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**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

ASTRAZENECA AB, AKTIEBOLAGET  
HÄSSLE, ASTRAZENECA LP, and  
ZENECA INC.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

AUROBINDO PHARMA LIMITED and  
AUROBINDO PHARMA USA INC.,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPLAINT FOR  
PATENT INFRINGEMENT  
AND CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO  
LOCAL CIVIL RULE 11.2**

Plaintiffs AstraZeneca AB, Aktiebolaget Hassle, AstraZeneca LP, and Zeneca Inc. (collectively, "Plaintiffs"), by their attorneys, for their Complaint against Defendants Aurobindo Pharma Limited and Aurobindo Pharma USA Inc. (collectively, "Defendants" or "Aurobindo"), allege as follows:

### **NATURE OF THE ACTION**

1. This is a civil action for patent infringement arising under the patent laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 100 et seq., and in particular under 35 U.S.C. § 271(e). This action relates to Abbreviated New Drug Application (“ANDA”) No. 209339 filed by or for the benefit of Defendants with the United States Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) for approval to market generic versions of Plaintiffs’ NEXIUM 24HR<sup>®</sup> pharmaceutical products that are sold in the United States.

### **THE PARTIES**

2. Plaintiff AstraZeneca AB (“AZ AB”) is a corporation operating and existing under the laws of Sweden, with its principal place of business at S-151 85 Södertälje, Sweden.

3. Plaintiff Aktiebolaget Hässle (“Hässle”) is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Sweden, having its principal place of business at Mölndal, Sweden.

4. Plaintiff AstraZeneca LP (“AZ LP”) is a limited partnership operating and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, with its principal place of business at 1800 Concord Pike, Wilmington, Delaware 19803. AZ LP holds an approved New Drug Application from the FDA for an esomeprazole magnesium formulation that it sells under the name NEXIUM 24HR<sup>®</sup>.

5. Plaintiff Zeneca Inc. (“Zeneca”) is a Delaware corporation having its principal place of business at Wilmington, Delaware. Zeneca has exclusive rights in the United States to market and sell products covered by United States Patent Nos. 6,369,085 and 7,411,070 (collectively, the “Patents-in-suit”).

6. On information and belief, Defendant Aurobindo Pharma Limited (“Aurobindo Ltd.”) is a private limited liability company incorporated and existing under the laws of India,

with its principal place of business at Andhra Pradesh, India and offices at 6 Wheeling Road, Dayton, New Jersey 08810.

7. On information and belief, Defendant Aurobindo Pharma USA Inc. (“Aurobindo USA”) is a corporation operating and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, with its principal place of business at 2400 Route 130 North, Dayton, New Jersey 08810.

8. On information and belief, Aurobindo USA is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Aurobindo Ltd.

## **BACKGROUND**

### **The NDA**

9. AZ LP is the holder of New Drug Application (“NDA”) No. 204655 for NEXIUM 24HR® Esomeprazole Magnesium Delayed-Release Capsules, 20 mg. NEXIUM 24HR® is an over the counter drug approved for the treatment of frequent heartburn (2 or more days a week). Esomeprazole magnesium trihydrate is the active ingredient in NEXIUM 24HR®.

### **The Patents-in-Suit**

10. United States Patent No. 6,369,085 (“the ’085 patent”), entitled “Form of S-omeprazole,” was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (“the USPTO”) on April 9, 2002 to AZ AB, upon assignment from the inventors Hanna Cotton, Anders Kronstrom, Anders Mattson, and Eva Möller. The ’085 patent claims, *inter alia*, magnesium salts of esomeprazole trihydrate, pharmaceutical compositions comprising the claimed salts, methods of treatment using the claimed salts, and processes for preparing the claimed salts. A true and correct copy of the ’085 patent is attached as Exhibit A.

11. Plaintiff AZ AB has been and still is the owner of the ’085 patent. The ’085 patent will expire on May 25, 2018, and pediatric exclusivity relating to the ’085 patent expires on November 25, 2018.

12. United States Patent No. 7,411,070 (“the ’070 patent”), entitled “Form of S-omeprazole,” was duly and legally issued by the USPTO on August 12, 2008 to AZ AB upon assignment from inventors Hanna Cotton, Anders Kronstrom, Anders Mattson, and Eva Moller. The claims of the ’070 patent are directed to, *inter alia*, magnesium salts of esomeprazole trihydrate and processes for preparing the claimed salts. A true and correct copy of the ’070 patent is attached as Exhibit B.

13. Plaintiff AZ AB has been and still is the owner of the ’070 patent. The ’070 patent will expire on May 25, 2018, and pediatric exclusivity relating to the ’070 patent expires on November 25, 2018.

#### **The ANDA**

14. On information and belief, Aurobindo Ltd. filed ANDA No. 209339 with the FDA under 21 U.S.C. § 355(j) to obtain FDA approval for the commercial manufacture, use, importation, offer for sale, and sale in the United States of esomeprazole magnesium delayed-release capsules, 20 mg (“Aurobindo’s Esomeprazole Magnesium Delayed-Release Capsules”), which are generic versions of Plaintiffs’ NEXIUM 24HR<sup>®</sup> Esomeprazole Magnesium Delayed-Release Capsules, in a 20 mg dosage form.

15. By letter dated June 6, 2016 (the “ANDA Notice Letter”), Defendants notified Plaintiffs that Aurobindo Ltd. had filed ANDA No. 209339 seeking approval to market Aurobindo’s Esomeprazole Magnesium Delayed-Release Capsules and that Aurobindo was providing information to Plaintiffs pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 355(j)(2)(B) and 21 C.F.R. § 314.95.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

16. Subject matter jurisdiction over this action is proper pursuant to the provisions of Title 28, United States Code, Sections 1331 and 1338(a).

17. On information and belief, Aurobindo USA is a corporation with its principal place of business in New Jersey. By virtue of its incorporation in New Jersey, this Court has personal jurisdiction over Aurobindo USA.

18. On information and belief, Aurobindo Ltd., either directly or through one or more of its wholly owned subsidiaries and/or agents, develops, manufactures, distributes, markets, offers to sell, and sells generic drug products for sale and use throughout the United States, including within this judicial district.

19. On information and belief, Aurobindo USA, with the assistance and/or at the direction of Aurobindo Ltd., develops, manufactures, distributes, markets, offers to sell, and sells generic drug products for sale and use throughout the United States, including within this judicial district.

20. On information and belief, Defendants acted in concert to develop Aurobindo's over-the-counter esomeprazole magnesium delayed release oral capsules, equivalent to 20 mg base, and to seek approval from the FDA to sell the capsules throughout the United States, including within this judicial district.

21. On information and belief, both Aurobindo Ltd. and Aurobindo USA participated in the preparation and/or filing of ANDA No. 209339.

22. On information and belief and as stated in the ANDA Notice Letter, the FDA received ANDA No. 209339 from Aurobindo Ltd.

23. On information and belief, by virtue of, *inter alia*, Aurobindo Ltd.'s relationship with Aurobindo USA in connection with the preparation and/or filing of ANDA No. 209339 and the sales-related activities of Defendants in New Jersey, including but not limited to the

substantial, continuous, and systematic distribution, marketing, and/or sales of pharmaceutical products to residents of New Jersey, this Court has personal jurisdiction over Aurobindo Ltd.

24. On information and belief, Defendants have previously been sued in this district and have consented to personal jurisdiction in those actions. *See, e.g., AstraZeneca AB et al. v. Aurobindo Pharma Ltd. et al.*, Civil Action No. 3:13-CV-07298-MLC-TJB (D.N.J.), Answer to Complaint, ¶ 32 (Feb. 23, 2015); *Medicines Co. v. Aurobindo Pharma Ltd. et al.*, Civil Action No. 3:14-cv-02367-PGS-DEA, Answer to Complaint, ¶ 7 (July 3, 2014).

25. On information and belief, Defendants have availed themselves of the jurisdiction of this court by initiating litigation in this district. *See Aurobindo Pharma USA Inc. et al. v. Apicore US LLC et al.*, Civil Action No. 1:16-cv-03358-RMB-KMW.

26. On information and belief, by virtue of, *inter alia*, Defendants' continuous and systematic contacts with New Jersey, including but not limited to the above-described contacts, and the actions on behalf of Defendants in connection with ANDA No. 209339, this Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants. These activities satisfy due process and confer personal jurisdiction over Defendants consistent with New Jersey law. *See, e.g., Acorda Therapeutics Inc. v. Mylan Pharm. Inc.*, No. 15-1456, slip op. at 14 (Fed. Cir. Mar. 18, 2016) (holding that minimum-contacts requirement for specific personal jurisdiction is established where Defendant's "ANDA filings and its distribution channels establish that [the Defendant] plans to market its proposed drugs in [the State where the complaint was filed] and the lawsuit is about patent constraints on such in-State marketing.").

27. Upon information and belief, Defendants intend to market their Esomeprazole Magnesium Delayed-Release Capsules in New Jersey upon receiving FDA approval for ANDA No. 209339.

28. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to the provisions of Title 28, United States Code, Sections 1391(b)-(d), and 1400(b).

**COUNT 1: INFRINGEMENT OF THE '085 PATENT**

29. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference paragraphs 1-28 of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

30. On information and belief, Defendants submitted ANDA No. 209339 to the FDA under 21 U.S.C. § 355(j) in order to obtain approval to market Aurobindo's Esomeprazole Magnesium Delayed-Release Capsules in the United States before the expiration of the '085 patent.

31. By their ANDA Notice Letter, Defendants informed Plaintiffs that they had submitted to the FDA, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 355(j)(2)(A)(vii)(IV), a certification alleging that the '085 patent is invalid, unenforceable, or will not be infringed by the commercial manufacture, use, sale, offer for sale, or importation into the United States of Aurobindo's Esomeprazole Magnesium Delayed-Release Capsules.

32. Under 35 U.S.C. § 271(e)(2)(A), the submission by Defendants to the FDA of ANDA No. 209339 to obtain approval for the commercial manufacture, use, sale, offer for sale, or importation into the United States of Aurobindo's Esomeprazole Magnesium Delayed-Release Capsules before the expiration of the '085 patent constitutes infringement of one or more claims of the '085 patent, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

33. On information and belief, Aurobindo's Esomeprazole Magnesium Delayed-Release Capsules, if approved by the FDA, will be administered to human patients in a therapeutically effective amount to inhibit gastric acid secretion and for the treatment of gastrointestinal inflammatory disease. On information and belief, this administration will occur

at Defendants' active behest and with their intent, knowledge, and encouragement. On information and belief, Defendants will actively encourage, aid and abet this administration with knowledge that it is in contravention of Plaintiffs' rights under the '085 patent.

34. Plaintiffs will be substantially and irreparably harmed by the infringing activities described above unless those activities are precluded by this Court. Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law.

**COUNT 2: INFRINGEMENT OF THE '070 PATENT**

35. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference paragraphs 1-34 of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

36. On information and belief, Defendants submitted ANDA No. 209339 to the FDA under 21 U.S.C. § 355(j) in order to obtain approval to market Aurobindo's Esomeprazole Magnesium Delayed-Release Capsules in the United States before the expiration of the '070 patent.

37. By their ANDA Notice Letter, Defendants informed Plaintiffs that they had submitted to the FDA, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 355(j)(2)(A)(vii)(IV), a certification alleging that the '070 patent is invalid, unenforceable, or will not be infringed by the commercial manufacture, use, sale, offer for sale, or importation into the United States of Aurobindo's Esomeprazole Magnesium Delayed-Release Capsules.

38. Under 35 U.S.C. § 271(e)(2)(A), the submission by Defendants to the FDA of ANDA No. 209339 to obtain approval for the commercial manufacture, use, sale, offer for sale, or importation into the United States of Aurobindo's Esomeprazole Magnesium Delayed-Release Capsules before the expiration of the '070 patent constitutes infringement of one or more claims of the '070 patent, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

39. On information and belief, Aurobindo's Esomeprazole Magnesium Delayed-Release Capsules, if approved by the FDA, will be administered to human patients in a therapeutically effective amount to inhibit gastric acid secretion and for the treatment of gastrointestinal inflammatory disease. On information and belief, this administration will occur at Defendants' active behest and with their intent, knowledge, and encouragement. On information and belief, Defendants will actively encourage, aid and abet this administration with knowledge that it is in contravention of Plaintiffs' rights under the '070 patent.

40. Plaintiffs will be substantially and irreparably harmed by the infringing activities described above unless those activities are precluded by this Court. Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law.

#### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully request the following relief:

- A. A judgment that the claims of the '085 and '070 patents are valid and enforceable;
- B. A judgment that the submission of ANDA No. 209339 by Defendants infringes one or more claims of each of the '085 and '070 patents under 35 U.S.C. § 271(e)(2);
- C. A judgment providing that, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271(e)(4)(A), the effective date of any FDA approval of Defendants' ANDA No. 209339 shall be no earlier than the latest expiration date of the Patents-in-suit and any additional periods of exclusivity;
- D. A judgment pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271(e)(4)(B) permanently enjoining Defendants, and all persons acting in concert with any of them, from making, using, selling, offering to sell, or importing the esomeprazole magnesium product described in Defendants' ANDA No. 209339 prior to the latest expiration of the Patents-in-suit and any additional periods of exclusivity;

- E. Attorneys' fees in this action pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 285;
- F. Costs and expenses in this action; and
- G. Such further and other relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: July 20, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

*s/ John E. Flaherty*

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