



DIVISION OF  
CORPORATION FINANCE

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

April 7, 2011

Theodore R. Schroeder  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Cadence Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
12481 High Bluff Drive, Suite 200  
San Diego, CA 92130

**Re: Cadence Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Registration Statement on Form S-3  
Filed April 4, 2011  
File No. 333-173295**

Dear Mr. Schroeder:

We have limited our review of the above referenced registration statement to the issues identified in this letter and have the following comments. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure.

Please respond to this letter by amending your registration statement and providing the requested information. Where you do not believe our comments apply to your facts and circumstances or do not believe an amendment is appropriate, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing any amendment to your registration statement and the information you provide in response to these comments, we may have additional comments.

Registration Statement on Form S-3

1. We note that the Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2010 incorporates by reference the Part III information which will be provided in your proxy statement. Please note we will not be in a position to make your filing effective until this information is filed. You may amend your Form 10-K to include this information, or wait until after your proxy statement has been filed to request acceleration for your registration statement.
2. In your supplemental response, please confirm that when a shelf takedown occurs, you will file an amended, unqualified legal opinion as an exhibit to the registration statement.

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes the information the Securities Act of 1933 and all applicable Securities Act rules require. Since the company and its management are in

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possession of all facts relating to a company's disclosure, they are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosures they have made.

Notwithstanding our comments, in the event you request acceleration of the effective date of the pending registration statement please provide a written statement from the company acknowledging that:

- should the Commission or the staff, acting pursuant to delegated authority, declare the filing effective, it does not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing;
- the action of the Commission or the staff, acting pursuant to delegated authority, in declaring the filing effective, does not relieve the company from its full responsibility for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing; and
- the company may not assert staff comments and the declaration of effectiveness as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

Please refer to Rules 460 and 461 regarding requests for acceleration. We will consider a written request for acceleration of the effective date of the registration statement as confirmation of the fact that those requesting acceleration are aware of their respective responsibilities under the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as they relate to the proposed public offering of the securities specified in the above registration statement. Please allow adequate time for us to review any amendment prior to the requested effective date of the registration statement.

Please contact Rose Zukin at (202) 551-3239 or me at (202) 551-3710 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey P. Riedler  
Assistant Director