

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

In re LIDODERM ANTITRUST
LITIGATION

Case No. 14-md-02521-WHO

THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO:

DIRECT PURCHASER ACTIONS

**ORDER GRANTING FINAL APPROVAL
OF SETTLEMENT WITH DIRECT
PURCHASER CLASS AND ENTERING
FINAL JUDGMENT OF DISMISSAL
WITH PREJUDICE**

1 This matter has come before the Court to determine whether there is any cause why this
2 Court should not approve the three separate settlements between Plaintiffs American Sales
3 Company, LLC, Droguería Betances, Inc., and Rochester Drug Co-Operative, Inc. (collectively,
4 the “Direct Purchaser Class Plaintiffs”) and each of defendants (1) Endo Pharmaceuticals Inc.
5 (“Endo”); (2) Teikoku Pharma USA, Inc. and Teikoku Seiyaku Co., Ltd. (together, “Teikoku”);
6 and (3) Actavis, Inc. (f/k/a Watson Pharmaceuticals, Inc.), Watson Laboratories, Inc., and
7 Actavis plc (collectively, “Watson,” and together with Endo and Teikoku, “Defendants”),
8 pursuant to Rules 23(e) and 54(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and in accordance
9 with the terms of the respective Settlement Agreements. The Court, after carefully considering
10 all papers filed and proceedings held herein, and good cause appearing, has determined: (a) the
11 settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and should be finally approved; (b) the proposed
12 plan of allocation of the Settlement Fund should be approved; (c) the proposed awards of
13 attorneys’ fees and reimbursement of the expenses to Class Counsel should be approved pursuant
14 to Rule 23(h); (d) the proposed incentive awards should be awarded to each of the three Direct
15 Purchaser Class Plaintiffs; and (e) a final judgment terminating this litigation should be entered,
16 subject to this Court’s continuing jurisdiction to enforce the settlement and this Order and Final
17 Judgment. Good cause appearing therefor, it is:

18 **ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that:**

19 1. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this Direct Purchaser Class Action
20 (the “Action”) and each of the Direct Purchaser Class Plaintiffs, individually and on behalf of the
21 certified direct purchaser plaintiff class in this Action, and all Defendants.

22 2. This Order and Final Judgment incorporates by reference the definitions in the
23 Settlement Agreements and all terms used herein shall have the same meanings set forth in the
24 Settlement Agreements.

25 3. In light of this Court’s previous order dated Feb 21, 2017 [ECF No. 670]
26 certifying the direct purchaser class pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a) and (b)(3), the exclusion
27

1 notices received during the opt-out period established by that order, the now proposed
2 Settlements in this Action, and this Court’s Preliminary Approval Order [ECF No. 1018], the
3 Direct Purchaser Class (the “Class”) is defined as follows:

4 All persons or entities in the United States, including its territories, possessions,
5 and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, who purchased brand or generic
6 Lidoderm directly from any of the Defendants at any time during the period
7 August 23, 2012 through May 1, 2014 (the “Class”). Excluded from the Class are
8 Endo Pharmaceuticals Inc., Teikoku Pharma USA, Inc. and Teikoku Seiyaku Co.,
9 Ltd., Actavis, Inc., Actavis plc, Watson Laboratories, Inc., and their officers,
10 directors, management, employees, subsidiaries, or affiliates, and all federal
11 governmental entities.

12 Also excluded from the Class are the following Retailer Plaintiffs that pursued
13 claims separately from the Class: Walgreen Co., The Kroger Co., Safeway Inc.,
14 HEB Grocery Company LP, Albertson’s LLC, Rite Aid Corporation, Rite Aid
15 Hdqtrs. Corp., and CVS Pharmacy, Inc.

16 4. The Court finds that due notice was given in accordance with the Preliminary
17 Approval Order [ECF No. 1018], and that the form and content of that Notice, and the
18 procedures for dissemination thereof as set forth in the Preliminary Approval order, satisfy the
19 requirements of Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e) and due process and constitute the best notice practicable
20 under the circumstances.

21 5. Adequate notice of the proceedings having been given to the Class, and a full
22 opportunity having been offered to the Class to participate in the fairness hearing, it is hereby
23 determined that all Class Members are bound by this Order and Final Judgment.

24 6. The settlement of this Action was not the product of collusion between Plaintiffs
25 and Defendants or their counsel, but rather was the result of bona fide and arm’s-length
26 negotiations conducted in good faith between Class Counsel and Counsel for each of the
27 Defendants under Court supervision.

28 7. The Court has held a hearing to consider the fairness, reasonableness and
adequacy of the proposed settlement, and has been advised that there have been no objections to

1 the settlement, or to the motion for reimbursement of costs, attorneys' fees, and incentive awards
2 to the class representatives [ECF Nos. 1023 & 1024] from any members of the Class.

3 8. Pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Court hereby
4 finally approves in all respects the Settlements as set forth in (a) the settlement agreement
5 between Direct Purchaser Class and Teikoku dated December 31, 2017 ("Teikoku Agreement")
6 [ECF No. 1004-2]; (b) the settlement agreement between Direct Purchaser Class and Watson
7 dated March 19, 2018 ("Watson Agreement") [ECF No. 1004-3]; and (c) the settlement
8 agreement between Direct Purchaser Class and Endo dated March 19, 2018 ("Endo Agreement")
9 [ECF No. 1004-4] and finds that each of the three Settlements is in all respects, fair, reasonable,
10 adequate, and in the best interests of the Direct Purchaser Class. The Court further approves the
11 establishment of the Settlement Fund upon the terms and conditions set forth in the Settlement
12 Agreements. The parties are hereby directed to carry out the Settlements in accordance with the
13 terms and provisions of the three Settlement Agreements.

14 9. The Court approves the Plan of Allocation of Settlement Proceeds as proposed by
15 Class Counsel as fair and reasonable. The claims administrator RG/2 Claims Administration
16 LLC ("Claims Administrator"), is directed to administer the Settlement, with the assistance of
17 Econ One Research, Inc. ("Econ One"), in accordance with the terms and conditions of the
18 Settlement Agreements. All expenses incurred by the Class Administrator or Econ One must be
19 reasonable, are subject to Court approval, and shall be payable solely from the Settlement Fund.
20 The Claims Administrator will distribute the Settlement Funds to the Class on a *pro rata* basis in
21 the manner described in the Plan of Allocation.

22 10. All claims in the above-captioned action against the Defendants are hereby
23 dismissed with prejudice, and without costs, with the Court retaining jurisdiction for the limited
24 purpose of enforcing compliance with the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreements
25 and this Order and Final Judgment. All Released Claims of the Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs and
26
27

1 Class in the above-captioned Action are released and dismissed with prejudice, and, except as
2 provided for in the Settlement Agreements, without costs.

3 11. All Class Members shall be forever enjoined and barred from asserting any of the
4 matters, claims or causes of action released by the Settlement Agreements, and all Class
5 Members shall be deemed to have forever released any and all such matters, claims and causes of
6 action as provided in the Settlement Agreements.

7 12. Class Counsel are awarded Attorneys' Fees in the amount of \$45,000,070.46 (*i.e.*,
8 27.5% of \$163,636,619.85, which represents the \$166 million settlement less litigation expenses
9 of \$2,363,380.15), plus 27.5% of the accrued interest on the Settlement Fund. Additionally,
10 Class Counsel shall be reimbursed for reasonable litigation expenses of \$2,363,380.15 incurred
11 in the representation of the Class, for a total Attorneys' Fees and Expenses award of
12 \$47,363,450.61 plus 27.5% of the accrued interest on the Settlement Fund. The Court finds that
13 the amount of Attorneys' Fees and Expenses awarded is fair and reasonable. The award of
14 Attorneys' Fees and Expenses shall be allocated among Class Counsel by Co-Lead Counsel.
15 The Attorneys' Fees and Expenses awarded shall be paid out of the Settlement Fund.

16 13. Neither this Order and Final Judgment, the Settlement Agreements, nor any of
17 their respective terms or the negotiations or papers related thereto shall constitute evidence or an
18 admission by any party that any acts of wrongdoing have been committed, and they shall not be
19 deemed to create any inference that there is any liability therefor. Neither this Order and Final
20 Judgment, the Settlement Agreements, nor any of the terms or negotiations or papers related
21 thereto, shall be offered or received in evidence or used for any purpose whatsoever, in this or
22 any other matter or proceeding in any court, administrative agency, arbitration or other tribunal,
23 other than as expressly set forth in the Settlement Agreements.

24 14. Without affecting the finality of the judgment, the Court retains exclusive
25 jurisdiction over the Settlement Agreement, including the administration and consummation of
26 the Settlement Agreement, Plan of Allocation, and in order to determine any issues relating to
27

1 the attorneys' fees and expenses and any distribution to members of the Class. In addition,
2 without affecting the finality of this judgment, Defendants and each member of the Class hereby
3 irrevocably submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the
4 Northern District of California, for any suit, action, proceeding or dispute arising out of or
5 relating to the Settlement Agreements or the applicability of the Settlement Agreements,
6 including, without limitation any suit, action, proceeding or dispute relating to the release
7 provisions therein.


8 15. The Class Representatives, American Sales Company, LLC, Droguería Betances,
9 Inc., and Rochester Drug Co-Operative, Inc. are each hereby awarded \$100,000, to be paid out of
10 the Settlement Fund, for representing the Direct Purchaser Class, which amount is in addition to
11 whatever monies these plaintiffs will receive from the Settlement Fund pursuant to the Plan of
12 Allocation. This Court finds these awards to be fair and reasonable in light of the efforts of each.

13 16. In the event the Settlement does not become final, this Order and Final Judgment
14 shall be rendered null and void as provided by the Settlement Agreements, shall be vacated, and
15 all orders entered and releases delivered in connection herewith shall be null and void to the
16 extent provided by and in accordance with the Settlement Agreements.

17 17. The Court hereby directs that this judgment be entered by the clerk forthwith
18 pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 54(b).

19
20 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

21
22 Dated: September 20, 2018.

23 
24 _____
25 WILLIAM H. ORRICK
26 United States District Judge
27