

How to Contact the FDA and Encourage Approval of New CF Drug: AZLI

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will soon decide if a new CF drug called aztreonam lysine for inhalation (AZLI) should be approved for public use. This therapy is a much-needed inhaled antibiotic that will help people with CF treat recurrent and often life-threatening lung infections.

On December 10th, an advisory panel recommended that the FDA approve the treatment. While this is excellent news, AZLI's approval is not certain. Patients' opinions matter! Your input could help sway the FDA's decision. Here's how you can help:

- Send an email to Dr. Margaret Hamburg, the Commissioner of the FDA, **before January 15th, 2009**. Ask her to approve AZLI quickly. Her email address is margaret.hamburg@fda.hhs.gov.
- Convey in your own words the importance of this drug for people with CF.
- If you have a personal experience with AZLI, describe how it helped you. If you haven't taken AZLI, say how much you would like the chance.
- Mention that AZLI fills an **"unmet medical need."** This means AZLI would provide an additional antibiotic to treat lung infections for people with CF.
- Letters should be brief: no more than three or four paragraphs.
- When you send your email, please blind copy (bcc) the CF Foundation at publicpolicy@cff.org, so we can add our voices to yours.

Thanks to your efforts!