

TO: Dr. Carol A. Nacy, Chief Executive Officer
Sequella, Inc.
9610 Medical Center Drive, Suite 200
Rockville, MD 20850

CC: Mr. Greg Perry, Executive Director, The Medicines Patent Pool
Dr. Grania Brigden, 3P Project Lead, the Union
Mr. Ronald J. Daniels, President, Johns Hopkins University

21 February 2017

Request for open access to all existing clinical data on sutezolid

Dear Dr. Nacy,

We write to call your attention to the licensing agreement reached between the Medicines Patent Pool (MPP) and Johns Hopkins University (JHU) regarding the clinical development of tuberculosis (TB) treatment candidate sutezolid¹, and to formally request that Sequella join these efforts by openly providing access to all existing clinical data necessary to further facilitate sutezolid's development and future patients' access.

As a coalition of healthcare providers, students and civil society organizations concerned with the development of and access to better treatments for TB, we understand the urgent needs TB patients have for new, affordable and better treatment options, especially patients with drug-resistant TB (DR-TB). Even when patients are able to tolerate existing grueling and often toxic regimens, fewer than half of those treated are cured. The appropriate and public health-driven development of new TB drugs like sutezolid is critical to the advancement of safer, affordable and more effective TB treatment regimens.

Despite showing promise in phase IIa, sutezolid's development has been stalled for several years. While we acknowledge that protocols have been developed, including a sutezolid dose optimization study (A5289) with the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG), since 2013, when Pfizer signed an exclusive license with Sequella, to our knowledge no new studies of sutezolid have been successfully initiated. The agreement reached between the MPP and JHU has renewed hope among members of our coalition and the global TB community.

We now appeal to Sequella to act in the interest of public health and provide open access to all existing sutezolid data. In the absence of this data, researchers will have to redo studies, wasting precious resources and time, and delaying both sutezolid's advancement and urgently needed, better treatment options for TB patients.

We would be happy to further discuss this appeal and the importance of open access to the above-requested data, as well as the details of a potential data sharing platform where the data might be made available to interested researchers and developers. We look forward to your response before March 7, which can be directed to Judit Rius at judit.rius@newyork.msf.org

Sincerely,

The Sutezolid coalition, including Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) Access Campaign, Treatment Action Group (TAG), Universities Allies for Essential Medicines (UAEM), the Global TB Community Advisory Board (TB CAB) and Public Citizen.

¹ Medicines Patent Pool. The Medicines Patent Pool Announces First License for Tuberculosis Treatment [Press Release]. 25 January 2017. Available from: <http://www.medicinespatentpool.org/the-medicines-patent-pool-announces-first-licence-for-tuberculosis-treatment>