



# Enforcement and Policy Update from DDMAC

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# Topics

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- Voluntary compliance
- Enforcement update
- Organizational update
- Policy update



# Goal and Objectives

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- Goal

- To protect and promote public health

- Objectives

- Ensure that RX drug promotion is not false or misleading
- Ensure that balanced picture of drug is conveyed
- Aid in the communication of more useful information about drugs and diseases to the American public

# Voluntary Compliance

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- Objectives
  - Compliant promotion and not have violative promotion in the marketplace.
  - High quality and educational promotion
- FDA would prefer to prevent misleading messages than reacting to them
- Public health benefits
  - Not exposed to misleading messages
  - Instead consumers and HCPs should have good and balanced information
- Industry benefits
  - Provides good information to public
  - Better image
  - Avoid regulatory actions
  - No interruption in promotional campaigns

# Efforts to Increase Voluntary Compliance

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- FDA's Efforts
  - Guidance documents
  - Requests for comments
  - Educational and outreach efforts
- Industry's Efforts
- FDA's comprehensive surveillance and enforcement program

# Enforcement

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# Surveillance

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- Disseminated materials submitted to FDA
  - Post-marketing reporting requirements (Form 2253)
- Conference attendance
- Complaints
- Broad surveillance of materials used
  - Numerous, evolving and creative ways of promoting prescription drugs by industry, especially on the Internet
- Health Care Professional Outreach Initiative



# Promotional Vehicles Cited Include

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- Traditional
  - Journal and magazine ads
  - TV ads
  - Sales aids
  - Sales reps' activities
  - Promotion in commercial exhibit halls
  - Medical convention post meeting news ad
  - Mailers to healthcare professionals
- Evolving Technology
  - Facebook
  - Consumer DVDs
  - Webcast videos
  - Promotional videos on [cnn.com](http://cnn.com) and [youtube.com](http://youtube.com)
  - Online banners
  - Sponsored links
  - Patient in-house events





# Risk Based Enforcement Approach

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- Impact on public health
- Includes:
  - Newly approved products
  - Products with significant risks
  - Products cited for violations in the past
  - Products cited in complaints
  - Products promoted with far reaching campaigns



# Common Violations

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- Omission and minimization of risk information
- Unsubstantiated claims of efficacy or safety
- Unsubstantiated comparative claims
- Promotion of unapproved uses of drugs



# Enforcement Options

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- Untitled letters (notice of violation or NOV)
- Warning Letters
- Injunctions/consent decrees
- Seizures
- Civil Monetary Penalties for DTC ads
- Work with other government agencies
  - Department of Justice
  - Office of Inspector General
  - States AG's



# Enforcement Focus

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- FDA Enforcement Initiative announced by Commissioner
- Streamline processes for untitled and warning letters
- Number of untitled and warning letters significantly increasing
  - 2008: 21
  - 2009: 41
  - 2010 YTD (Jan-Sept): 45
- Risk based enforcement approach
- Follow-up on enforcement actions

# Health Care Professional Outreach (BadAd Program)

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- FDA seeks to collaborate with HCPs to address misleading promotion
- Two-fold purpose of program
  - Increase awareness of HCPs about importance of preventing misleading promotion
  - Inform HCPs on how to identify and report these activities
- Addresses difficult to access promotion
  - “Detailing” occurs in setting such as offices, hospitals, and dinner meetings
- Positive response from medical groups and healthcare professionals

# The Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications

## Director's Office

Director, Thomas Abrams

Deputy Director, vacancy

Associate Director, Mark Askine

Associate Director of Operations, Marci Kiester

Management Advisor, Catherine Gray

Management Advisor, Robert Dean

Special Assistant, Jean-Ah Kang

Program Specialist, Becki Vogt

Regulatory Counsel Team Leader, Sangeeta Vaswani

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Regulatory Counsel, Julie Burger

Regulatory Counsel, Bryant Godfrey

Regulatory Counsel, Ernest Voyard

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Professional Review Group I Leader Andrew Haffer (acting)	Professional Review Group II Leader Karen Rulli (acting)	Professional Review Group III Leader Lisa Hubbard	Professional Review Group IV Leader Sheila Ryan	Direct-To-Consumer Review Group I Leader Michael Sauers	Direct-To-Consumer Review Group II Leader Aline Moukhtara (acting)	Direct-To-Consumer Review Group III Leader Shefali Doshi (acting)	Direct-To-Consumer Review Group IV Leader Amy Toscano (acting)
Neurology (Quynh-Van Tran)	Oncology Drugs: Solid tumors (Keith Olin)	Pulmonary, Allergy, Rheumatology (Roberta Szydlo)	Cardiovascular and Renal (Emily Baker)	Reproductive (Carrie Newcomer)	Neurology (Sharon Watson, Beth Carr)	Anesthetics, Analgesics, Rheumatology (Twyla Thompson)	Cardiovascular and Renal (Zarna Patel)
Oncology Biologics (Carole Broadnax)	Oncology Drugs: Hematologic Cancers (Adam George, Nisha Patel)	Analgesics, Anesthetics (Mathilda Fienkeng)	Anti-Infectives, Ophthalmology, Special Pathogens, Transplant (Christine Corser)	Psychiatry (Susannah Hubert)	Pulmonary, Allergy (Robyn Tyler)	Gastroenterology (Cindy Collins)	Oncology Drugs (Stephanie Victor)
Reproductive, Urology (Janice Maniwang)	Hematology, Medical Imaging (James Dvorsky)	Metabolism and Endocrinology (Samuel Skariah)	Antivirals (Lynn Panholzer)	Urology (Osteo, Other), Antivirals, Special Pathogens, Transplant (Michelle Safarik)	Urology (Vacancy)	Oncology Biologics (Vacancy)	Hematology, Medical Imaging, Anti-Infectives, Ophthalmology (JuWon Lee)
Psychiatry (Jessica Derenick)		Gastroenterology (Kathleen Klemm)	Dermatology, Dental (Vacancy)	Dermatology, Dental (Sheetal Patel)	<b>Research Team</b> (Kathryn Aikin, Amie O'Donoghue, Helen Sullivan)	Metabolism and Endocrinology (Kendra Jones)	(Vacancy)



# Future is Office Structure

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- From Division to Office structure
  - Immediate Office
  - 2 Divisions
    - Healthcare Professional directed materials
    - Consumer directed materials
- Enhance efforts for voluntary compliance
- Strengthen enforcement
- Decrease advisory response times
- Increase Guidance development

# FDA DTC FDAAA Update

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- FDA implementation of the Direct-to-Consumer Advertisement provisions of the Food and Drug Amendments Act of 2007 (FDAAA)
  - Report to Congress on DTC Advertising issued April 2010
  - Clear, conspicuous and neutral proposed rule published March 2010



# Report on DTC Advertising

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- Agency must report to Congress on DTC advertising's ability to communicate to population subsets, including the elderly, children, and racial and ethnic minority communities
- Advisory Committee on Risk Communication has to advise on this report – met with them on May 15, 2008

# Report on DTC Advertising

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- Report was sent to Congress in April
  - available at:  
<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/RegulatoryInformation/Legislation/FederalFoodDrugandCosmeticActFDCAAct/SignificantAmendmentstotheFDCAAct/FoodandDrugAdministrationAmendmentsActof2007/FDAAIImplementationChart/UCM214303.pdf>

## Broadcast ads – major statement

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○ Section 502(n) of FDCA, as modified by FDAAA, requires that the “major statement” of risk information in consumer-directed prescription human drug TV & radio ads be presented in a “clear, conspicuous, and neutral manner”

- Per FDAAA, FDA shall by regulation establish standards for determining whether a major statement meets this requirement

# Proposed Rule

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- FDA issued the proposed clear, conspicuous, and neutral manner rule on March 29, 2010
  - Direct-to-Consumer Prescription Drug Advertisements; Presentation of the Major Statement in Television and Radio Advertisements in a Clear, Conspicuous, and Neutral Manner
  - Docket No. **FDA-2009-N-0582**
    - the full text of the proposed rule can be viewed on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov)

# FDA's Proposed Standards

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- A major statement is clear, conspicuous, and neutral if:
  - Information is presented in language that is readily understandable by consumers;
  - Audio information is understandable in terms of the volume, articulation, and pacing used;
  - Textual information is placed appropriately and is presented against a contrasting background for sufficient duration and in a size and style of font that allows the information to be read easily; and
  - The advertisement does not include distracting representations (including statements, text, images, or sounds or any combination thereof) that detract from the communication of the major statement

# Additional Consideration

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- FDA considered adding a 5<sup>th</sup> standard that would require that the major statement in TV ads be included in **both** the audio and visual parts of the presentation
  - This is similar to one of the FTC standards for clear and conspicuous disclosures in television commercials
  - Research has shown that presenting information in such a dual-mode manner increases the comprehension of that information



# FDA's Proposed Standards

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- FDA believes there is more than one way to achieve the proposed standards in a television or radio ad
- FDA intends to continue to consider the variety of techniques sponsors may use to appropriately convey required risk information in prescription drug ads
- Sponsors retain the flexibility to be creative in designing their ads, as long as the standards in any final rule are complied with



# Guidance Development

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- Presentation of Risk Information Draft  
Guidance issued in May 2009
- Brief Summary: Disclosing Risk Information  
in Consumer-Directed Print Advertisements  
(Brief Summary)
- Promotion using Social Media Tools
- TV Ads – FDAAA DTC TV Pre-Review Program
- Exploring other areas such as comparative  
claims in promotion





# Guidance Development Planning

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- Interested in what our stakeholders believe are important areas to address
- Origin of policy development for social media on the internet
- Let us know what you feel is important and why

# Web Addresses

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- DDMAC webpage
  - [www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/CentersOffices/CDER/ucm090142.htm](http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/CentersOffices/CDER/ucm090142.htm)
- DDMAC organization listing
  - [www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/CentersOffices/CDER/ucm154886.htm](http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/CentersOffices/CDER/ucm154886.htm)
- Warning and untitled letters
  - [www.fda.gov/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/EnforcementActivitiesbyFDA/WarningLettersandNoticeofViolationLetterstoPharmaceuticalCompanies/default.htm](http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/EnforcementActivitiesbyFDA/WarningLettersandNoticeofViolationLetterstoPharmaceuticalCompanies/default.htm)
- Guidances
  - [www.fda.gov/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/ucm064956.htm](http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/ucm064956.htm)

# DDMAC Contact Information

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