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United States District Court Southern District of New York

1:20-cv-10272

Luz Sanchez, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

- against -

Class Action Complaint

Avadim Health, Inc.,

Defendant

Plaintiff by attorneys alleges upon information and belief, except for allegations pertaining to plaintiff, which are based on personal knowledge:

- 1. Avadim Health, Inc. ("defendant") manufactures, distributes, markets, labels and sells Theraworx Muscle Cramp & Spasm Relief Foam ("Theraworx MCS" or "Product"), sold with a compression knee garment, with the active ingredient magnesium sulfate.
- 2. The Product is sold to consumers from retail and online stores, and directly by Defendant, in containers of various sizes.
- 3. The Product and its advertising contain numerous false, deceptive and misleading claims about its ability to provide pain relief.
- 4. These claims were recently the subject of a decision by the National Advertising Division (NAD) which concluded the claims and marketing were not accurate and misleading.
- 5. The Product is similar to external analgesic products which contain the active ingredients capsaicin, trolamine salicylate, and/or lidocaine.



- 6. The relevant FDA Monograph for these products limit the indications for use: "For the temporary relief of minor aches and pains of muscles and joints" [which may be followed by: "associated with" (select one or more of the following: 'simple backache,' 'arthritis,' 'strains,' 'bruises,' and 'sprains.')."
- 7. The Monograph states, "the indications for OTC external analgesic drug products should emphasize that these products relieve only minor pain and have an action that is only temporary."
- 8. Defendant's Product emphasizes its ability to provide pain relief of a more significant and enduring type than those covered by the Monograph, even though its active ingredient, magnesium sulfate, has not been reviewed or found to be generally recognized as safe or effective by the FDA to diagnose, treat, cure, prevent or mitigate any diseases or conditions.
- 9. The front label representations include "Muscle Cramp and Spasm Relief," "Prevents Cramps & Spasms," "Releases Muscle Tightness," "Reduces Muscle Soreness" and "Foam with Magnesium Sulfate."





10. Defendant's online marketing proclaims: "Apply as Needed for Fast Relief – As soon as you feel a muscle cramp or spasm coming on, use Theraworx Relief to quickly release muscle tightness and reduce the soreness afterwards. There's no limit to how many times you can apply it per day!"

APPLY AS NEEDED FOR FAST RELIEF

As soon as you feel a muscle cramp or spasm coming on, use Theraworx Relief to quickly release muscle tightness and reduce the soreness afterwards. There's no limit to how many times you can apply it per day!

11. Other online marketing describes the Product as "Fast-Acting Muscle Cramp Relief."



12. The Product claims it "Prevents cramps and spams, Releases muscle tightness, [and] Relieves muscle soreness."



- 13. The representations on the packaging and website include:
 - "REDUCES the severity of symptoms associated with RLS [restless leg syndrome]."
 - "PREVENTS cramps and spasms when used daily."
 - "[Q]uickly relieves muscle cramps and even prevents them when used daily."
 - "Use Theraworx Relief twice daily (in the morning and before bedtime) to prevent nighttime muscle cramps and spasms, or three times daily if you also experience cramps or spasms during the day."
 - "Theraworx Relief for Muscle Cramps and Spasms can be used as a companion product to manage the leg cramps associated with many important, commonly prescribed medications."



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