

TEVA PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRIES LTD
Form 6-K
January 27, 2003

FORM 6-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Private Issuer

**Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16
under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

For the month of January 2003

Commission File Number 0-16174

(1)

Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Limited

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

5 Basel Street, P.O. Box 3190

Petach Tikva 49131 Israel

(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F:

Form 20-F X

Form 40-F _____

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1): _____

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7): _____

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Indicate by check mark whether by furnishing the information contained in this Form, the registrant is also hereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes _____

No X

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g(3)-2(b):
82-_____

____(2)____

Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. Web Site www.tevapharm.com

Contact: Dan Suesskind

Chief Financial Officer
Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd
(011) 972-2-589-2840

Bill Fletcher
President and CEO
Teva North America.
(215) 591-8800

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dorit Meltzer
Director, Investor Relations
Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd.
(011) 972-3-926-7554

TEVA ANNOUNCES FINAL APPROVAL OF MIRTAZAPINE 15MG, 30MG

180-Day Marketing Exclusivity

Jerusalem, Israel, January 24, 2003 - Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. (Nasdaq:TEVA) announced today that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted final approval for the company's Mirtazapine Tablets, 15 mg and 30 mg. Shipment will begin immediately.

This approval follows a December 18, 2002 decision by the U. S. District Court for the District of New Jersey granting summary judgment in Teva's favor on the issue of non-infringement with regard to Organon's Remeron® Patent No. 5,977,099.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mirtazapine tablets are the first AB-rated generic version of Organon's Remeron® and are indicated for the use as monotherapy for the treatment of depression.

As the first company to file an ANDA with a paragraph IV patent certification, Teva has been awarded 180 days marketing exclusivity.

Annual sales in the U.S. for Remeron® 15 mg and 30 mg tablets are approximately \$354 million.

The 45 mg strength remains in a tentatively approved status pending resolution of an outstanding Citizen Petition concerning eligibility for 180-day exclusivity for the

45 mg strength.

Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., headquartered in Israel, is among the top 35 pharmaceutical companies and among the largest generic pharmaceutical companies in the world. Over 80% of Teva's sales are in North America and Europe. The company develops, manufactures and markets generic and innovative human pharmaceuticals and active pharmaceutical ingredients.

Safe Harbor Statement under the U. S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: This release contains forward-looking statements, which express the current beliefs and expectations of management. Such statements are based on current expectations and involve a number of known and unknown risks and uncertainties that could cause Teva's future results, performance or achievements to differ significantly from the results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Important factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include Teva's ability to successfully develop and commercialize additional pharmaceutical products, the introduction of competitive generic products, the impact of competition from brand-name companies that sell their own generic products or successfully extend the exclusivity period of their branded products, Teva's ability to rapidly integrate the operations of acquired businesses, the availability of product liability coverage in the current insurance market, the impact of pharmaceutical industry regulation and pending legislation that could affect the pharmaceutical industry, the difficulty of predicting U.S. Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") and other regulatory authority approvals, the regulatory environment and changes in the health policies and structure of various countries, acceptance and demand for new pharmaceutical products and new therapies, uncertainties regarding market acceptance of innovative products newly launched, currently being sold or in development, the impact of restructuring of clients, reliance on strategic alliances, exposure to product liability claims, dependence on patent and other protections for innovative products, fluctuations in currency, exchange and interest rates, operating results and other factors that are discussed in Teva's Annual Report on Form 20-F and its other filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date on which they are made, and the Company undertakes no obligation to update publicly or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

TEVA PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRIES LIMITED

(Registrant)

By: /s/ Dan Suesskind

Name: Dan Suesskind
Title: Chief Financial Officer

Date: January 27, 2003

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