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OSCIENT PHARMACEUTICALS CORP  
Form CORRESP  
December 03, 2004

Oscient Pharmaceuticals Corporation

1000 Winter Street, Suite 2200

Waltham, MA 02451

December 3, 2004

Mr. Gregory S. Belliston

Division of Corporation Finance

United States Securities and Exchange Commission

450 Fifth Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20549

Re: Oscient Pharmaceuticals Corporation. Request for Acceleration of Effectiveness of Registration Statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-118026)

Dear Mr. Belliston:

Pursuant to Rule 461 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, Oscient Pharmaceuticals Corporation (the Company), hereby requests that the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-118026) be declared effective at 4 p.m. Eastern Time on December 6, 2004 or as soon as possible thereafter.

The Company acknowledges that (i) should the Commission or the staff, acting pursuant to delegated authority, declare the filing effective, it does not foreclose the Commission from taking any actions with respect to the filing, (ii) the action of the Commission or the staff 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 (iii) the Company may not assert this action as defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

Please call Matthew Choate of Ropes & Gray LLP at (617) 951-7153 if you have any questions. Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

OSCIENT PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION

By: /s/ STEVEN M. RAUSCHER  
Name: **Steven M. Rauscher**

**Title: President and Chief Executive Officer**