

Page 1

1 UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
2 BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD
3
4 LUPIN, LTD. AND LUPIN)
5 PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.,)
6)
7 Petitioners,)
8)
9 VS.) Case IPR2015-01773
10) Patent 8,858,996 B2
11 POZEN, INC.,)
12)
13 Patent owner.)
14 -----
15 ORAL AND VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF
16 LEON SHARGEL
17 MAY 25, 2016
18 -----
19 ORAL AND VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION of LEON
20 SHARGEL, a witness produced at the instance of Horizon
21 Pharma, taken in the above-styled and numbered cause on
22 the 25th day of May, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:02 a.m.,
23 before Stacy L. Jordan, a CSR in and for the State of
24 Texas, Registered Professional Reporter and Certified
25 Realtime Reporter, taken in the offices of Wick
Phillips, 3131 McKinney Avenue, Suite 100, Dallas, Texas
75204, in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil
Procedure.

Page 2

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2
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Page 3

I N D E X

	PAGE
3 Appearances.....	2
4 Stipulations.....	34
5 LEON SHARGEL	
6 Examination by Mr. Rodriguez.....	5
7 Changes and Signature.....	35-36
8 Reporter's Certificate.....	37-38
9	
10	
E X H I B I T S	
11	
12 NO. DESCRIPTION PAGE MARKED	
13 Exhibit 1 Shargel Declaration.....	24
14 Exhibit 2 Ulcer Prevention in Long-Term Users 15 of Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory 16 Drugs.....	24
17 Exhibit 3 Ulcer Recurrence in High-Risk 18 Patients Receiving Nonsteroidal 19 Anti-Inflammatory Drugs Plus 20 Low-Dose Aspirin: Results of a 21 Post Hoc Subanalysis.....	24
22	
23	
24	
25	

Page 4

1 P R O C E E D I N G S
2 (May 25, 2016, 9:00 a.m.)
3 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This is the videotaped
4 deposition of Dr. Shargel, held in Dallas, Texas. The
5 time is now 9:00 a.m., May 25th, 2016. We are now on
6 record.
7 At this time, will the counsel please
8 introduce themselves and whom they represent, and the
9 witness will then be sworn in.
10 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Ricardo Rodriguez from
11 Cooley, LLP, on behalf of Horizon.
12 MS. KRUMPLITSCH: Susan Krumplitsch, also
13 from Cool- -- Cooley, LLP, also representing Horizon.
14 MR. HASH: Stephen Hash, from Baker
15 Botts, on behalf of Pozen.
16 MS. STEVENS: Lauren Stevens from Horizon
17 Pharma.
18 MS. LaVALLE: Amy LaValle from Wick
19 Phillips on behalf of the Petitioner Coalition for
20 Affordable Drugs.
21 MR. HARRIS: Jerry Harris from Wick
22 Phillips on behalf of Petitioner Coalition for
23 Affordable Drugs.
24 LEON SHARGEL,
25 having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:



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<p>Page 5</p> <p>1 EXAMINATION 2 BY MR. RODRIGUEZ: 3 Q. Good morning. Would you please state your 4 name and address for the record. 5 A. Leon Shargel, at 1535 Caraleigh Mills Court, 6 Raleigh, North Carolina 27603. 7 Q. Have you previously worked as an expert for 8 any litigation or patent office proceeding? 9 A. I did one case many years ago, when I was 10 employed by Sandoz, in which there was a patent case in 11 which I was deposed. Sandoz is a generic arm of 12 Novartis, in which case they were being sued -- I don't 13 recall the drug, actually; it was several years ago -- 14 for a particular patent. 15 Q. Were you deposed as an expert or an employee? 16 A. I was an employee, but I -- I guess -- I was a 17 vice president of biopharmaceutics. I ran the studies 18 for the company. 19 Q. Have you done any prior expert work? 20 A. Yes. 21 Q. For litigation? 22 A. I have looked at patents in which I have made 23 my general expert opinion, but these have never 24 really -- they've been settled before going to court. 25 Q. Can you identify those?</p>	<p>Page 7</p> <p>1 There's Simmons & Simmons, out of London, whom I've 2 never met, actually. We've done everything by 3 teleconference. 4 Q. Are you working as an expert for or in 5 connection with Wick Phillips for any matter other than 6 this one? 7 A. No. 8 Q. How did you get in contact with Wick Phillips? 9 A. I was contacted, actually, by lawyers for 10 Conley Rose and -- in which case I initially got 11 involved in several of these patents, including the '907 12 patent. 13 Q. How did they identify you? 14 A. Actually, I -- 15 MS. LaVALLE: Objection, form. 16 A. I -- I got a call. 17 Q. (BY MR. RODRIGUEZ) Do you know where they got 18 your -- your name? 19 A. No, I didn't. 20 Q. Do you know now how they got your name? 21 A. I'm not clear how they got my name. 22 Q. Can you give me an overview of your clinical 23 trial experience? 24 A. In -- in terms of what context? 25 Q. Any context.</p>
<p>Page 6</p> <p>1 A. I don't really recall. They were several -- 2 some years ago, but -- I -- I don't recall all the 3 exact -- one was -- I remember was a Cialis-type 4 product -- 5 THE REPORTER: I'm sorry. "Was a"? 6 THE WITNESS: C-i-a-l-i-s. 7 A. -- for erectile dysfunction. So that one, of 8 course, I remember a little bit more, perhaps. But 9 there were several others that I don't recall. They 10 were, generally, formulation-associated or 11 biopharmaceutic-associated issues. 12 Q. (BY MR. RODRIGUEZ) Were you deposed in any of 13 those cases? 14 A. No. 15 Q. Did you write expert declarations in any of 16 those cases? 17 A. On -- a couple of times, I did; and other 18 times, it was mostly oral, by teleconference and 19 discussions of the patent. 20 Q. Do you recall the law firms that you worked 21 with? 22 A. One that I worked with was Rakoczy -- I forgot 23 their last name -- in Chicago. There was Steptoe in -- 24 I just remember the first names -- in -- they're in 25 Washington, D.C. And there's a couple other ones.</p>	<p>Page 8</p> <p>1 A. Well, in -- I would have to start very early. 2 In 1969, when I completed my degree, I started at 3 Sterling Winthrop. Then I was involved in drug 4 metabolism in the areas of looking at blood levels of 5 drugs involved in some clinical trials. So that goes 6 back many years ago. 7 At Forest Labs, I also was in charge of 8 running mainly generic company -- or generic products 9 dealing with bioequivalence and looking at 10 pharmacokinetics absorption studies. We looked at a few 11 new drug applications, what we called 505(b)(2)s, which 12 are old drugs in new carrier systems, new drug products. 13 In my last job, I was vice president of 14 Sandoz in biopharmaceutics and re- -- responsible for 15 other generic clinical studies, leading to generic 16 approval. 17 Q. Have you been involved in clinical trials for 18 new drugs? 19 A. On occasion, where there is a drug 20 interaction, absorption/pharmacokinetic issue, blood 21 level related to pharmacodynamic effect. 22 Q. What has been the nature of your involvement 23 in clinical trials? 24 A. Again, it's in the area of pharmacokinetics 25 and biopharmaceutical aspects of the drug.</p>



Page 9

1 Q. Can you be more specific?
2 A. Biopharmaceutics deals with how the drug gets
3 out of a tablet or a capsule into the body, and we're
4 looking at absorption of the drug from said tablet into
5 the body. And then we would give different doses and
6 you look at how -- the doses and the amount of drug
7 coming in. So if you have 10 milligrams, how much drug
8 comes in the body. A 10 -- if you have a 20-milligram,
9 how much does that -- and you build up a dosage regimen
10 response for the new drug.
11 Q. Can you identify the drugs?
12 A. I worked on many of them, particularly in the
13 generic areas, from Claritin to -- actually, you have
14 Naproxen, diclofenac. I have to re-think of many of
15 these. I'm sorry. I don't have all of the drugs
16 that -- we usually worked on -- we had 20 different
17 products a year or more.
18 Q. Any others you can think of?
19 A. Metaxalone was one, which is Skelaxin. Xanax,
20 another one. Several -- those are called
21 benzodiazepines, things similar to Valium, because I --
22 I worked on several different ones of those series, but
23 I don't recall all of the drugs.
24 Q. And these are all generic forms of the drugs
25 that you've mentioned?

Page 10

1 A. No. In some cases, they were branded. At
2 Forest Labs, which is now part of Actavis, they had both
3 a brand and generic side. So we had several on the
4 brand side that we did blood-level work and -- and such.
5 As I mentioned, pharmacokinetics.
6 Q. For the branded side, which are the ones that
7 you can remember?
8 A. I'm trying to think. No, I don't recall.
9 There was one for Alzheimer's, but I don't recall the
10 name of the drug.
11 Q. Was it with Forest?
12 A. Forest Labs, which is now bought out by
13 Actavis.
14 Q. Was that Namenda?
15 A. They bought that after the fact. They were --
16 Forest Labs had an interest in the Alzheimer's drugs,
17 and they licensed out Namenda, but I didn't work on that
18 particular product.
19 Q. For the branded Alzheimer's drug where you did
20 do work in a clinical trial, what was your involvement?
21 A. The involvement was look at blood levels and
22 pharmacokinetics and how the drugs are absorbed and the
23 relationship with the blood level to a clinical end
24 point.
25 Q. For the clinical trials in which you have been

Page 11

1 involved, has your role ever included the identification
2 of the patients who are to be studied?
3 A. May I ask: What do you mean by
4 "identification"?
5 Q. Determining whether or not a particular
6 patient should be part of the study.
7 A. When a study is put together, a protocol is
8 written, which is sort of the operating idea of the
9 study, and you include what is called "inclusion" and
10 "exclusion factors" so that if you're looking for a
11 particular set of patients -- you may not want smokers;
12 you may not want women of childbearing age, or you may
13 include women if they're on birth control or something
14 of this sort. So there is criteria for inclusion or
15 exclusion of subjects, depending upon the study.
16 Q. Can you describe for me your experience in
17 identifying the inclusion or exclusion criteria?
18 A. I have audited the generic studies and
19 reviewed the case report forms, which is the people who
20 have been in a study, and looked to see whether they met
21 the inclusion and exclusion criteria.
22 Q. Other than the auditing, do you have any
23 experience in identifying the inclusion or exclusion
24 criteria?
25 A. Your -- your term "identifying," I -- I would

Page 12

1 look at it as recruitment. Is that what you mean? When
2 you recruit, you advertise or you look for a patient in
3 a study and you put in the characteristics that they
4 must be this way or that way within an age group. We
5 don't identify as an identifier. I'm not sure of your
6 question.
7 Q. Yeah, maybe we're just not using the -- the
8 same terminology. Somebody has to write out what the
9 inclusion criteria is; is that correct?
10 A. Yes. That's done by a medical committee.
11 Q. And somebody has to write out what the
12 exclusion criteria is; is that correct?
13 A. By the same committee.
14 Q. And have you ever been involved in that?
15 A. Yes.
16 Q. Can you describe your involvement?
17 A. In putting together -- let's -- let's take a
18 straightforward study. We can pick on a generic product
19 that we want to look at. And in this case, the
20 criteria, which is often given by FDA, that the study
21 must be -- be done in normal, healthy patients or
22 subjects. And we may add they may be between a certain
23 age group. So 18 through 55 years of age, who are
24 otherwise healthy by standard clinical tests and things
25 of that sort. So we -- we put that. If they are



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Page 13

1 smokers, use drugs -- we do a drug test on these
2 subjects as they come in -- they're excluded. So we --
3 we put together inclusion criteria and we put together
4 exclusion criteria.

5 Q. And the inclusion and exclusion criteria is
6 determined at the outset of the study; is that correct?

7 A. Every protocol is put together as clear as
8 possible, including an informed-consent form, and goes
9 to an institutional review board for that particular
10 hospital or clinic in which the study is going to be
11 done. The institutional review board is an ethics
12 committee, and they will review the inclusion/exclusion
13 as well as all the other observations that would be done
14 on the subjects in the protocol.

15 Q. Approximately how many medical -- medical
16 committees have you been on that have identified the
17 inclusion and exclusion criteria?

18 A. In terms of being on an IRB, which it's
19 called, the institutional review board, I was on the
20 institutional review board for the National Institute of
21 Drug Abuse in Baltimore. I was involved at
22 Massachusetts College of Pharmacy on the IRB. In the
23 other cases, I am involved in putting the protocol
24 together, so I am putting the protocol -- which will be
25 then submitted to the IRB. So in one case, I'm on the

Page 14

1 board for certain products; in the other case, I'm --
2 I'm the person who's involved in submitting the
3 protocol.

4 Q. And approximately how many products?

5 A. Hundreds.

6 Q. What is the methodology by which the inclusion
7 and exclusion criteria is determined?

8 A. The first part of any study is to have a
9 hypothesis and -- so the scientific method. So what are
10 you trying to prove? And in this case, in the generic,
11 you're trying to prove that the generic product is what
12 we call a "bioequivalent" to the brand-name products.
13 So that is our hypothesis. It is either equivalent or
14 it is not equivalent.

15 Then we have to have some methodology in
16 terms of determining that, in terms of subjects, in
17 terms of the healthy subjects. Are we going to use
18 patients that have a disease entity? Are we going to
19 use women? Are we going to use -- I did, for example,
20 an estrogen patch that was, obviously, going to be done
21 in women, and it was done in postmenopausal women. So
22 in that particular case, they were normal, healthy --
23 you wouldn't want to say a postmenopausal woman is
24 unhealthy, but we wanted to put criteria to be sure that
25 she otherwise had no other particular problems, such as

Page 15

1 Parkinson's or Alzheimer's or any of these other kinds
2 of things. So we would -- it's a criteria. According
3 to hypothesis, is the estrogen patch equivalent to, say,
4 Estraderm, which might be the brand name.

5 Q. Now, in addition to determining inclusion and
6 exclusion criteria, there is also a determination made
7 of what factors or criteria will be tracked in a study;
8 is that correct?

9 A. That is part of the hypothesis, yes.

10 Q. And how is that determined?

11 A. The determination is always: What is the
12 objective of the study?

13 And once you have a clear-cut idea of what
14 the objective is, then you can have other objectives.

15 For example, again, going back to my bioequivalents, is
16 the product bio- -- we'll pick on Estraderm, since I
17 used that as an example -- is the estrogen patch made by
18 Sandoz equivalent to Estraderm? That would be our
19 hypothesis.

20 We may look at other factors, such: Does
21 the patch on the skin irritate the skin, as an adhesive?
22 Does the patch fall off from the skin or does it stay on
23 for seven days? Say it's a seven-day patch. So input
24 on that. Do women who have this complain of headaches
25 or anything else?

Page 16

1 So we would put other observations. But
2 our main hypothesis still remains: Is the drug
3 bioequivalent? That's the first hypothesis. But we're
4 also going to look at safety, adverse events, and other
5 issues that may occur.

6 Q. The issues that you're interested in looking
7 at as the study goes forward, how are those tracked?

8 A. Well, we can start at the beginning of the
9 study, in which case -- if we go back to my estrogen
10 patch example, there would be -- this was done in
11 Florida, with a contract research organization. And
12 they would advertise for women in terms of who would
13 meet the minimum criteria, being otherwise healthy,
14 being postmenopausal, and -- and within an age group
15 specified.

16 Now, they got that information from the
17 protocol. This is -- and -- and the protocol hadn't
18 been approved. So advertising is done first. There
19 will be women who will come in and will be initially
20 recruited if they meet the criteria. If they're
21 alcoholic or a drug problem or such, they will,
22 obviously, be refused in the study.

23 At that point in time, they will enter the
24 clinic at a specified day or time, receive the
25 appropriate treatment. They will be housed, usually, at



Page 17

1 least for 24 hours, and blood samples will be taken; the
2 protocol will be followed. There will be a physician,
3 nurses, phlebotomists, quality-assurance people.
4 Q. How does that procedure work in the case of
5 a -- of a drug that is taken orally?
6 A. The same procedure, except you don't put it on
7 the skin; you swallow the drug.
8 Q. Are they housed, as well, the patients?
9 A. Yes.
10 Q. Would it be atypical not to house the
11 patients?
12 A. I don't quite understand the question. If you
13 don't have the patients, you wouldn't have the study,
14 which, apparently -- maybe I'm reading your question
15 wrong.
16 Q. Are there studies where the patients are not
17 housed, where they are provided with the drug and then
18 they just go home?
19 A. That --
20 MS. LaVALLE: Objection, form.
21 A. That, again, depends upon the hypothesis of
22 the study. If your hypothesis is going to be a
23 longer-time treatment, it may be necessary to give
24 instructions and then the patients understand that they
25 carry a diary; they're responsible for self-medication.

Page 18

1 And there are some controls about counting the number of
2 pills they've taken at any specific time, and they may
3 be calling in. There will be something in the protocol
4 to track them, even though they are ambulatory and on
5 their own.
6 Q. (BY MR. RODRIGUEZ) Okay. And you've answered
7 part of this with your response right now, but can you
8 identify for me the steps that are taken to make sure
9 that each patient receives the right amount of drug at
10 the right time?
11 MS. LaVALLE: Objection, form.
12 A. Again, it depends upon the study that we're
13 doing. If we're doing an in-house study, a nurse or a
14 nurse-practitioner will administer the drug. It could
15 be some specialized medical assistant to administer the
16 drugs that the person is taking at a specified time
17 under specified conditions.
18 Q. (BY MR. RODRIGUEZ) You mentioned before that
19 a couple of common exclusion criteria are drugs and
20 alcohol. How is that monitored to make sure that,
21 initially, they may not have been involved with either
22 of those, but later, during the study, they might?
23 A. Well, you have it open-ended in terms of
24 study. Again, we have to go back to what is the study
25 hypothesis, and is this going to be an -- in-house

Page 19

1 patients or is this going to be patients that are
2 brought in and then sent out, after certain training, to
3 be on their own. So we would have to determine what we
4 have, as far as a protocol, and what is our objectives.
5 Q. What are the possibilities?
6 A. Possibilities for what, sir?
7 Q. For tracking that.
8 A. I'll come back to the hypothesis of the
9 question -- I mean, of the study. If we have an
10 in-house study, we have it monitored very well.
11 Q. And if it's not?
12 A. The subjects are monitored. They initially
13 have a training period, and then they will be monitored
14 during the period of time -- over a period of time.
15 Q. How would they be monitored?
16 A. They may come in to the clinic each day. They
17 will be called. There will be a pill count at -- at a
18 certain time to see what they have not taken. It can be
19 done a number of different ways.
20 Q. What records are kept?
21 A. They keep all records of all contact, all
22 e-mails, all phone calls, all measurements of bodily
23 functions, such as blood pressures and whatever else is
24 needed.
25 Q. What records are kept with respect to the

Page 20

1 exclusion criteria?
2 A. When the patients are initially recruited,
3 they're first checked whether they meet the recruit- --
4 exclusion criteria. And if they don't meet it, they're
5 rejected from the study.
6 Q. And thereafter?
7 A. This is -- what we try to do is track the
8 patients. If they're not in-house, they're -- and I
9 assume -- well, I never assume, but is that what you're
10 asking --
11 Q. Yes.
12 A. -- if they're --
13 Q. Not in-house.
14 A. -- not in-house?
15 So if they're not in-house, we'll have to
16 track by phone calls, by having them come in
17 periodically. They may have to be -- certain testing
18 done periodically, in which case you can do a drug test.
19 Q. And there are records kept of all of these
20 testings?
21 A. It's mandatory.
22 Q. You mentioned a diary before. How does a
23 diary -- diary work in connection with one of these
24 studies?
25 A. It will go back to what -- what -- the kind of

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