Based on the recently released results of a new study, Rep. Waxman today renewed his request that FDA investigate whether phenylephrine oral nasal decongestants are effective. The study, conducted by Schering-Plough—the maker of Claritin-D—showed that phenylephrine at the FDA-approved dose was not significantly different than placebo and was significantly less effective than pseudophedrine in decreasing nasal congestion. Manufacturers have begun to offer over-the-counter phenylephrine oral nasal decongestants as alternatives to pseudoephedrine-containing products in response to recently enacted anti-methamphetamine legislation requiring that pseudoephedrine products be moved behind the counter. **Documents and Links**

- Letter to Andrew von Eschenbach