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8	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA	
9		
10	PLYMOUTH COUNTY RETIREMENT	Case No.:
11	ASSOCIATION, Individually and on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,	
12	·	
13	Plaintiff,	CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE FEDERAL
14	VS.	SECURITIES LAWS
15	OUTSET MEDICAL, INC., LESLIE TRIGG,	
16	NABEEL AHMED, and REBECCA CHAMBERS,	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
17		
	Defendants.	
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Plaintiff, Plymouth County Retirement Association ("Plaintiff"), by and through its attorneys, alleges the following upon information and belief, except as to allegations concerning Plaintiff, which are alleged upon personal knowledge. Plaintiff's information and belief are based upon, among other things, its counsel's investigation, which includes, without limitation: (a) review and analysis of public filings made by Outset Medical, Inc. ("Outset Medical" or the "Company") with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"); (b) review and analysis of press releases and other publications disseminated by Defendants (defined below) and other parties; (c) review of news articles, shareholder communications, conference calls, and postings on Outset Medical's website concerning the Company's public statements; and (d) review of other publicly available information concerning the Company and the Individual Defendants (defined below).

NATURE OF THE ACTION

- 1. This is a federal securities class action on behalf of all persons or entities who purchased Outset Medical common stock between September 15, 2020, and June 13, 2022, inclusive (the "Class Period") against Outset Medical and certain of its officers (collectively "Defendants") seeking to pursue remedies under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. § 78a et seq. (the "Exchange Act").
- 2. Outset Medical is a medical technology company focused on kidney dialysis, the primary treatment for acute and chronic kidney failure. The Company's flagship product is the Tablo Hemodialysis System ("Tablo"). Tablo is a dialysis machine that purifies tap water and then artificially purifies and removes toxins from the blood of patients suffering from kidney failure.
- 3. Throughout the Class Period, Outset Medical touted that Tablo can "serve as a dialysis clinic on wheels" that had been "cleared by the [U.S.] Food and Drug Administration [(the "FDA")] for use in the hospital, clinic or home setting." Indeed, Outset Medical made clear that the Company's true value proposition would be recognized through the emerging use-at-home market rather than the more traditional acute or clinical settings it targeted historically. Outset

sought to differentiate itself in the crowded dialysis device market by highlighting its focus on the "home setting, which [the Company] estimate[d] represents a total addressable market opportunity of approximately \$8.9 billion." Outset Medical contended it was "well-positioned" to "help accelerate th[e] shift to home-based hemodialysis therapy" prompted by the COVID-19 pandemic, patient preferences, government initiatives, and reimbursement changes.

- 4. However, devices used by non-professionals outside of a clinical setting and that can present serious health consequences like Tablo are subject to heightened scrutiny by the FDA, including post-market surveillance studies pursuant to Section 522 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the "FDCA"), 21 C.F.R. § 822.1(a). Thus, though cleared by the FDA for sale, Tablo for use in the home setting was subject to additional studies, the results of which could require additional applications for clearance and approvals.
- 5. While performing further regulatory studies during the Class Period, the Company assured investors that it was conducting the studies "in accordance with the FDA approved protocol," which required an appropriate demonstration of "real-world" human testing given that the device would be used at home by non-professionals.
- 6. Seizing on positive prospects for sales of Tablo, the Company completed two secondary stock offerings—one in December 2020 and one in April 2021—raising more than \$570 million in proceeds for the benefit of the Company and its private equity backers.
- 7. Undisclosed to investors, and as Defendants have now admitted, Outset Medical "continuously" made significant changes to Tablo for use in the home setting. The nature of these undisclosed changes: (1) made it likely that the FDA would order the Company to cease all marketing and selling of Tablo for use in the home pending additional applications and approvals; and (2) prevented the Company from performing the requisite "real-world" human testing on a device cleared for sale, contrary to representations to investors.
- 8. Investors began to learn the truth after the markets closed on May 4, 2022, when the Company announced disappointing results for the first quarter of 2022, which analysts attributed, *inter alia*, to the untested nature of Tablo in the home setting. In response to this



disclosure, and as the market digested this news, the price of Outset Medical common stock declined more than 40% over the three trading days that followed, from a closing price of \$39.94 per share on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, to a closing price of \$23.06 per share on Monday, May 9, 2022.

- 9. Outset Medical then shocked investors after the markets closed on June 13, 2022, announcing that the FDA had forced the Company to hold all shipments of Tablo for use in the home until Tablo received proper regulatory clearance. In an astonishing admission made during an "FDA Review Call" held that day with analysts, Company Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") Leslie Trigg ("Trigg") acknowledged the "ship hold" had already been in place for weeks before investors were provided this material information. Importantly, CEO Trigg disclosed for the first time that, rather than conducting studies using "real-world data" gathered in the "home environment" as the Company previously stated was required by the FDA, in reality, Outset Medical had "run with a protocol that involves a simulated use environment at a human factors lab."
- 10. During the same call, and as a result of the shipment hold, Outset Medical Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") Nabeel Ahmed announced the Company was "suspending our prior full-year and long-term guidance."
- 11. On this news, the price of Outset Medical stock fell an additional 34%, from a closing price of \$20.41 per share on June 13, 2022, to a closing price of \$13.46 per share on June 14, 2022.
- 12. Following the FDA Review Call, analysts openly questioned management's credibility, reporting a difficulty "reconcil[ing] company commentary on the shipment hold."
- 13. As a result of Defendants' wrongful acts and omissions, and the precipitous decline in the market value of the Company's common stock when the truth was disclosed, Plaintiff and other Class members have suffered significant losses and damages.



JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 14. The claims asserted herein arise under Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. §§ 78j(b) and 78t(a)) and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder by the SEC (17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5).
- 15. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331, Section 27 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. § 78aa).
- 16. Venue is proper in this Judicial District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), Section 27 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. § 78aa). Substantial acts in furtherance of the alleged fraud or the effects of the fraud have occurred in this Judicial District. Many of the acts and omissions charged herein, including the dissemination of materially false and misleading information to the investing public, and the omission of material information, occurred in substantial part in this Judicial District, as Outset Medical is headquartered in this District.
- 17. In connection with the acts, transactions, and conduct alleged herein, Defendants, directly and indirectly, used the means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce, including the U.S. Mail, interstate telephone communications, and the facilities of a national securities exchange.

DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT

18. Pursuant to Local Rule 3-2(c) and (e), this action should be assigned to the San Jose Division of this Court, as the Company is headquartered in Santa Clara County, California.

PARTIES

19. Plaintiff Plymouth County Retirement Association is a public pension system organized for the benefit of current and retired municipal and county employees of Plymouth County, Massachusetts. Plaintiff manages approximately \$1.2 billion in assets. As set forth in the accompanying certification, incorporated by reference herein, Plaintiff purchased Outset Medical common stock during the Class Period and suffered damages as a result of the federal securities law violations and false and/or misleading statements and/or material omissions alleged herein.



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