

1 VIRGINIA K. DEMARCHI (CSB No. 168633)
vdemarchi@fenwick.com
2 MICHAEL C. SAUNDERS (CSB No. 270414)
msaunders@fenwick.com
3 FENWICK & WEST LLP
Silicon Valley Center
4 801 California Street
Mountain View, CA 94041
5 Telephone: 650.988.8500
Facsimile: 650.938.5200
6

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CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
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7 DAVID K. TELLEKSON (Wash. Bar No. 33523)
Admission Pro Hac Vice Pending
dtellekson@fenwick.com
8 EWA M. DAVISON (Wash. Bar No. 39524)
Admission Pro Hac Vice Pending
edavison@fenwick.com
9 FENWICK & WEST LLP
1191 Second Avenue, 10th Floor
10 Seattle, WA 98101
11 Telephone: 206.389.4510
Facsimile: 206.389.4511
12

(cont'd on next page)
13 Attorneys for Plaintiff
LOS ANGELES BIOMEDICAL
14 RESEARCH INSTITUTE AT HARBOR-
UCLA MEDICAL CENTER
15

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ATTORNEYS AT LAW
MOUNTAIN VIEW

16 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
17 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
18 WESTERN DIVISION

19 **CV13-08567-ABC(JCG)**

20 LOS ANGELES BIOMEDICAL
RESEARCH INSTITUTE AT HARBOR-
21 UCLA MEDICAL CENTER,

Case No.: _____

**COMPLAINT FOR
PATENT INFRINGEMENT**

22 Plaintiff,

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

23 v.

24 ELI LILLY AND COMPANY and
LILLY USA, LLC,

25 Defendants.
26
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28

1 THOMAS N. FITZGIBBON (CSB No. 169194)
tom@ptfzlaw.com
2 PFEIFFER THIGPEN FITZGIBBON & ZIONTZ LLP
233 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 220
3 Santa Monica, CA 90401
Telephone: 310.451.5800
4 Facsimile: 310.496.3175

5 Attorneys for Plaintiff
6 LOS ANGELES BIOMEDICAL
RESEARCH INSTITUTE AT HARBOR-
7 UCLA MEDICAL CENTER

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1 Plaintiff Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute at Harbor-UCLA
2 Medical Center (“LA BioMed”) for its complaint against defendants Eli Lilly and
3 Company and Lilly USA, LLC (collectively, “Lilly”) alleges as follows:
4

5 **NATURE OF THE ACTION**

6 1. This is a civil action for infringement of United States Patent
7
8 No. 8,133,903 (“the ’903 patent”). This action arises under the patent laws of the
9 United States, Title 35 of the United States Code. This Court has subject matter
10 jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).
11

12 **PARTIES**

13 2. Plaintiff LA BioMed is one of the country’s leading non-profit biomedical
14 research institutes. During its 61-year history, LA BioMed has been responsible for
15 many pioneering medical breakthroughs, including creation of the first paramedic
16 program and such life-saving inventions as the serum cholesterol test and surfactant
17 treatment for premature babies. LA BioMed is a non-profit California corporation
18 with a principal place of business at 1124 W Carson St., Torrance, California. LA
19 BioMed owns, by valid assignment, all rights, title, and interest in the ’903 patent.
20
21

22 3. Defendant Eli Lilly and Company is an Indiana company with its
23 corporate office, principal place of business, and registered agent for service at
24 Lilly Corporate Center, Indianapolis, Indiana. Defendant Eli Lilly and Company is
25 also registered to do business and has designated an agent for the service of process
26 in the State of California.
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1 4. Defendant Lilly USA, LLC is an Indiana limited liability company
2 operating as a wholly owned subsidiary of defendant Eli Lilly and Company, with
3 its principal place of business at Lilly Corporate Center, Indianapolis, Indiana.
4

5 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

6 5. This action arises under the patent laws of the United States, Title 35 of
7 the United States Code. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C.
8 §§ 1331 and 1338(a).
9

10 6. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Lilly because Lilly, directly or
11 through intermediaries (including distributors, retailers, and others), shipped,
12 distributed, offered for sale, sells, and advertises its pharmaceutical products,
13 including its Cialis[®] product, in the State of California and in the Central District of
14 California. Lilly has purposefully and voluntarily advertised and marketed its
15 Cialis product in California and has established distribution channels for putting its
16 Cialis product into the stream of commerce with the expectation that such product
17 would be prescribed and sold to patients for once-daily use in this District.
18 Defendant Eli Lilly and Company has registered to do business and has designated
19 an agent to accept service of process in the State of California.
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24 7. Venue is proper in this judicial district under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b) and (c)
25 and 1400(b). A substantial part of the events giving rise to the claims herein
26 occurred in this District, and Lilly does business in the State of California and has
27 induced acts of infringement in this State and in this District.
28

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Infringement of U.S. Patent No. 8,133,903)

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4 8. Plaintiff LA BioMed incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 7
5 above as if fully set forth herein.

6
7 9. On March 13, 2012, United States Patent No. 8,133,903, titled “Methods
8 of Use of Inhibitors of Phosphodiesterases and Modulators of Nitric Oxide-
9 Reactive Oxygen Species, and Metalloproteinases in the Treatment of Peyronie’s
10 Disease, Arteriosclerosis and Other Fibrotic Diseases,” was duly and legally issued.
11 Assignment of the ’903 patent to plaintiff LA BioMed was effective as of the
12 issuance. A true and correct copy of the ’903 patent is attached hereto as

13
14 **Exhibit A.** Plaintiff LA BioMed owns all right, title, and interest to the patent,
15 including the exclusive right to enforce the patent against infringers and to collect
16 damages, including past damages, for infringement of the patent.
17

18
19 10. The ’903 patent claims an invention by two of LA BioMed’s award-
20 winning senior scientists, Dr. Nestor Gonzalez-Cadavid and Dr. Jacob Rajfer,
21 regarding the treatment of fibrosis. At least two such fibrotic conditions affect
22 tissues of the penis. Specifically, corporal veno-occlusive dysfunction (“CVOD”)
23 is a fibrosis of the penile corpora cavernosa, and Peyronie’s disease (“PD”) is a
24 fibrosis of the penile tunica albuginea. Peer-reviewed and publicly available
25 clinical research studies show that a significant percentage of patients with erectile
26 dysfunction (“ED”) suffer from CVOD and/or PD. Drs. Gonzalez-Cadavid and
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1 Rajfer demonstrated through their research that continuous long-term
2 administration of enzyme phosphodiesterase-5 (“PDE-5”) inhibitors for at least 45
3 days arrests or regresses fibrosis.
4

5 11. Drs. Gonzalez-Cadavid and Rajfer filed a provisional patent application,
6 U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/420,281 (“the ’281 provisional application”),
7 describing their invention on October 22, 2002. Following the filing of the ’281
8 provisional application, plaintiff LA BioMed extensively published its findings in
9 peer-reviewed and publicly available journals that continuous long-term
10 administration of PDE-5 inhibitors for 45 days or more is effective for treating
11 CVOD and PD, including the following articles: (i) Valente et al., L-Arginine and
12 phosphodiesterase (PDE) inhibitors counteract fibrosis in the Peyronie’s fibrotic
13 plaque and related fibroblast cultures, Nitric Oxide 2003, 9(4):229-244; (ii) Ferrini
14 et al., Effects of long-term vardenafil treatment on the development of fibrotic
15 plaques in a rat model of Peyronie’s disease, BJU Int 2005, 97:625-633;
16 (iii) Ferrini et al., Vardenafil prevents fibrosis and loss of corporal smooth muscle
17 that occurs after bilateral cavernosal nerve resection in the rat, Urology 2006,
18 68:429-435; (iv) Ferrini et al., Long-term continuous treatment with sildenafil
19 ameliorates aging-related erectile dysfunction and the underlying corporal fibrosis
20 in the rat, Bio Reprod 2007, 76:915-923; (v) Kovanecz et al., Chronic daily tadalafil
21 prevents the corporal fibrosis and veno-occlusive dysfunction that occurs after
22 cavernosal nerve resection, BJU Int 2007, 101:203-210; (vi) Kovanecz et al., Long-

1 term continuous sildenafil treatment ameliorates corporal veno-occlusive
2 dysfunction (CVOD) induced by cavernosal nerve resection in rats, Int J Impotence
3 Res 2008, 20:202-212.
4

5 12. On October 21, 2003, plaintiff LA BioMed filed international patent
6 application PCT/US03/33400 (“the ’400 PCT application”), which claimed priority
7 to the ’281 provisional application. That international application published as WO
8 2004/037183 on May 6, 2004.
9

10 13. On February 13, 2004, plaintiff LA BioMed filed U.S. Patent Application
11 No. 10/779,069 (“the ’069 application”), which claimed priority to both the ’281
12 provisional application and the ’400 PCT application. The ’069 application became
13 publicly available on April 21, 2005 as U.S. Publication No. 2005/0085486. The
14 ’903 patent issued from the ’069 application.
15

16 14. Lilly, directly or through intermediaries (including distributors, retailers,
17 and others), ships, distributes, offers for sale, sells, and advertises the
18 pharmaceutical drug tadalafil, a PDE-5 inhibitor, under the trade name Cialis. Lilly
19 first obtained FDA approval in November 2003 for the use of Cialis on an as-
20 needed basis to treat erectile dysfunction (“ED”).
21
22

23 15. On information and belief, Lilly monitored patents, published
24 applications, and other publications and attended conferences that discussed
25 treatment of ED and the uses of PDE-5 inhibitors, and thereby learned of the
26 relationship between ED and fibrosis. Specifically, on information and belief, Lilly
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1 learned of LA BioMed's discovery of the utility of PDE-5 inhibitors in the
2 treatment of penile fibrosis based on its attendance at conferences and its
3 monitoring of patents, published applications and other publications relevant to
4 treatment of ED and to uses of PDE-5 inhibitors.
5

6 16. Lilly obtained FDA approval in January 2008 to revise the prescription
7 label for Cialis. As revised, the label instructs physicians to prescribe Cialis to ED
8 patients for "once daily use" in a 2.5 mg dose, which may be increased to a 5 mg
9 dose based upon efficacy and tolerability, for the treatment of ED.
10

11 17. On information and belief, Lilly expected, based upon LA BioMed's
12 discovery, that "once daily" administration of Cialis would treat the penile fibrosis
13 conditions underlying the symptoms suffered by many ED patients, resulting in an
14 improvement of those patients' ED symptoms. On information and belief, Lilly
15 knew that once-daily administration of Cialis was actually treating the penile
16 fibrosis conditions underlying the ED symptoms in a significant number of the
17 patients in these studies.
18

19 18. On information and belief, Lilly expected that it could obtain additional
20 revenues from sales of Cialis by marketing and selling Cialis for once daily use.
21 Once-daily Cialis sales were expected to generate 50% more revenue per patient
22 than the as-needed version and were anticipated to generate \$200–250 million in
23 worldwide sales by 2010.
24

25 19. Lilly's actual sales of Cialis increased 27% in the United States in 2008
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1 following its approval for “once daily use” by the FDA. According to Lilly’s 2012
2 Annual Report, Cialis remains Lilly’s fourth highest revenue producing drug.
3
4 Lilly’s 2012 revenues from U.S. sales of Cialis totaled \$782 million dollars and its
5 2012 worldwide revenues from sales of Cialis totaled nearly \$1.93 billion dollars.

6 20. On information and belief, the worldwide market for ED pharmaceuticals
7 was estimated to be \$4.3 billion dollars in 2013.

8
9 21. Plaintiff LA BioMed informed Lilly in February 2013 of the issuance of
10 the ’903 patent and that administration of tadalafil per Lilly’s “once daily use” label
11 for Cialis fell within the scope of the issued claims. LA BioMed again informed
12 Lilly in May 2013 of the issuance of the ’903 patent and explicitly listed the issued
13 claims in its communication. Lilly accordingly had knowledge of the invention
14 described in the ’903 patent, of the issued claims of the ’903 patent, and that “once
15 daily” administration of tadalafil as explicitly instructed by Lilly’s label constitutes
16 direct infringement of the ’903 patent at least as of February 2013, and certainly no
17 later than May 2013.
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21 22. On information and belief, Lilly had knowledge of the ’903 patent prior to
22 February 2013 based on its monitoring of patents, published applications, and other
23 publications relevant to ED and to uses of PDE-5 inhibitors. In addition, Lilly has
24 attended conferences at which information about LA BioMed’s invention claimed
25 in the ’903 patent was presented.
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28 23. Physicians prescribing treatment under the “once daily” instructions

1 provided in the prescription label for Lilly's Cialis product have been and are
2 currently infringing at least one claim of the '903 patent by administering Cialis to
3 ED patients within the United States in a manner which practices at least one of the
4 claims of the '903 patent, including by administering Cialis at a dosage of less than
5 1.5 mg/kg/day according to a continuous long-term regimen of 45 days or more to
6 patients suffering from penile tunical fibrosis or corporal tissue fibrosis, thus
7 causing the arrest or regression of said penile fibrosis, in violation of 35 U.S.C.
8 § 271(a), and unless enjoined, will continue to do so.

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12 24. By instructing physicians in the "once daily" use of Cialis to treat ED,
13 Lilly has been and is currently actively inducing and encouraging infringement of at
14 least one claim of the '903 patent, and unless enjoined, will continue to do so. With
15 actual knowledge of the '903 patent and that administration of tadalafil per Lilly's
16 "once daily use" label for Cialis constitutes infringement of the issued claims of the
17 '903 patent, Lilly actively induced and encouraged that infringement by instructing
18 said physicians in the administration of the Cialis product in a manner that directly
19 infringes the '903 patent, with specific intent to induce and encourage such
20 infringement, or at a minimum with willful blindness to the known risk of such
21 infringement, including, for example, by instructing said physicians to prescribe
22 Cialis "for once daily use" in a 2.5 mg dose for the treatment of ED, which dose
23 may be increased to 5 mg based upon efficacy and tolerability, in violation of 35
24 U.S.C. § 271(b).

1 25. Lilly's acts of indirect infringement of the '903 patent are willful. Lilly
2 knew of the '903 patent and that instructing physicians to prescribe Cialis "for once
3 daily use" for the treatment of ED would indirectly infringe the '903 patent, but
4 acted despite an objectively high likelihood that such activities would infringe the
5 '903 patent.
6

7
8 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

9 WHEREFORE, plaintiff LA BioMed demands the following relief against
10 defendants Eli Lilly and Company and Lilly USA, LLC (collectively, "Lilly"):
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- 12 a) entry of a judgment declaring that Lilly has induced infringement of one
13 or more claims of the '903 patent in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271 *et seq.*;
- 14 b) an award of damages to compensate LA BioMed for Lilly's infringement
15 of the '903 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284, such damages to be trebled
16 because of Lilly's willful infringement;
17
- 18 c) an accounting of all damages sustained by LA BioMed as the result of
19 Lilly's infringement pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284;
- 20 d) a permanent injunction against the continuing infringement of the '903
21 patent, or in the alternative, if the Court finds that an injunction is not
22 warranted, an award of post-judgment royalty to compensate for future
23 infringement;
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- 25 e) an award of pre-judgment and post-judgment interest and costs to plaintiff
26 LA BioMed;
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- f) an award of reasonable attorneys' fees to plaintiff LA BioMed pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 285 or as otherwise permitted by law;
- g) an award of all costs of suit to plaintiff LA BioMed pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284, 28 U.S.C. § 1920, and any other applicable statute or rule; and
- h) such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff LA BioMed hereby requests a trial by jury pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure as to all issues so triable.

Dated: November 20, 2013

FENWICK & WEST LLP

By: Virginia K. DeMarchi
Virginia K. DeMarchi
vdemarchi@fenwick.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff
LOS ANGELES BIOMEDICAL
RESEARCH INSTITUTE AT
HARBOR-UCLA MEDICAL CENTER

FENWICK & WEST LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
MOUNTAIN VIEW