; FDA–2023–E–3273; FDA–2023–E–3274; FDA–2023–E–3276; FDA–2023–E–3296; and FDA–2023–E–3297]

### Determination of Regulatory Review Period for Purposes of Patent Extension; SKYCLARYS

**AGENCY**: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

**ACTION**: Notice.

**SUMMARY**: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or the Agency) has determined the regulatory review period for SKYCLARYS and is publishing this notice of that determination as required by law. FDA has made the determination because of the submission of applications to the Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), Department of Commerce, for the extension of a patent which claims that human drug product.

**DATES**: Anyone with knowledge that any of the dates as published (see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**) are incorrect must submit either electronic or written comments and ask for a redetermination by July 11, 2025. Furthermore, any interested person may petition FDA for a determination

regarding whether the applicant for extension acted with due diligence during the regulatory review period by November 10, 2025. See “Petitions” in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for more information.

**ADDRESSES**: You may submit comments as follows. Please note that late, untimely filed comments will not be considered. The <https://www.regulations.gov> electronic filing system will accept comments until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time at the end of July 11, 2025. Comments received by mail/hand delivery/courier (for written/paper submissions) will be considered timely if they are received on or before that date.

#### Electronic Submissions

Submit electronic comments in the following way:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal**: <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments submitted electronically, including attachments, to <https://www.regulations.gov> will be posted to the docket unchanged. Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for ensuring that your comment does not include any confidential information that you or a third party may not wish to be posted, such as medical information, your or anyone else’s Social Security number, or confidential business information, such as a manufacturing process. Please note that if you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>.

- If you want to submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made available to the public, submit the comment as a written/paper submission and in the manner detailed (see “Written/Paper Submissions” and “Instructions”).

#### Written/Paper Submissions

Submit written/paper submissions as follows:

- **Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier (for written/paper submissions)**: Dockets Management Staff (HFA–305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.
- For written/paper comments submitted to the Dockets Management Staff, FDA will post your comment, as well as any attachments, except for information submitted, marked and identified, as confidential, if submitted as detailed in “Instructions.”

**Instructions**: All submissions received must include the Docket Nos. FDA–2023–E–3272; FDA–2023–E–3273;

FDA-2023-E-3274; FDA-2023-E-3276; FDA-2023-E-3296; and FDA-2023-E-3297 for “Determination of Regulatory Review Period for Purposes of Patent Extension; SKYCLARYS.” Received comments, those filed in a timely manner (see **ADDRESSES**), will be placed in the docket and, except for those submitted as “Confidential Submissions,” publicly viewable at <https://www.regulations.gov> or at the Dockets Management Staff between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, 240-402-7500.

• **Confidential Submissions**—To submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made publicly available, submit your comments only as a written/paper submission. You should submit two copies total. One copy will include the information you claim to be confidential with a heading or cover note that states “THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.” The Agency will review this copy, including the claimed confidential information, in its consideration of comments. The second copy, which will have the claimed confidential information redacted/blacked out, will be available for public viewing and posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>. Submit both copies to the Dockets Management Staff. If you do not wish your name and contact information to be made publicly available, you can provide this information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify this information as “confidential.” Any information marked as “confidential” will not be disclosed except in accordance with § 10.20 (21 CFR 10.20) and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA’s posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469, September 18, 2015, or access the information at: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf>.

**Docket:** For access to the docket to read background documents or the electronic and written/paper comments received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and insert the docket number, found in brackets in the heading of this document, into the “Search” box and follow the prompts and/or go to the Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852, 240-402-7500.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Beverly Friedman or Jack Dan, Office of Regulatory Policy, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 51, Rm. 6200, Silver Spring, MD 20993, 301-796-3600.

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### I. Background

The Drug Price Competition and Patent Term Restoration Act of 1984 (Pub. L. 98-417) and the Generic Animal Drug and Patent Term Restoration Act (Pub. L. 100-670) generally provide that a patent may be extended for a period of up to 5 years so long as the patented item (human drug or biologic product, animal drug product, medical device, food additive, or color additive) was subject to regulatory review by FDA before the item was marketed. Under these acts, a product’s regulatory review period forms the basis for determining the amount of extension an applicant may receive.

A regulatory review period consists of two periods of time: a testing phase and an approval phase. For human drug products, the testing phase begins when the exemption to permit the clinical investigations of the drug becomes effective and runs until the approval phase begins. The approval phase starts with the initial submission of an application to market the human drug product and continues until FDA grants permission to market the drug product. Although only a portion of a regulatory review period may count toward the actual amount of extension that the Director of USPTO may award (for example, half the testing phase must be subtracted as well as any time that may have occurred before the patent was issued), FDA’s determination of the length of a regulatory review period for a human drug product will include all of the testing phase and approval phase as specified in 35 U.S.C. 156(g)(1)(B).

FDA has approved for marketing the human drug product, SKYCLARYS (omaveloxolone). SKYCLARYS is indicated for the treatment of Friedreich’s ataxia in adults and adolescents aged 16 years and older. Subsequent to this approval, the USPTO received patent term restoration applications for SKYCLARYS (U.S. Patent Nos. 8,124,799; 8,440,854; 8,993,640; 9,670,147; 9,701,709; and 11,091,430) from Reata Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and the USPTO requested FDA’s assistance in determining the patents’ eligibility for patent term restoration. In a letter dated January 30, 2024, FDA advised the USPTO that this human biological product had undergone a regulatory review period and that the approval of SKYCLARYS represented the first permitted commercial marketing or use of the product. Thereafter, the USPTO requested that FDA determine the product’s regulatory review period.

### II. Determination of Regulatory Review Period

FDA has determined that the applicable regulatory review period for SKYCLARYS is 3,450 days. Of this time, 3,114 days occurred during the testing phase of the regulatory review period, while 336 days occurred during the approval phase. These periods of time were derived from the following dates:

1. *The date an exemption under section 505(i) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355(i)) became effective:* September 20, 2013. FDA has verified the applicant’s claim that the date the investigational new drug application became effective was on September 20, 2013.

2. *The date the application was initially submitted with respect to the human drug product under section 505 of the FD&C Act:* March 30, 2022. FDA has verified the applicant’s claim that the new drug application (NDA) for SKYCLARYS (NDA 216718) was initially submitted on March 30, 2022.

3. *The date the application was approved:* February 28, 2023. FDA has verified the applicant’s claim that NDA 216718 was approved on February 28, 2023.

This determination of the regulatory review period establishes the maximum potential length of a patent extension. However, the USPTO applies several statutory limitations in its calculations of the actual period for patent extension. In its applications for patent extension, this applicant seeks 449 days; 1,198 days; 1,215 days; 1,406 days; or 1,826 days of patent term extension.

### III. Petitions

Anyone with knowledge that any of the dates as published are incorrect may submit either electronic or written comments and, under 21 CFR 60.24, ask for a redetermination (see **DATES**). Furthermore, as specified in § 60.30 (21 CFR 60.30), any interested person may petition FDA for a determination regarding whether the applicant for extension acted with due diligence during the regulatory review period. To meet its burden, the petition must comply with all the requirements of § 60.30, including but not limited to: must be timely (see **DATES**), must be filed in accordance with § 10.20, must contain sufficient facts to merit an FDA investigation, and must certify that a true and complete copy of the petition has been served upon the patent applicant. (See H. Rept. 857, part 1, 98th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 41–42, 1984.) Petitions should be in the format specified in 21 CFR 10.30.

Submit petitions electronically to <https://www.regulations.gov> at Docket

No. FDA–2013–S–0610. Submit written petitions (two copies are required) to the Dockets Management Staff (HFA–305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

Dated: May 6, 2025.

**Grace R. Graham,**

*Deputy Commissioner for Policy, Legislation, and International Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2025–08253 Filed 5–9–25; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4164–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA–2024–E–0192]

#### Determination of Regulatory Review Period for Purposes of Patent Extension; LITFULO

**AGENCY:** Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or the Agency) has determined the regulatory review period for LITFULO and is publishing this notice of that determination as required by law. FDA has made the determination because of the submission of an application to the Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), Department of Commerce, for the extension of a patent which claims that human drug product.

**DATES:** Anyone with knowledge that any of the dates as published (see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**) are incorrect may submit either electronic or written comments and ask for a redetermination by July 11, 2025. Furthermore, any interested person may petition FDA for a determination regarding whether the applicant for extension acted with due diligence during the regulatory review period by November 10, 2025. See “Petitions” in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for more information.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments as follows. Please note that late, untimely filed comments will not be considered. The <https://www.regulations.gov> electronic filing system will accept comments until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time at the end of July 11, 2025. Comments received by mail/hand delivery/courier (for written/paper submissions) will be considered timely if they are received on or before that date.

#### Electronic Submissions

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**Instructions:** All submissions received must include the Docket No. FDA–2024–E–0192 for “Determination of Regulatory Review Period for Purposes of Patent Extension; LITFULO.” Received comments, those filed in a timely manner (see **ADDRESSES**), will be placed in the docket and, except for those submitted as “Confidential Submissions,” publicly viewable at <https://www.regulations.gov> or at the Dockets Management Staff between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, 240–402–7500.

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information you claim to be confidential with a heading or cover note that states “THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.” The Agency will review this copy, including the claimed confidential information, in its consideration of comments. The second copy, which will have the claimed confidential information redacted/blacked out, will be available for public viewing and posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>. Submit both copies to the Dockets Management Staff. If you do not wish your name and contact information to be made publicly available, you can provide this information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify this information as “confidential.” Any information marked as “confidential” will not be disclosed except in accordance with § 10.20 (21 CFR 10.20) and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA’s posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469, September 18, 2015, or access the information at: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf>.

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