



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CLEVELAND COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

PART F

STATE OF OKLAHOMA, ex rel.,
MIKE HUNTER,
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

- (1) PURDUE PHARMA L.P.;
- (2) PURDUE PHARMA, INC.;
- (3) THE PURDUE FREDERICK COMPANY,
- (4) TEVA PHARMACEUTICALS USA, INC.;
- (5) CEPHALON, INC.;
- (6) JOHNSON & JOHNSON;
- (7) JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS, INC,
- (8) ORTHO-MCNEIL-JANSSEN
PHARMACEUTICALS, INC., n/k/a
JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS;
- (9) JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICA, INC.,
n/k/a JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.;
- (10) ALLERGAN, PLC, f/k/a ACTAVIS PLC,
f/k/a ACTAVIS, INC., f/k/a WATSON
PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.;
- (11) WATSON LABORATORIES, INC.;
- (12) ACTAVIS LLC; and
- (13) ACTAVIS PHARMA, INC.,
f/k/a WATSON PHARMA, INC.,

Defendants.

For Judge Balkman's

Consideration
STATE OF OKLAHOMA } S.S.
CLEVELAND COUNTY }

FILED In The
Office of the Court Clerk

MAY 02 2019

In the office of the
Court Clerk MARILYN WILLIAMS

Case No. CJ-2017-816
Honorable Thad Balkman

William C. Hetherington
Special Discovery Master

**DEFENDANTS TEVA PHARMACEUTICALS USA, INC.,
CEPHALON, INC., WATSON LABORATORIES, INC., ACTAVIS LLC,
AND ACTAVIS PHARMA, INC., f/k/a WATSON PHARMA, INC.'S
MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND BRIEF IN SUPPORT**

REDACTED VERSION

**THIS DOCUMENT WAS FILED IN ITS
ENTIRETY UNDER SEAL ON APRIL 23, 2019**

EXHIBIT 27

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CLEVELAND COUNTY
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(4) TEVA PHARMACEUTICALS USA, INC.;
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PHARMACEUTICALS, INC., f/k/a
JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.;
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PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.;
(11) WATSON LABORATORIES, INC.;
(12) ACTAVIS, LLC; and
(13) ACTAVIS PHARMA, INC.,
f/k/a WATSON PHARMA, INC.,
Defendants.

VIDEO DEPOSITION OF STEVEN ALAN CRAWFORD, M.D.
TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE DEFENDANTS
ON FEBRUARY 13, 2019, BEGINNING AT 9:06 A.M.
IN OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

Reported by: Cheryl D. Rylant, CSR, RPR
Video Technician: Kaleb Pianalto
PAGES 1 - 360

1 you're -- you're testing my memory from more than 09:27
2 20 years ago. 09:27
3 Q. Understood. 09:27
4 To the best of your recollection -- 09:27
5 A. To the best of my recollection. 09:27
6 Q. And did you have patients with chronic 09:27
7 noncancer pain who were on an opioid therapy for an 09:27
8 extended period of time? 09:27
9 A. Please define extended length of time. 09:27
10 Q. At least six months. 09:27
11 A. Yes, sir. 09:27
12 Q. And -- 09:27
13 A. Again, as best as I can remember. 09:27
14 Q. And as best as you recall, did you have 09:27
15 patients who were on opioid therapy for at least six 09:27
16 months who received benefit, in your medical 09:27
17 judgment, from their chronic opioid therapy? 09:27
18 A. That's even harder to remember. I would have 09:27
19 to say that -- and what you mean by "benefit." They 09:28
20 seemed to get pain relief, but I don't recall any 09:28
21 specifics at this point regarding any of those 09:28
22 patients, to be honest. 09:28
23 Q. Sure. And I -- let me see if I can ask the 09:28
24 question slightly differently to -- to help clarify 09:28
25 some issues. 09:28

1 opioid therapy for a chronic noncancer pain patient, 09:29
2 you would only prescribe the opioid if you believed 09:29
3 that the benefits outweighed the risk for that 09:29
4 particular individual, correct? 09:29
5 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form. 09:29
6 THE WITNESS: Again, repeat that question. 09:29
7 Q. (By Mr. Ehsan) Sure. 09:29
8 When you prescribe an opioid for a chronic 09:29
9 noncancer patient, you are making the medical 09:29
10 judgment that the benefits of the medication outweigh 09:29
11 the risk for the patient you're prescribing it to, 09:29
12 correct? 09:29
13 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form. 09:29
14 THE WITNESS: Yes. 09:29
15 Q. (By Mr. Ehsan) And if the patient were to 09:29
16 continue on that therapy, that would necessarily mean 09:29
17 you've made the continued medical judgment that the 09:29
18 medication is continuing to provide more benefit than 09:30
19 risk for that patient, correct? 09:30
20 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form. 09:30
21 THE WITNESS: Can I ask you a question? 09:30
22 Q. (By Mr. Ehsan) Please. 09:30
23 A. Can you further define what you mean by 09:30
24 "continuing"? 09:30
25 Q. Sure. 09:30

1 comments. 09:38

2 Q. And that is true for almost every 09:38

3 prescription medication, correct? 09:38

4 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form. 09:38

5 Q. (By Mr. Ehsan) Well, let me ask the question 09:38

6 slightly better. 09:38

7 All prescription medications carry risks, correct? 09:38

8 A. Yes, sir, all medications, whether they're 09:38

9 prescription or not. 09:38

10 Q. That's true. You can potentially do a lot of 09:38

11 harm with over-the-counter medications as well, 09:38

12 correct? 09:38

13 A. Yes, sir. 09:38

14 Q. So when you prescribe any medication, you 09:38

15 engage in a risk and benefit an -- assessment for the 09:39

16 patient receiving the medication, correct? 09:39

17 A. Yes, sir. 09:39

18 Q. So for -- specifically focusing on opioids. 09:39

19 Opioids have risk of respiratory depression, correct? 09:39

20 A. Yes, sir. 09:39

21 Q. They carry the risk of constipation, correct? 09:39

22 A. Yes, sir. 09:39

23 Q. They carry the risk of mental confusion or 09:39

24 fogginess, correct? 09:39

25 A. Yes, sir. 09:39

1 Q. They carry the risk of potentially increasing 09:39
2 intracranial pressure, correct? 09:39
3 A. Yes, sir. 09:39
4 Q. And they also carry the risk of potential 09:39
5 addiction, misuse, or abuse, correct? 09:39
6 A. Yes, sir. 09:39
7 Q. Now, when -- when did you first start 09:39
8 prescribing opioids in any clinical setting? 09:39
9 A. Again, it was a number of years ago, but I 09:39
10 think it must have been during my residency. 09:39
11 Q. So some -- somewhere back in the '80s. Would 09:40
12 that be fair? 09:40
13 A. '70s. '79 was when I started my residency. 09:40
14 Q. And at the time -- going back to '79 to 09:40
15 present. Were you aware that opioids carried the 09:40
16 risk of respiratory depression? 09:40
17 A. Yes, sir. 09:40
18 Q. When did you first become aware of that risk? 09:40
19 A. Probably during medical school, but, again, 09:40
20 that's been a number of years ago. 09:40
21 Q. And that is an understanding you've held 09:40
22 consistently to present? 09:40
23 A. Yes, sir. 09:40
24 Q. Focusing on the risk of constipation with 09:40
25 opioids. When did you first understand that opioids 09:40

1 carry the risk of constipation? 09:40

2 A. Again, probably during medical school. 09:40

3 Q. And you've consistently held that view to 09:40

4 present? 09:40

5 A. Yes, sir. 09:40

6 Q. How about the risk of opioids for addiction, 09:40

7 abuse, or misuse, when did you first become aware of 09:40

8 that risk? 09:40

9 A. During medical school. 09:40

10 Q. And that -- 09:40

11 A. Or --

12 Q. Go ahead. 09:40

13 A. Sorry.

14 Q. I'm sorry. 09:40

15 A. During medical school. 09:40

16 Q. And have you had -- and have you held that 09:40

17 understanding to present? 09:40

18 A. No. 09:40

19 Q. Okay. How -- how has your understanding of 09:41

20 the risk of -- of the fact that opioids have a risk 09:41

21 of abuse and misuse -- let me strike that and ask the 09:41

22 question differently. 09:41

23 Has there ever been a point in time where you 09:41

24 believed that opioids didn't cause or didn't carry 09:41

25 the risk of abuse or misuse? 09:41

1 medi -- of a medication to a patient, what sources of 11:23
2 information do you rely on for both the risk and the 11:23
3 benefits? 11:23
4 A. A wide variety of information. 11:23
5 Q. Do you rely on the labeling information? 11:23
6 A. Labeling meaning the? 11:23
7 Q. Package insert. 11:23
8 A. Yes, sir. That's one aspect. 11:23
9 Q. Do you rely on the published literature? 11:23
10 A. Yes, sir. 11:23
11 Q. Do you rely on -- 11:23
12 A. Medical literature, not the popular 11:23
13 literature. 11:23
14 Q. Yes, thank you. Published medical 11:23
15 literature. 11:23
16 A. Yes, sir. 11:23
17 Q. Do you rely on materials you may have been 11:23
18 provided in continuing medical education programs? 11:23
19 A. Yes, sir. 11:23
20 Q. Do you rely on -- do you rely on 11:23
21 representations made to you by drug detailers? 11:23
22 A. I have listened to them, and they usually 11:23
23 supply references when they do discuss. 11:23
24 Q. So I -- and I want -- just to be clear. So 11:24
25 let me back up and ask a preliminary question. 11:24

1 Do you get visits from pharmaceutical detailers in 11:24
2 your current position as chair of the department at 11:24
3 OU? 11:24
4 A. Very limited now. 11:24
5 Q. Did you have drug detailers visit you while 11:24
6 you were at the -- your prior post at the Oklahoma 11:24
7 clinic? 11:24
8 A. The Oklahoma City Clinic. Yes, sir. 11:24
9 Q. In those instances, did the -- as best you 11:24
10 remember, did those -- those drug pharmaceutical 11:24
11 representatives provide you labels related to -- 11:24
12 A. Provided? I'm sorry? 11:24
13 Q. Package inserts related to the medications. 11:24
14 A. Yes, sir. 11:24
15 Q. Did they provide you any literature, medical 11:24
16 literature associated with either the drug or the 11:24
17 disease state? 11:24
18 A. Yes, sir. 11:24
19 Q. Have you ever found -- strike that. Let me 11:24
20 ask you this way. 11:25
21 Did they also have conversations with you? 11:25
22 A. Yes, sir. 11:25
23 Q. Did you ever rely on the conversation of a 11:25
24 pharmaceutical representative to the exclusion of the 11:25
25 information that was included, either the label or 11:25

1 the available medical literature? 11:25

2 A. No, sir. 11:25

3 Q. And to just use plain English. Did you 11:25

4 believe that you would take the word of a 11:25

5 pharmaceutical rep as scientifically -- as scientific 11:25

6 gospel when there's the label and/or published 11:25

7 medical literature? 11:25

8 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form. 11:25

9 THE WITNESS: Rephrase. 11:25

10 Q. (By Mr. Ehsan) Sure. 11:25

11 In relying on information to make your prescribing 11:25

12 decision, you would rely on the label and the 11:25

13 published medical literature, but you wouldn't 11:25

14 necessarily rely on something a drug representative 11:26

15 told you about the medication, correct? 11:26

16 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form. 11:26

17 THE WITNESS: If that's the only 11:26

18 information I had, I would do my own research. 11:26

19 Q. (By Mr. Ehsan) So if all you have is the 11:26

20 word of a pharmaceutical representative, you feel 11:26

21 that it's incumbent upon you to go do your homework, 11:26

22 correct? 11:26

23 A. Some. The -- again, they would supply 11:26

24 literature, too. 11:26

25 Q. And to the extent that they've made the 11:26

1 process more convenient by providing you the label or 11:26
2 particular literature, then you would use those 11:26
3 materials as part and parcel of the medical 11:26
4 information you gather in assessing the risk and 11:26
5 benefits of a medication, correct? 11:26
6 A. That is correct. 11:26
7 Q. I'm going to hand you -- 11:26
8 A. Are we through with this one? 11:26
9 Q. Yes, sir. 11:26
10 A. Okay. Just trying to clean up my desk space 11:26
11 here. 11:26
12 (Whereupon, Crawford Exhibit No. 4 was 11:27
13 marked for identification and made part of the
14 record.) 11:27
15 Q. (By Mr. Ehsan) It's incumbent upon me not to 11:27
16 talk while she's trying to put that sticker on, 11:27
17 because she's got to type and put the sticker on. 11:27
18 A. Skilled.
19 Q. I've handed you what's been marked as 11:27
20 Exhibit 4 to your deposition. I believe this is a 11:27
21 copy of the SB 1446 that we've been talking about. 11:27
22 And it's rather thick, but if you need to take a look 11:27
23 at it, by all means, do so. 11:27
24 A. I -- I recognize it as that, yes, sir. I've 11:27
25 not seen it. I've only seen it electronically. I've 11:27

1 not had a paper copy. 11:27

2 Q. And if you -- thankfully, this one is 11:27

3 paginated. 11:27

4 A. Thank goodness. 11:27

5 Q. If you go to Page 4 of the document, what -- 11:28

6 A. Page 4.

7 Q. -- is labeled as Page 4. 11:28

8 Do you see that -- in the middle of the page, 11:28

9 there's item C. There's -- there's a paragraph 11:28

10 that's underlined? 11:28

11 A. Yes, sir. 11:28

12 Q. And it states, "The Board shall require the 11:28

13 licensee receive no less than 1" -- in parenthesis 11:28

14 1 -- "hour of education in pain management, or 1," 11:28

15 and numerically and then both -- and also written 11:28

16 out -- "hour of application for -- of education 11:28

17 opioid use or addiction each year preceding an 11:28

18 application for renewal of a license, comma, unless 11:28

19 licensee has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the 11:28

20 board that the licensee does not currently hold a 11:28

21 valid federal Drug Enforcement Administration 11:28

22 registration number," period. 11:28

23 Did I read that correctly? 11:29

24 A. Yes, sir. 11:29

25 Q. And this is what we were talking about, that 11:29

1 oxycodone, and oxymorphone have the highest potential 02:09
2 for abuse and associated risk of fatal overdose due 02:09
3 to respiratory depression. Fentanyl can be abused 02:09
4 and is subject to criminal diversion. The high 02:09
5 content of fentanyl in the patches called Duragesic 02:09
6 may be a particular target for abuse and diversion." 02:09
7 Q. In representing to you that this was a 2005 02:09
8 label, would the language in the bolded box warning 02:09
9 adequate -- well, strike that. 02:09
10 Would you agree with me, Dr. Crawford, that the 02:09
11 language you just read from this box warning convey a 02:09
12 message that this drug carries a risk of abuse, 02:09
13 misuse, or addiction? 02:09
14 A. Yes. 02:09
15 Q. And it states it quite plainly, correct? 02:10
16 A. Yes, sir. 02:10
17 Q. So if this is the 2005 label for Duragesic, a 02:10
18 doctor who would have read this label in 2005 would 02:10
19 have been able to understand that this meant that all 02:10
20 Schedule II opioids carry a significant risk of 02:10
21 addiction and criminal diversion, correct? 02:10
22 A. That's what it says. 02:10
23 Q. And when you prescribe Duragesic to your 02:10
24 patients today, are you aware that there's a risk of 02:10
25 addiction and abuse associated with the fentanyl, 02:10

1 which is the active ingredient in Duragesic? 02:10

2 A. Yes, sir. 02:10

3 Q. Now, I think you mentioned that one of the 02:10

4 sources of information you rely in assessing the risk 02:11

5 and benefit of a medication was the drug label. Do 02:11

6 you recall that testimony? 02:11

7 A. Yes, sir. 02:11

8 Q. And I just wanted to make sure I heard you 02:11

9 when -- when we had this discussion correctly. But 02:11

10 is it your practice to make sure you are familiar 02:11

11 with the prescribing information or label for a drug 02:11

12 if you're going to prescribe it to a patient? 02:11

13 A. Yes, sir. 02:11

14 Q. And would you agree with me, Doctor, that you 02:11

15 would never disregard the information -- or strike 02:11

16 that.

17 Would you agree with me, Doctor, that you never 02:11

18 disregarded information in a product label based on 02:11

19 something a pharmaceutical representative told you; 02:11

20 is that correct? 02:11

21 MS. BALDWIN: Object to the form. 02:11

22 THE WITNESS: I don't recall ever doing 02:11

23 that, no. 02:11

24 Q. (By Mr. Ehsan) Could yourself -- see 02:11

25 yourself doing that? 02:12

1 MS. BALDWIN: Object to the form. 02:12

2 THE WITNESS: To re -- to -- 02:12

3 Q. (By Mr. Ehsan) Let me -- 02:12

4 A. -- believing a -- what a pharmaceutical rep 02:12

5 says and they're saying, "No, this drug is safe," is 02:12

6 what you're -- 02:12

7 Q. Yes, sir. 02:12

8 A. If a -- if a drug rep came and told me this 02:12

9 is a safe medicine, to give as high a dose as I 02:12

10 wanted, I think it's poppycock, but. 02:12

11 Q. So if a -- a pharmaceutical representative or 02:12

12 detailer came to you and told you Duragesic is not 02:12

13 addicting, despite the bold information that's in 02:12

14 this label, you would defer to the bolded information 02:12

15 in the label, correct? 02:12

16 MS. BALDWIN: Object to the form. 02:12

17 THE WITNESS: In the issue of current, yes. 02:12

18 In the mid '90s, which this wasn't part of, I had 02:12

19 that belief challenged. 02:12

20 Q. (By Mr. Ehsan) Understood. And that's the 02:12

21 article we talked about, correct? 02:12

22 A. Yes, sir. 02:12

23 Q. Understood. 02:12

24 And the -- the science has continued to -- to -- 02:12

25 strike that. 02:13

1 information regarding any of the medications Janssen 03:37
2 manufactures? 03:37
3 A. What do you mean by "misleading"? 03:37
4 Q. Something that was -- you found to be 03:37
5 poppycock, I think was the -- the word we discussed 03:37
6 earlier. 03:37
7 A. It's a medical term. 03:37
8 At the time that they were giving it to me, no. 03:37
9 Q. Do you recall a Janssen pharmaceutical 03:37
10 representative providing you any information at 03:37
11 any time that was inconsistent with what the medical 03:37
12 literature at the time showed? 03:37
13 A. As far as I knew, no. 03:37
14 Q. Putting Janssen aside, focusing on 03:37
15 Johnson & Johnson. Have you ever been -- had a 03:37
16 pharmaceutical representative from Johnson & Johnson 03:37
17 visit you in your clinical practice? 03:37
18 A. I believe I did. 03:38
19 Q. To the extent you recall, do you recall any 03:38
20 statement that was misleading by a Johnson & Johnson 03:38
21 pharmaceutical representative made to you? 03:38
22 A. I -- I don't recall. 03:38
23 Q. And sitting here today, do you recall a 03:38
24 Johnson & Johnson pharmaceutical representative ever 03:38
25 telling you something that was inconsistent with the 03:38

1 weight of the scientific evidence at the time that 03:38
2 that statement was made? 03:38
3 A. No. 03:38
4 Q. Do you believe any prescriptions you've 03:38
5 written for an -- an opioid was inconsistent with the 03:38
6 science that was available regarding those 03:38
7 medications at the time you wrote the prescription? 03:38
8 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form. 03:38
9 THE WITNESS: The science that was -- I 03:38
10 would say the opinion of -- of experts and others at 03:38
11 the time influenced the way I prescribed. 03:39
12 Q. (By Mr. Ehsan) At any time you prescribed an 03:39
13 opioid medication, do you ever believe your 03:39
14 prescription -- prescribing decision was inconsistent 03:39
15 with the labeling information for the medication you 03:39
16 prescribed? 03:39
17 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form. 03:39
18 THE WITNESS: At this moment, I can't 03:39
19 recall that far back, whether I ever did anything 03:39
20 that wasn't part of the label. I doubt it, but I 03:39
21 can't -- it's too long ago. 03:39
22 Q. (By Mr. Ehsan) And you're certainly 03:39
23 entitled, as a prescriber, to prescribe a medication 03:39
24 off-label; is that correct? 03:39
25 A. That is correct. 03:39

1 Q. But when you prescribe a medication 03:39
2 off-label, you maybe have less available information 03:39
3 regarding the potential risks and benefits of the 03:39
4 medication, correct? 03:39
5 A. That is -- 03:39
6 MS. BALDWIN: Object to the form. 03:39
7 THE WITNESS: That is correct. 03:39
8 MR. EHSAN: If we can take a one-minute 03:40
9 break, I think I'm done. 03:40
10 THE WITNESS: Okay. 03:40
11 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: We're going off the 03:40
12 record at 3:40 p.m. 03:40
13 (Break was taken.) 03:40
14 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: We're back on the record 04:06
15 at 4:06 p.m. 04:06
16 Q. (By Mr. Ehsan) Dr. Crawford, before we went 04:06
17 on break, you identified the article that we've been 04:06
18 talking about that was published in the mid '90s, and 04:06
19 you identified the author as Brown and the journal as 04:06
20 the journal of the American -- the journal that's the 04:06
21 Journal of American Board of Family Practice; is that 04:06
22 correct? 04:07
23 A. Or family medicine, yes, sir. 04:07
24 Q. Would this be an article by Richard L. Brown, 04:07
25 Chronic Opioid Analgesic Therapy For Chronic Low Back 04:07

1 specific instance where you didn't make a prescribing 04:48
2 decision in the best interest of your patient? 04:48
3 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form. 04:48
4 THE WITNESS: If I know what I do today, I 04:48
5 probably would not have accelerated many of my 04:48
6 patients with their opioid prescribing and tried my 04:48
7 best to limit those, particularly to less than 90 04:48
8 MME, or even less, 50 MME. 04:48
9 Q. (By Mr. Ercole) Are you aware of any 04:48
10 instance -- well, can you -- can you -- are you aware 04:49
11 of any instance where you did not make a prescribing 04:49
12 decision that was in the best interest of the patient 04:49
13 based upon the science available at that time? 04:49
14 MS. BALDWIN: Objection to form. 04:49
15 THE WITNESS: Based on what I knew at the 04:49
16 time, I thought I made the right decision at the 04:49
17 time. 04:49
18 Q. (By Mr. Ercole) Have you ever heard of the 04:49
19 company Cephalon? 04:49
20 A. I've heard of it. 04:49
21 Q. Do you know whether that company manufactures 04:49
22 opioid medicines? 04:49
23 A. I think I am now. I wouldn't -- if you had 04:49
24 asked me, you know, a year ago, I probably wouldn't. 04:49
25 It's a relatively smaller company from what I know, 04:49

1 but don't know much more about it than that. 04:49

2 Q. Sure. 04:49

3 So is it -- is it -- is it fair to say, then, that 04:49

4 you were -- you never -- since you didn't know of 04:49

5 Cephalon until about a year ago, you never interacted 04:49

6 with any Cephalon sales representative? 04:50

7 A. Not -- not that I'm aware of. I can't 04:50

8 remember any Cephalon sales reps. 04:50

9 Q. And it's fair to say that you're not aware of 04:50

10 any false or misleading statements that -- that any 04:50

11 representatives of Cephalon ever made to you? 04:50

12 A. At the time, no. I don't know if -- if I -- 04:50

13 anyway, no, not at the time. 04:50

14 Q. Well, I guess, sitting here today, can you -- 04:50

15 can you identify -- 04:50

16 A. Even -- even today, I don't know of any 04:50

17 specific Cephalon-related materials that would be 04:50

18 considered something that would be out of the pail as 04:50

19 it were. 04:50

20 Q. Sitting here today, are you aware of any 04:50

21 Cephalon-related materials that you would have 04:50

22 received? 04:50

23 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form. 04:50

24 THE WITNESS: No. 04:50

25 Q. (By Mr. Ercole) Sitting here today, are you 04:51

1 aware of any statements made by Cephalon to any 04:51
2 prescribers in Oklahoma? 04:51
3 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form. 04:51
4 THE WITNESS: I'm -- I'm not aware of any, 04:51
5 but I -- that's -- yes. Don't know. Have no idea. 04:51
6 Q. (By Mr. Ercole) You mentioned before that 04:51
7 within the last 10 years, you've had limited, if any, 04:51
8 interactions with pharmaceutical representatives; is 04:51
9 that fair to say? 04:51
10 A. That is correct. 04:51
11 Q. And do you recall any interactions with 04:51
12 pharmaceutical sales representatives within the last 04:51
13 10 years? 04:51
14 A. Vaguely, yes. 04:51
15 Q. And do you recall the companies for which any 04:52
16 of those sales representatives worked? 04:52
17 A. The most recent were vaccine manufacturers 04:52
18 reps, science representatives, not marketing 04:52
19 representatives, Sanofi Pasteur and Pfizer. I'm 04:52
20 trying to think of the other. GSK. I give talks on 04:52
21 vaccines and like to know what they're coming up 04:52
22 with, with new products. So I do meet with the 04:52
23 science reps, but not with the marketing reps. 04:52
24 Q. Fair enough. 04:52
25 How about since 2011, are you aware of any 04:52

1 interactions you've had with any representatives of 04:52
2 pharmaceutical companies concerning its opioid 04:52
3 medicine? 04:52
4 A. No, sir. 04:53
5 Q. And have you ever heard of the company Teva 04:53
6 Pharmaceuticals? 04:53
7 A. Yes. 04:53
8 Q. And I assume, since 2011, you're not aware of 04:53
9 any interactions you've had with any representative 04:53
10 of Teva Pharmaceuticals, correct? 04:53
11 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form. 04:53
12 THE WITNESS: No, sir. 04:53
13 Q. (By Mr. Ercole) Do you -- sitting here 04:53
14 today, do you recall any interactions that you've 04:53
15 ever had with a representative of Teva 04:53
16 Pharmaceuticals? 04:53
17 A. I think when we had reps coming, I believe 04:53
18 Teva had a PPI drug -- I think that's right. You 04:53
19 know what I mean by a PPI? 04:53
20 Q. And, now, please feel free to enlighten us. 04:53
21 A. Proton pump inhibitor. 04:53
22 Q. Okay. 04:53
23 A. And which one it is, I don't know. It's like 04:53
24 a Prilosec. It wasn't a Prilosec, but something like 04:53
25 that. I think that they were one of the 04:53

1 manufacturers of one of those drugs. That's the -- 04:53
2 the only thing I vaguely recall of Teva. 04:53
3 Q. And just so my notes are clear, that's -- 04:54
4 sitting here, that's the only product you ever recall 04:54
5 being discussed with you by any representative of 04:54
6 Teva; is that correct? 04:54
7 A. That's all that I can vaguely recall, and 04:54
8 it's a distant memory. 04:54
9 Q. And that -- that particular PPI product may 04:54
10 have been actually manufactured by a -- a different 04:54
11 company? 04:54
12 A. Could. Could. But I -- I don't know. I 04:54
13 wouldn't put a lot of money on my memory on that one. 04:54
14 Q. And it's -- it's been some time, correct? 04:54
15 A. Yes. 04:54
16 Q. Can you -- 04:54
17 MR. ERCOLE: Can we go off the record for 04:54
18 one minute? 04:54
19 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: We're going off the 04:54
20 record at 4:55 p.m. 04:54
21 (Break was taken.) 04:54
22 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: We're back on the record 05:02
23 at 5:02 p.m. 05:02
24 Q. (By Mr. Ercole) Doctor, we were talking 05:02
25 about the PPI inhibitor. Do you recall that? 05:02

1 A. Yeah. 05:02

2 Q. And I guess you recall sort of one 05:02

3 interaction with, perhaps, a Teva representative 05:02

4 regarding a PPI inhibitor, correct? 05:02

5 A. Right. 05:03

6 Q. Any statements from Teva Pharmaceuticals 05:03

7 regarding opioids that you ever recall receiving? 05:03

8 A. No, sir. 05:03

9 Q. Any statements regarding opioids that you -- 05:03

10 from Teva Pharmaceuticals that you recall being 05:03

11 disseminated in Oklahoma at all? 05:03

12 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form. 05:03

13 THE WITNESS: I don't recall any. 05:03

14 Q. (By Mr. Ercole) So sitting here today, you 05:03

15 can't identify any, correct? 05:03

16 A. No, sir. 05:03

17 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form. 05:03

18 Q. (By Mr. Ercole) Doctor, sitting here today, 05:03

19 are you aware of any false or misleading statement 05:03

20 any sales representative for any drug manufacturer 05:03

21 ever made to you or -- strike that. Let me rephrase. 05:03

22 Sitting here today, are you aware of any false or 05:03

23 mislead -- misleading statement any sales 05:03

24 representative for any drug manufacturer ever made to 05:03

25 you? 05:04

1 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form, asked and 05:04
2 answered. 05:04
3 THE WITNESS: As I said, I think, from what 05:04
4 I know now, there were manufacturers' reps that 05:04
5 encouraged the use of opioids in chronic severe 05:04
6 nonmalignant pain. 05:04
7 Q. (By Mr. Ercole) Okay. 05:04
8 A. And I -- to say -- to state the exact person 05:04
9 that did that, no, I can't tell you that. But I do 05:04
10 believe I remember that there was encouragement of 05:04
11 that. 05:04
12 Q. Sure. 05:04
13 So you mentioned -- you used the words 05:04
14 manufacturer reps that encouraged the use of opioids, 05:05
15 correct? 05:05
16 A. Yes. 05:05
17 Q. Okay. My question is a little bit different 05:05
18 than that. 05:05
19 Sitting -- 05:05
20 A. Okay. 05:05
21 Q. -- here today, can you recall any false or 05:05
22 misleading statement that any sales representative 05:05
23 for any drug manufacturer ever said or made to you? 05:05
24 MS. BALDWIN: Objection, asked and answered 05:05
25 multiple times. 05:05

1 comfortable with now. 05:10

2 Q. (By Mr. Ercole) And you say "higher dose," 05:10

3 right? 05:10

4 A. Higher and longer, yes, sir. 05:10

5 Q. When you say -- so higher, is that -- just so 05:10

6 that my notes are clear, higher and longer. What do 05:11

7 you mean by "higher and longer"? 05:11

8 A. Higher, greater than 90 MME -- 05:11

9 Q. Uh-huh. 05:11

10 A. -- for a definite, but even greater than 50, 05:11

11 which I have some patients on, and continuing to 05:11

12 help -- to have to follow those patients. And 05:11

13 longer, that the longer you have somebody on it, the 05:11

14 harder it is to have them reduce those doses. 05:11

15 Q. Sitting here today, though, can you actually 05:11

16 say that you would not have written a particular 05:11

17 opioid prescription for a particular patient based 05:11

18 upon your medical assessment? 05:11

19 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form, asked and 05:11

20 answered multiple times. 05:11

21 THE WITNESS: I would probably use much 05:11

22 less of a strength and escalating that dose, as I've 05:11

23 said before. 05:11

24 Q. (By Mr. Ercole) Sure. 05:11

25 And -- and fair enough with respect to strength. 05:11

1 But at least with respect to the opioid -- initial 05:12
2 opioid prescription itself? 05:12

3 A. I -- I -- 05:12

4 Q. Is it -- I mean, you've been talking about -- 05:12
5 about strength -- 05:12

6 A. Right. 05:12

7 Q. -- and -- and the -- the dose of the opioid 05:12
8 prescription, correct? 05:12

9 My question is a little bit different, which is, 05:12
10 sitting here today, can you identify any particular 05:12
11 patient for -- for which you would not have written 05:12
12 an opioid prescription that you actually did write a 05:12
13 prescription for? 05:12

14 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form, asked and 05:12
15 answered. 05:12

16 THE WITNESS: At this point, no, I can't -- 05:12
17 I -- I don't recall any particular patient. There's 05:12
18 patients that came to me who were already on opioids 05:12
19 that I would attempt more aggressively to reduce 05:12
20 their dose, but -- and that I've continued on that -- 05:12
21 the higher dose that I'm now trying to reduce because 05:13
22 of the change in belief of the use of chronic 05:13
23 long-term high-dose opioids. 05:13

24 Q. (By Mr. Ercole) And, again, your -- the 05:13
25 answer that you just gave deals with sort of moving 05:13

1 from a higher dose of opioids to a lower dose of 05:13
2 opioids, correct? 05:13
3 A. And shorter -- 05:13
4 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form. 05:13
5 THE WITNESS: -- duration. 05:13
6 Q. (By Mr. Ercole) Sure. 05:13
7 The -- you mentioned the labels of -- we talked 05:13
8 about the labels of -- of opioids and what they 05:14
9 disclose, correct? 05:14
10 A. Yes, sir. 05:14
11 Q. And the -- is it fair to say that the -- do 05:14
12 you have any reason to doubt that the labels of 05:14
13 opioid medicines over the last three decades 05:14
14 disclosed the risk of -- of abuse and addiction with 05:14
15 respect to those medicines? 05:14
16 MS. BALDWIN: Object to form. 05:14
17 THE WITNESS: So 30 years ago would have 05:14
18 been 1998; is that right? Or 1988? '88. 05:14
19 Q. (By Mr. Ercole) '88. Your -- your math is 05:14
20 better than mine, but -- 05:14
21 A. It's late in the day. I'm trying to think. 05:14
22 It's '88. I have no idea, in 1988, what the drug 05:14
23 insert said. Show me one. 05:14
24 Q. Give me one second. 05:15
25 A. Sure. 05:15

EXHIBIT 28

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CLEVELAND COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA
STATE OF OKLAHOMA, ex rel.,
MIKE HUNTER,
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA,
Plaintiff,
Case Number
CJ-2017-816

VS.
(1) PURDUE PHARMA L.P.;
(2) PURDUE PHARMA, INC.;
(3) THE PURDUE FREDERICK COMPANY;
(4) TEVA PHARMACEUTICALS USA, INC.;
(5) CEPHALON, INC.;
(6) JOHNSON & JOHNSON;
(7) JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.;
(8) ORTHO-McNEIL-JANSSEN
PHARMACEUTICALS, INC., f/k/a
JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.;
(9) JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICA, INC.,
f/k/a JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.;
(10) ALLERGAN, PLC, f/k/a WATSON
PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.;
(11) WATSON LABORATORIES, INC.;
(12) ACTAVIS, LLC; and
(13) ACTAVIS PHARMA, INC.,
f/k/a WATSON PHARMA, INC.,

Defendants.

VIDEO DEPOSITION OF DANIEL J. CLAUW, M.D.
STATE OF OKLAHOMA 3230(C)(5) WITNESS
TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE DEFENDANTS
ON MARCH 26, 2019, BEGINNING AT 7:57 A.M.
IN OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA
Reported by: Cheryl D. Rylant, CSR, RPR
Video Technician: Gabe Pack

PAGES 1 - 327

1 correct? 09:59

2 A. No. 09:59

3 MR. LEONOUidakis: Objection, form, outside 09:59

4 the scope. 09:59

5 THE WITNESS: No. Because, again, there 09:59

6 are some practices that are just simply wrong, 09:59

7 you know, regardless of what the FDA did or what 09:59

8 the -- you know, what -- what other people have -- 09:59

9 that -- you know, the -- for example, the high doses 09:59

10 of opioids, so over 90 oral morphine equivalents a 09:59

11 day of opioids. Yeah, the -- the label change 09:59

12 permits that, but do I think that ever should be done 09:59

13 for people with chronic pain? No. I don't think 10:00

14 there was ever any data or evidence. And we don't 10:00

15 even start assessing benefit-risk unless there's 10:00

16 benefit. You can't -- if a treatment doesn't have 10:00

17 benefit, then it doesn't really matter how small the 10:00

18 risk might be. But in this case, we have the 10:00

19 opposite. We have amazing amounts of risk, 10:00

20 incredibly high risk and harm and -- and really no 10:00

21 discernible benefit with respect to the long-term 10:00

22 studies. 10:00

23 Q. (By Ms. Laurendeau) So if I understand you 10:00

24 correctly, if there's no benefit, then the 10:00

25 risk-benefit analysis should always be no 10:00

1 prescription of opioids, correct? 10:00

2 A. No. I already said that I -- that -- that I 10:00

3 disagreed with the initial decision, but now, 20-some 10:00

4 years later after -- after we've had the experience 10:00

5 using opioids in chronic pain that we have, there are 10:00

6 individual people that have benefitted, especially 10:00

7 from intermittent use of low dosages of opioids. And 10:01

8 so I will acknowledge that, even though I wouldn't 10:01

9 have made the decision to approve opioids for chronic 10:01

10 pain, the 20-some years of clinical experience since 10:01

11 has indicated that, in some rare individuals, the 10:01

12 benefit exceeds the harm. 10:01

13 Q. And it's for a doctor, with a patient, to 10:01

14 determine whether the expected benefits exceed the 10:01

15 potential harm and to decide whether to prescribe 10:01

16 opioids for long-term chronic pain for his or her 10:01

17 patient, correct? 10:01

18 A. I mean, ultimately, that's who the prescriber 10:01

19 is, so that's ultimately who makes the decision. 10:01

20 I -- you know, again, I don't agree with that 10:01

21 decision, but that's -- that is where the -- where 10:01

22 the decision is made. 10:01

23 Q. And you, as a thought leader in pain, haven't 10:01

24 actually treated any patients for chronic long-term 10:01

25 pain in the state of Oklahoma, have you? 10:02

1 A. No. 10:02

2 Q. And do you think you're qualified to second 10:02

3 guess the prescribing decisions of primary care 10:02

4 physicians and pain care specialists in the state of 10:02

5 Oklahoma? 10:02

6 MR. LEONOUidakis: Objection to form -- 10:02

7 THE WITNESS: Absolutely. 10:02

8 MR. LEONOUidakis: -- outside the scope. 10:02

9 Q. (By Ms. Laurendeau) Okay. And that's what 10:02

10 you're intending to do in your expert opinions? 10:02

11 MR. LEONOUidakis: Objection, form, outside 10:02

12 the scope. 10:02

13 THE WITNESS: I'm not going to -- I don't 10:02

14 believe that I'll be asked to opine on individual 10:02

15 physicians' prescribing patterns. But I will opine 10:02

16 on what I think, you know, was inappropriate use of 10:02

17 opioids under any circumstance. Because I believe 10:02

18 that it's pretty easy to -- to make that kind of 10:02

19 assessment. 10:02

20 Q. (By Ms. Laurendeau) It's easy for you to 10:02

21 make that assessment? 10:02

22 A. These are the same assessments that have been 10:02

23 made by the whole pain field. Even -- even people 10:02

24 that are more -- that are more so proponents of using 10:02

25 opioids for chronic pain than me would say that you 10:02

1 yet, that prescriber wrote a prescription for an 03:01
2 opioid, can -- can that statement be said to have 03:01
3 influenced that prescriber's behavior? 03:01
4 MR. LEONOUidakis: Objection, form. 03:01
5 THE WITNESS: I'm -- could you be more 03:01
6 clear? When you say a "statement," I don't know what 03:01
7 you mean. 03:01
8 Q. (By Ms. Coates) Well, so you haven't 03:01
9 identified any specific statement to me, but you have 03:01
10 said that -- that manufacturers' aggressive marketing 03:02
11 improperly influenced prescribing behavior. But if a 03:02
12 particular prescriber did not receive that marketing 03:02
13 material, for whatever reason, can it -- can it be 03:02
14 said that they were improperly influenced by that 03:02
15 statement? 03:02
16 MR. LEONOUidakis: Objection, form. 03:02
17 THE WITNESS: Well, they could still be 03:02
18 improperly influenced by all the other things that I 03:02
19 alluded to, which is, most, if not all, of the opioid 03:02
20 manufacturers were supporting these non-branded 03:02
21 efforts that were trying to maximize the benefit of 03:02
22 opioids and minimize the side effect of opioids. And 03:02
23 so to the extent that -- that -- that any of these 03:02
24 entities that you just mentioned were involved in 03:02
25 that, then they were -- yes, they -- they -- they 03:02

1 would be very capable of influencing prescribing 03:02
2 without actually having a drug rep visit that 03:02
3 particular office. 03:02
4 Q. (By Ms. Coates) Okay. And sitting here 03:03
5 today, do you know, one way or another, whether the 03:03
6 entities I mentioned contributed to unbranded 03:03
7 promotion that you're mentioning? 03:03
8 MR. LEONOUidakis: Objection, form. 03:03
9 THE WITNESS: I don't remember if they did 03:03
10 or not. 03:03
11 Q. (By Ms. Coates) And I believe you spoke 03:03
12 earlier about prescribers needing to have accurate 03:03
13 information, but so long as that they have accurate 03:03
14 information available to them and make an informed 03:03
15 decision together with their patient, that's the 03:03
16 proper way to decide to prescribe an opioid based on 03:03
17 that patient's medical history, condition, diagnosis; 03:03
18 is that correct? 03:03
19 A. Yes. 03:03
20 MR. LEONOUidakis: Objection, form. 03:03
21 Q. (By Ms. Coates) Are you aware of the 03:03
22 TIRF REMS program? 03:04
23 MR. LEONOUidakis: Objection, form. 03:04
24 THE WITNESS: I don't know what the 03:04
25 TIRF REMS program is. I know about a lot of 03:04

1 different REMS programs that were associated with 03:04
2 opioids -- with specific opioids, but, no, I'm not 03:04
3 familiar with what the TIRF REMS program is. 03:04
4 MS. COATES: Can we mark this as Exhibit 9? 03:05
5 (Whereupon, Clauw Exhibit No. 9 was marked 03:05
6 for identification and made part of the record.) 03:05
7 Q. (By Ms. Coates) Can you read the title of 03:05
8 this document? 03:05
9 A. Proposed Transmucosal Immediate Release 03:05
10 Fentanyl, Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy. 03:05
11 So now I see what TIRF REMS is. 03:05
12 Q. Okay. And if you look at the top, it 03:05
13 actually says initial REMS approval 12/2011; is that 03:05
14 correct? 03:05
15 A. Yes. 03:05
16 Q. And if you look at the very back page, you 03:05
17 can see that it was electronically signed by Bob A. 03:05
18 Rappatore on 12/28/2011; is that correct? 03:05
19 A. Yes. 03:05
20 Q. So I'm not going to have you read this entire 03:06
21 document, but I would like to point to you a couple 03:06
22 of its requirements, because I think they relate to 03:06
23 what you've testified to. 03:06
24 So can you read the first requirement under B, 03:06
25 Elements to Assure Safe Use, on Page 2 of the 03:06

EXHIBIT 29

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CLEVELAND COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA
STATE OF OKLAHOMA, ex rel.,
MIKE HUNTER, ATTORNEY GENERAL
OF OKLAHOMA,
Plaintiff,
vs. No. CJ-2017-816

- (1) PURDUE PHARMA, L.P.,
 - (2) PURDUE PHARMA, INC.,
 - (3) THE PURDUE FREDERICK COMPANY;
 - (4) TEVA PHARMACEUTICALS USA, INC.;
 - (5) CEPHALON, INC.;
 - (6) JOHNSON & JOHNSON;
 - (7) JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.;
 - (8) ORTHO-McNEIL-JANSSEN
PHARMACEUTICALS, INC., n/k/a
JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.;
 - (9) JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICA, INC.;
 - n/k/a JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.;
 - (10) ALLERGAN, PLC, f/k/a ACTAVIS PLC,
f/k/a ACTAVIS, INC., f/k/a WATSON
PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.;
 - (11) WATSON LABORATORIES, INC.;
 - (12) ACTAVIS LLC; and
 - (13) ACTAVIS PHARMA, INC.;
 - f/k/a WATSON PHARMA, INC.;
- Defendants.

VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF ERIN KREBS, M.D.
TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE DEFENDANTS
ON MARCH 19, 2019, BEGINNING AT 9:12 A.M.
IN OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

VIDEOTAPED BY: Gabe Pack
REPORTED BY: Jane McConnell, CSR RPR CMR CRR
Pages 1-277

1 involves mutual sharing of information. So I 09:52:58
2 provide information to the patient, the patient 09:53:03
3 provides information to me, we deliberate over the 09:53:06
4 potential choices, and then we agree on something. 09:53:10

5 Sometimes people refer to shared 09:53:15
6 decision-making in a more formalized structured 09:53:18
7 manner. That kind of approach would be really time 09:53:21
8 consuming but might be appropriate for a very big 09:53:23
9 decision, something like whether to go with 09:53:27
10 chemotherapy and radiation or to go with surgery 09:53:28
11 first, for example. 09:53:32

12 In this statement, if we're talking about 09:53:34
13 shared decision-making as the more informal process 09:53:36
14 of simply exchanging information, deliberating about 09:53:39
15 options and deciding on a treatment strategy, then I 09:53:42
16 agree with that part of the sentence. 09:53:45

17 Q In your own clinical practice, do you 09:53:47
18 individualize your opioid prescribing decisions 09:53:50
19 with the patients that you treat? 09:53:53

20 A I do in the sense that individualizing 09:53:56
21 treatment means incorporating best evidence in terms 09:53:59
22 of both benefits and harms, understanding of the 09:54:05
23 patient's conditions and their options, 09:54:07
24 co-morbidities, contraindications, the potential 09:54:09
25 risks of the treatment, the potential benefit of the 09:54:14

1 treatment compared with other options and the 09:54:17
2 patient's values, long-term goals, what they hope 09:54:22
3 to get out of this, their understanding of their 09:54:25
4 condition and the treatment options, all those 09:54:28
5 things and more, yes. 09:54:29
6 Q So you may have two patients with the 09:54:31
7 exact same pain diagnosis, let's say severe 09:54:33
8 osteoarthritis, who may receive very different 09:54:38
9 therapies because of other factors that are specific 09:54:41
10 to each of those two patients; would that be fair? 09:54:43
11 MR. LEONOUidakis: Objection; form. 09:54:47
12 A I would say it's hard to say that two 09:54:48
13 patients with osteoarthritis have the exact same 09:54:50
14 diagnosis since that is a condition that has a lot 09:54:53
15 of diversity in terms of how it manifests and how 09:54:56
16 people experience that, sure. 09:55:00
17 Q (BY MR. EHSAN) And even if they happened 09:55:04
18 to be twins who had the exact same life experiences 09:55:07
19 to get a disease state that was very similar, they 09:55:11
20 may have different goals, they may have different 09:55:14
21 pain tolerances, they may have a different value 09:55:17
22 system for their own shared decision-making; would 09:55:19
23 that be fair? 09:55:22
24 MR. LEONOUidakis: Objection; form. 09:55:23
25 A I'm not sure the question makes sense. 09:55:25

1 Twins are identical at birth perhaps, but not after 09:55:29
2 that. 09:55:33
3 Q (BY MR. EHSAN) My point was simply that 09:55:36
4 even if the disease states in two patients were 09:55:37
5 similar, they may still want different things out 09:55:39
6 of their therapy which would necessitate different 09:55:43
7 therapeutic courses for each of them? 09:55:46
8 MR. LEONOUKAKIS: Objection; form. 09:55:49
9 A Different individuals with the same 09:55:51
10 diagnosis have different priorities, values, 09:55:53
11 preferences, and their treatment course should 09:55:57
12 reflect that. 09:55:59
13 Q (BY MR. EHSAN) Doctor, if I could turn 09:56:03
14 your attention to Page 33. I just want to make sure 09:56:05
15 we're done with that sentence, right? 09:56:11
16 A Yes. 09:56:13
17 Q Page 33, please. This is "Appendix A, 09:56:13
18 Sample Opioid Prescribing Patient Agreement." Is 09:56:19
19 that correct? 09:56:22
20 A It's "Appendix A, Sample Opioid 09:56:24
21 Prescription Patient Agreement," correct. 09:56:26
22 Q Do you use these kinds of agreements in 09:56:28
23 your clinical practice? 09:56:31
24 A No. 09:56:32
25 Q Have you ever used these kinds of 09:56:35

1 can help improve the quality of care a patient 01:42:48
2 receives versus a system in which you just see the 01:42:52
3 first available physician? 01:42:56

4 A I would say as a primary care doctor, I 01:42:58
5 believe in the power of longitudinal relationships 01:43:01
6 with patients and that that can improve care. I'm 01:43:04
7 not sure that that's exactly what you're saying 01:43:06
8 but -- 01:43:08

9 Q Your answer is -- you answered my 01:43:09
10 question. 01:43:11

11 Doctor, likewise, you agree that patient 01:43:12
12 selection is an important factor in mitigating the 01:43:15
13 risks of opioids while trying to maximize their 01:43:18
14 potential benefit, correct? 01:43:20

15 MR. LEONOUDAKIS: Objection to form. 01:43:23

16 A I think not quite correct. So patient 01:43:24
17 selection, I don't like that phrasing because I 01:43:37
18 don't select my patients. My patients come to me. 01:43:44
19 I select their treatments. So it's not like I have 01:43:46
20 a drug and I'm looking to select the patients for it 01:43:52
21 which may be the industry approach. 01:43:55

22 But from my perspective, I take a patient, 01:43:57
23 I have a patient, and I look for the best treatment 01:44:00
24 approach for that individual patient. 01:44:04

25 And I've already talked about how I think 01:44:07

1 individual factors are important in determining the 01:44:12
2 appropriate treatment approach. 01:44:15

3 I also -- I think what you were getting at 01:44:19
4 a little bit is I am guessing you were suggesting 01:44:22
5 some patients might be too high risk for opioids. 01:44:25
6 Is that what you were -- 01:44:30

7 Q (BY MR. EHSAN) Let me try to ask my 01:44:31
8 question differently since you don't like the term 01:44:33
9 "patient selection." That's fine. 01:44:35

10 As a physician, you recommend different 01:44:39
11 treatment options for different patients, correct? 01:44:44

12 A True. 01:44:47

13 Q And part of the thinking that goes into 01:44:48
14 making those recommendations is trying to maximize 01:44:50
15 potential benefit of therapy and minimizing the 01:44:53
16 risk of that therapy for that particular patient, 01:44:55
17 correct? 01:44:58

18 A Perfect, yes. 01:44:58

19 Q So, therefore, in deciding whether or not 01:44:59
20 to recommend opioids -- 01:45:02

21 A Uh-huh. 01:45:04

22 Q -- irrespective of the reason -- 01:45:04

23 A Uh-huh. 01:45:06

24 Q -- you having a longitudinal relationship 01:45:06
25 with the patient may allow you to better understand 01:45:11

1 all the details of the patient's history to make a 01:45:14
2 better, more informed decision about how to best 01:45:17
3 maximize therapies, benefits and minimize the risk 01:45:19
4 no matter what the therapy may be, correct? 01:45:23
5 MR. LEONOUidakis: Objection; form. 01:45:25
6 A I'd say that is true, absolutely. The 01:45:26
7 better you know a patient, the more you can -- you 01:45:30
8 have a better understanding of those factors. That 01:45:34
9 matters more in certain circumstances than it does 01:45:36
10 in others. So it would matter particularly for a 01:45:38
11 big treatment decision, a long-term treatment 01:45:42
12 decision. It might matter less for a decision 01:45:44
13 with -- that is short-term or minor. 01:45:49
14 Q (BY MR. EHSAN) Chronic use of opioids 01:45:56
15 would be a long-term decision, correct? 01:45:57
16 A Uh-huh, yes. 01:45:59
17 Q And you are in part relying on the patient 01:45:59
18 providing you a adequate and complete history of 01:46:02
19 their past problems including substance use 01:46:05
20 problems, correct? 01:46:08
21 MR. LEONOUidakis: Objection; form. 01:46:10
22 A History is a source of valuable 01:46:17
23 information, but not always accurate information. 01:46:19
24 Q (BY MR. EHSAN) You, likewise, are relying 01:46:22
25 on the patient to provide you a accurate and 01:46:24

EXHIBIT 30

1 line test is?

2 A I do not.

3 Q You've never heard that phrase?

4 A No.

5 Q Have you ever heard the phrase litmus
6 test?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And that's commonly used to mean we're
9 drawing the line somewhere?

10 A Okay.

11 Q Those three criteria, you understand,
12 he was essentially using as a litmus test.
13 Right?

14 MR. ERCOLE: Objection to form.

15 THE WITNESS: I did not
16 understand that. I understood it to mean that
17 he thinks that those are the three criteria that
18 make this a -- that made him decide whether
19 these were medically necessary or unnecessary
20 prescriptions.

21 BY MR. WHITTEN:

22 Q Well, that's a line of sorts, isn't
23 it?

24 A It looks to me from the disclosure
25 that that's an all-or-none phenomenon for him.

1 It either is or isn't medically necessary based
2 on three criteria.

3 Q I think we're saying the same thing,
4 aren't we? You draw a line somewhere?

5 A I don't know. I know what I'm saying.
6 I don't know what you're saying. But he seems
7 to have three criteria, period. And that's what
8 he uses to determine medical necessity.

9 Q Look, I'm not speaking as a doctor,
10 because I'm not a doctor. I'm just speaking as
11 an ordinary human being, like our judge or our
12 jury.

13 You've got to draw the line somewhere
14 to say something is medically necessary or
15 medically unnecessary. Correct?

16 MR. ERCOLE: Objection to form.

17 THE WITNESS: I don't know. I've
18 never heard -- heard that -- that description in
19 deciding whether something is medically
20 necessary or unnecessary. I make those
21 decisions all day long in my practice, and I've
22 never thought I draw a line somewhere. I just
23 decide if something is or isn't medically
24 appropriate based on all of the information I
25 have.

1 BY MR. WHITTEN:

2 Q Look, I'm shocked --

3 A -- in every medical decision that I
4 make.

5 Q I've got to tell you, I'm a little
6 surprised in what you're saying. May I explore
7 that for a moment? In medicine, you have a
8 litmus test for a number of things. Right?

9 A Sure.

10 MR. ERCOLE: Objection to form.

11 THE WITNESS: I don't use a
12 litmus test. I use my medical judgment.

13 BY MR. WHITTEN:

14 Q Well, look, your medical judgment has
15 certain bright line tests that you learned in
16 medical school. Right?

17 A I did not learn bright line tests in
18 medical school. That's your term. I think it's
19 a legal term. It's not how I was trained.

20 Q Actually, it's not a legal term at
21 all. It's a term that people use all of the
22 time. Let me try it a different way.

23 Do you know what objective versus
24 subjective means?

25 A Yes.

1 Q So if -- you can't see in this room
2 probably, but we have various paintings on the
3 wall. And if I say that's a pretty painting,
4 and you say, no, I think it's an ugly painting,
5 we're both talking about our subjective
6 opinions. Right?

7 A Right.

8 Q But if -- if we're talking about a
9 thermometer, for example, in medicine, you have
10 a number in medicine that you generally consider
11 to be generally accepted as a normal temperature
12 and an abnormal temperature, do you not?

13 A Generally speaking, yes.

14 Q Right. Well, every parent in America
15 has taken the temperature of their children.
16 Right?

17 MR. ERCOLE: Objection to form;
18 calls for speculation.

19 THE WITNESS: I would imagine so.

20 BY MR. WHITTEN:

21 Q Do you have children?

22 A I'm sure there are some that do. I
23 do.

24 Q I've raised a bunch of them. And
25 generally what temperature do we consider to be

1 lot of people run with low blood pressure, and
2 that's normal for them.

3 Temperature also. People run
4 different temperatures. There's a range of
5 normal, 98.6 is generally considered to be the
6 absolute normal, but that's not to say that 97
7 -- if you run 97, you're -- you're low or if you
8 run 96, you're low.

9 The same is true of any test, and what
10 I said before we cut out, is I use the example
11 of an X-ray. As if there's a -- if there's a
12 finding on an X-ray that is of some concern --

13 MR. ERCOLE: Mr. Whitten --

14 THE WITNESS: Are you laughing?
15 Did you cut out?

16 MR. WHITTEN: Go right ahead.
17 Yes, I am laughing.

18 MR. ERCOLE: Are you done
19 laughing? Are you done laughing?

20 MR. WHITTEN: I am laughing. I
21 am absolutely laughing. I cannot believe that
22 this is so difficult. I absolutely can't
23 believe it. I didn't know you --

24 MR. ERCOLE: I was just making
25 sure you are done laughing.

1 MR. WHITTEN: No. I'm still
2 laughing at you, Brian, but, no.

3 MR. ERCOLE: Okay.

4 MR. WHITTEN: I cannot -- I
5 didn't know you could hear me, either. But I
6 can't believe that this is this difficult.

7 BY MR. WHITTEN:

8 Q Doctor, I'm just trying to say --

9 A I'm not trying to be difficult, sir.

10 I'm not trying to be difficult, sir. What I'm
11 saying is in my medical practice, my medical
12 experience, I use all of my numbers and lab
13 value and test and data in the context of a
14 clinical picture.

15 Q I didn't ask for anything that
16 remotely called for that as an answer. Nothing.

17 A Okay.

18 Q Nothing like that at all. I'm talking
19 a very general concept. And I'm not trying to
20 practice medicine here.

21 I'm just saying in science we make
22 assumptions and sometimes we draw a line to get
23 an approximate estimate of something else.
24 Isn't that generally true?

25 MR. ERCOLE: Objection to form;

1 vague.

2 THE WITNESS: Yes. I can say
3 that that's generally true in science. Okay.

4 BY MR. WHITTEN:

5 Q Great. We're making progress.

6 Do you know how Dr. Beaman came up
7 with the three criteria that's in his
8 disclosure?

9 A I do not. I -- I -- I do not.

10 Q Did you make any effort whatsoever to
11 find out how Dr. Beaman got that criteria?

12 MR. ERCOLE: Objection to form.

13 THE WITNESS: I did not. I
14 wondered. I did not.

15 BY MR. WHITTEN:

16 Q Well, did you ask?

17 A It seems to me it's arbitrary.

18 MR. ERCOLE: Objection.

19 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry?

20 BY MR. WHITTEN:

21 Q You said it seems to you that it's
22 arbitrary?

23 A Yeah.

24 Q Is that what you said?

25 A Yes.

EXHIBIT 31

David Courtwright
March 22, 2019

1 IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CLEVELAND COUNTY

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3
4 STATE OF OKLAHOMA, ex rel.,
5 MIKE HUNTER, ATTORNEY GENERAL
6 OF OKLAHOMA,

7 Plaintiff,

8 vs.

Case No. CJ-2017-816

9 PURDUE PHARMA, L.P.; et al.,

10 Defendants.

11
12 VIDEOTAPED
13 DEPOSITION OF:

DAVID T. COURTWRIGHT, PH.D.

14 DATE TAKEN:

March 22, 2019

15 TIME:

9:05 a.m. to 2:47 p.m.

16 PLACE:

17 Lexington Hotel
1515 Prudential Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32207

18 BEHALF OF:

The Defendant(s)

19 REPORTER:

Michelle R. Hordinski, RMR, CRR

20
21
22
23 VON AHN ASSOCIATES, INC., a U.S. LEGAL SUPPORT COMPANY
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1 familiar to doctors. But there's a kind of revolution
2 that occurs in the 19th century that turns out to have
3 very fateful implications.

4 In the mid-19th century physicians in France,
5 in Scotland, in England, in the United States, began
6 developing methods of hypodermic administration,
7 especially for morphine.

8 Now, morphine is a drug that doctors very much
9 want to use because it's purified. One of the things I
10 learned in my research is that, in the early 19th
11 century, opium used to drive doctors crazy because the
12 licit drug, the licit drug, was often heavily
13 adulterated. People cheated. In order to stretch the
14 product, they would add lead and mud and straw. And
15 that's a terrible problem because, as you probably know
16 opium was taken by pill in the 19th century. And it
17 would drive you crazy trying to figure out, what is the
18 actual dose of the active ingredient if this product is
19 adulterated?

20 Morphine solves that problem. You know what
21 you've got if you have the purified alkaloid. But there
22 are often unpleasant gastric effects of taking opium
23 orally. And by injecting it subcutaneously, you can
24 bypass that problem. Rapid onset of action is another
25 advantage for somebody who's experiencing trauma.

1 That's why morphine injections are used in battlefield
2 situations, for example.

3 But, of course, the catch was that this was
4 also very euphorogenic, and it strongly reinforced the
5 patient and the potential for abuse and addiction was
6 greater.

7 Now, in Dark Paradise, this is essentially the
8 story that I tell. Around 1870, doctors began
9 publishing articles in medical journals saying, hey,
10 we've got a problem here. There is a significant
11 risk -- in fact, a heightened risk -- of addiction
12 through the injection of morphine. We need to be really
13 careful about how we use this drug. Don't ever leave
14 the needle and syringe with the patient. Disguise the
15 medication if you possibly can.

16 By the 1880s, doctors like James F.A. Adams,
17 who was publishing in the Boston and medical surgical --
18 sorry, Boston Medical and Surgical Journal are giving
19 advice like, try other analgesics first like the
20 coal/tar derivatives. Don't use this as your first line
21 of defense.

22 So in -- in the professional medical
23 literature, one can discern the emergence of advice that
24 I would describe as narcotic conservatism. You've got
25 to be careful. There's high potential for addiction

1 with these drugs.

2 Often these articles were accompanied by
3 detailed case histories of iatrogenic morphine addicts.
4 And so one of the questions that I ask in Dark Paradise
5 is, well, okay, if this medical literature starts to
6 surface in 1870, why is it taking until 1895 for the per
7 capita consumption of medicinal opiates in the United
8 States to begin to decline?

9 And I think that part of the reason for that
10 is that the American medical profession had not really
11 matured. It hadn't matured into the medical science
12 that we know today. And there wasn't a lot that doctors
13 could do for patients.

14 Later on, yes, they did develop alternative
15 therapies for treating and curing diseases, but at the
16 time being able to provide symptomatic relief of pain
17 with just a quick injection of morphine was almost like
18 having a magic wand. Well, they overused that wand, and
19 as a result there was a big increase in iatrogenic
20 addiction.

21 However, over time the teaching, the new
22 cautionary teaching, made its way into medical school
23 curricula and medical textbooks. Several examples of
24 which are cited in the book, and the rising generation
25 of physicians learned to be more cautious about these

1 Q. You're not being impolite, Doctor. I just
2 want to make sure we're following the protocols here.

3 Would those regulators include state
4 officials?

5 A. Yes. I just gave you the Oregon example,
6 1953.

7 Q. And what type of warnings are you talking
8 about besides the ones you've already testified about?

9 A. Oh, no. Let me -- let me go back. Okay. So
10 I'm rereading the sentence. Regulators warned
11 pharmaceutical manufacturers and distributors of the
12 addictive potential of new semisynthetic and synthetic
13 products that they proposed to market.

14 What I had in mind actually was two episodes
15 that involved the Bureau of Narcotics. In my research,
16 those were in 1947 and 1949. And they were -- those did
17 not involve states. Those involved the federal
18 government.

19 Q. And when, Doctor, did the FDA start
20 requiring -- I'm sorry. Let me start back.

21 When did the scheduling of pharmaceuticals
22 begin in the United States?

23 A. Well, so the Controlled Substances Act was
24 enacted in 1970, and it took effect in 1971. So I guess
25 the right answer to the question is 1971.

1 Q. And are you aware if opioids have been
2 scheduled since 1971?

3 MR. DUCK: Objection to form.

4 THE WITNESS: Yes, under the provisions of the
5 Controlled Substances Act, opiates were and
6 continue to be scheduled after 1971.

7 BY MR. BARTLE:

8 Q. And for opiates that are identified as
9 Schedule II, those are identified as being -- as having
10 a high potential for abuse, correct?

11 A. That is correct, yes.

12 Q. And when a pharmaceutical is identified or
13 determined by the DEA to be -- and the FDA to be
14 Schedule II, that information is required to be put on
15 the label for that pharmaceutical, correct?

16 MR. DUCK: Objection to form.

17 THE WITNESS: I would -- I would want to go
18 back and do some research to discover whether that
19 labeling requirement was part of the original law
20 or was subsequently added. So I -- I don't know
21 when that was required. But I'll take your word
22 for it, that it's --

23 BY MR. BARTLE:

24 Q. Well, don't take my word for it, but you'll
25 agree with me that it is required now?

1 MR. DUCK: Objection to form.

2 BY MR. BARTLE:

3 Q. Correct?

4 A. Yes. But the date -- again, I would want to
5 do research as to whether that was part of the original
6 package enacted by Congress in 1970 or whether that was
7 subsequently added.

8 Q. And what was the purpose for requiring a label
9 on a pharmaceutical that would include the schedule of
10 the --

11 A. Well, among other things --

12 MR. DUCK: Doctor, just a second.

13 BY MR. BARTLE:

14 Q. Doctor, you gotta wait. No worries.

15 What was the purpose, in your view, of
16 requiring that the label for a particular pharmaceutical
17 include its schedule?

18 MR. DUCK: Objection to form. Beyond the
19 scope.

20 THE WITNESS: Well, there -- there are a
21 number of purposes, actually. It is suggestive of
22 the potency of the drug, but beyond that there are
23 different refill requirements for these drugs.

24 If you are dealing with, say, a Schedule III
25 controlled substance, you have to go back, and you

1 have to see your doctor every six months. That's
2 not necessarily the case with a Schedule IV or
3 Schedule V.

4 Physicians need to know what the -- what the
5 procedures are for refilling prescriptions and so
6 on.

7 BY MR. BARTLE:

8 Q. And those refill requirements, for example,
9 would also apply to the Schedule II pharmaceuticals,
10 correct?

11 MR. DUCK: Same objections.

12 THE WITNESS: Correct.

13 BY MR. BARTLE:

14 Q. It's all -- the purpose of the label also is
15 to inform the doctor about the nature and potential side
16 effects of a particular pharmaceutical, right?

17 MR. DUCK: Same objections.

18 THE WITNESS: I don't -- I don't know that
19 that's necessarily the case. The purpose of -- in
20 my research and legislative history of the
21 Controlled Substances Act, what I found is that the
22 purpose of the scheduling is to subject these
23 different drugs to different degrees of control.
24 Some needed to be more tightly controlled than
25 others; hence, we're not going to allow telephone

1 prescription refills for this drug, but we might
2 allow them for that drug.

3 I think the doctors would have been, by the
4 1970s, would have been well aware of the addictive
5 potential of a Schedule II controlled substance. I
6 don't think it came to them as a blast of news.
7 Oh, this is now Schedule II; I need to worry about
8 it.

9 These -- these drugs were well known to be
10 potent narcotics.

11 BY MR. BARTLE:

12 Q. And you would agree with me that a physician
13 should be aware of the schedule of a pharmaceutical
14 before he prescribes it?

15 MR. DUCK: Objection. Form.

16 THE WITNESS: As a general proposition, I
17 would say, yes, that would be part of normal
18 medical education and performances, as well.

19 BY MR. BARTLE:

20 Q. Are you aware of any changes in the mid to
21 late 1970s -- mid to late 20th century about the -- in
22 the medical education of -- with regard to the potency
23 and scheduled nature of opiates?

24 A. With respect to the time period which I am
25 expected to cover, no.

1 Medical professionals were still advised to be
2 cautious with respect to the use of these drugs and the
3 treatment of chronic, non-malignant pain into the 1970s.
4 Beyond that, I'm not prepared to go.

5 Q. And then you write in that top paragraph, the
6 second sentence, This cautionary knowledge and these
7 institutions prevented further large-scale epidemics of
8 iatrogenic narcotic addiction until the end of the 20th
9 century.

10 Do you see that?

11 A. Yeah.

12 Q. Are you aware of any efforts taken by the
13 State of Oklahoma to prevent further large-scale
14 epidemics of iatrogenic narcotic addiction prior to
15 1980?

16 A. The statutes I -- the prescription control
17 laws I referred to earlier.

18 Q. Beyond that, you're not aware of any efforts?

19 A. There is a reference to Oklahoma in Dark
20 Paradise that involves a report prepared by the Bureau
21 of Narcotics sometime in the 1930s -- I think it was --
22 I think it was around 1938 -- in which they drew upon
23 data from several states, including Oklahoma, in an
24 attempt to make a national estimate of addiction
25 prevalence.

1 And this -- let me explain the context. I
2 think that the Bureau of Narcotics was low-balling the
3 estimate, and I think that they were deliberately
4 picking largely rural states to -- to essentially
5 demonstrate to Congress that they were doing a good job
6 and that addiction was down. And they -- they picked
7 states like Oklahoma, which is interesting because it's
8 consistent with everything else that I know about heroin
9 addiction and narcotic addiction generally in the -- in
10 the mid-20s century, which is it became a big city
11 problem. It was centered in cities like New York and
12 Chicago and Detroit, especially heroin addiction.

13 And so the rural areas generally had low rates
14 of narcotic addiction, which is, I suspect, why they
15 picked the state of Oklahoma. The problem was -- was
16 insignificant in the state of Oklahoma in the 1930s.

17 Interestingly, that had not been the case in
18 the late 19th century. I did, among many statistical
19 analyses in the book, I looked at the available
20 statistical evidence and how it shook out with respect
21 to urban or rural areas. And in the late 19th century,
22 addicts were pretty evenly spread throughout the
23 country. They were in rural places. They were in urban
24 places.

25 And that had changed by the mid-20th century.

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1 Q Sure. I don't know that I could ask it the
2 same way. Do opioids possess any addiction potential?

3 A Yes. Obviously.

4 Q Okay. Tell me about that in your practice
5 and to your knowledge and experience?

6 A Well, in my practice it's never been really
7 that big of a problem because I don't usually give
8 them enough to let them get to a dependent state. At
9 least anymore. I mean, it was -- in the past I used
10 to do a little bit more of that, but I don't do that
11 now.

12 But patients do get dependent on the regular
13 dosing of the medication so that they still feel okay.
14 If they don't get their medications, they're going to
15 start feeling poorly and have withdrawal symptoms.
16 From a dependent standpoint that's -- I mean, that's
17 what they do.

18 I don't know where else to take that.

19 Q Sure. That's fine.

20 A That's just what they do.

21 Q Sure. So opioids can be addictive?

22 A Absolutely.

23 Q Is that a risk that is known to you
24 currently?

25 A Yes.

1 Q When did you first learn about the risks of
2 opioids?

3 A I guess medical school or even before.

4 Q Okay.

5 A I mean, just always known that they were
6 addictive.

7 Q Was that something that was taught in
8 medical school?

9 A Sure, yeah.

10 Q And when did you go to medical school again?
11 I think we talked about it briefly.

12 A '90 -- I graduated in '95. So '91 to '95.
13 Four years.

14 Q Is that something that's common knowledge in
15 the medical community?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And you've been in the Oklahoma medical
18 community for how many years?

19 A Well, let's see. I started off as a P.A. I
20 graduated P.A. school in 1986, I think. So I
21 practiced as a medical person since 1986 through the
22 VA before going to medical school. Before that I
23 worked in nursing homes. So, I mean, I have a couple
24 years there as well.

25 Q Okay. Then let me take a little sidetrack

1 here. Tell me about your work as a P.A. and in
2 nursing homes.

3 A Well, when I was in college, to get into
4 P.A. school at the time you had to have some kind of
5 medical experience. And there was no way for me to
6 get any other kind of medical experience so I went to
7 work in a nursing home.

8 I did lots of wound care and vital signs and
9 took care of people in the nursing homes or other
10 banged up people that they took in there for
11 convalescence. That gave me medical experience that
12 so when I interviewed for P.A. school they let me in.

13 After a couple years of V.A. school I went
14 to the VA Hospital working in the inpatient rehab
15 unit. Mostly strokes, lot of amputations, brain
16 injury, spinal cord injury, stuff like that.

17 Q Okay. With your P.A. work, did that in any
18 way involve medication prescriptions?

19 A Not very much.

20 Q Okay. That wasn't --

21 A I was doing mostly inpatient rehab.

22 Q Okay.

23 A We did have a lot of outpatients that we
24 followed from a spinal cord standpoint mostly, so
25 there were various medications that we used for

1 A Every time they come in, the same form.

2 Q Oh. Okay. After one time --

3 A Yeah. It's not just the first time.

4 THE REPORTER: Hang on, you guys. Please,
5 one at a time.

6 MR. CURRAN: Sorry.

7 THE WITNESS: Every time they come in it's
8 the same form. They have to fill it out again.

9 Q (BY MR. CURRAN) All right. Do you
10 consider health insurance coverage when making your
11 prescription decision?

12 A No. I don't. My nurse tells me when it
13 won't work, and then we go back and rediscuss that
14 yeah.

15 Q Okay. So it is considered --

16 A Considered somehow or another, but I don't
17 know that much about the insurance. I don't -- I just
18 see the patients and take care of them the best I can
19 whatever their insurance is.

20 Q How about scientific literature? Do you
21 consider that when making your prescription decision,
22 either specifically or generally?

23 A Scientific literature. Sure. I mean, we've
24 been through it at various times with medical school.
25 And if there's a new drug out that I want to consider,

1 I read through the stuff. So I've read through the
2 literature there. But then after that first time
3 probably not.

4 I go back to what are the effects of the
5 medication, what are its side effects and what are the
6 patient's risk profiles.

7 Q After all that do you ultimately rely on
8 your own judgment and knowledge in making prescription
9 decisions?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Is what pain medication you choose to
12 prescribe a patient based on an individualized
13 assessment of the patient's needs?

14 A Absolutely.

15 Q And a risk/benefit profile for that patient?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And we touched on this a second ago. What
18 kind of risk assessment, if any, do you perform?

19 A Well, on my initial evaluations, some of the
20 social history has to do with how much alcohol you
21 drink or do you currently or have you ever taken any
22 other kind of nonprescription medications or illicit
23 medications, I think is the word I have there.

24 And then I have examples such as marijuana,
25 heroin, cocaine. And I think there's one other one,

1 meth on there. Have you ever used any of these
2 specifically? And then a blank for anything else and
3 when did they last use them.

4 There's, you know, other social factors.
5 Are you working? I don't have any physical abuse
6 questions on there, but there's a lot of those kind of
7 things. If you see somebody that you think is
8 physically abused, that would certainly be a risk
9 factor as well. So I pay attention to those kind of
10 things.

11 Q Why is that important?

12 A Well, because there are certain things that
13 are going to be more highly -- or more prone to
14 becoming addicted to medications than others.

15 Q Do you assess a patient's demeanor before
16 making a prescription decision?

17 A Absolutely.

18 Q Is it possible in your mind to make a
19 prescription decision without looking at the patient
20 and assessing their demeanor?

21 A No.

22 Q Is there a one-size-fits-all approach to
23 medication?

24 A Absolutely not.

25 Q Would you agree that each patient's needs

1 are -- and medical issues are unique?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And you touched on this a second ago. With
4 regard to functional improvement, how do you assess
5 that when deciding which, if any, medicines to
6 prescribe?

7 A Oh, one of the things that I discuss with
8 the patients are what is it you're trying to get out
9 of being here. Is it just less pain in your knee or
10 is it so you can get up and go to church or is it, you
11 know, that you've got to take care of your grandkids?
12 We talk about functional things.

13 And I bring in -- if they don't talk about
14 functional things, if all they'll ever tell me is they
15 want less pain, then I bring up the functional things
16 because I pay more attention to those things than
17 sometimes the patients do.

18 And I tell them that monitoring the effects
19 of their treatment is going to have a lot to do with
20 are they functioning and are we able to decrease their
21 pain levels. And so I monitor those things closely.

22 Q With regard to dosages, do you have a limit
23 on the dosages of a medication that you will
24 prescribe?

25 A Yeah. Pretty much. I mean, it's like 4 to

1 opioid is. I mean, it's pain.

2 Q Right.

3 A So I don't know -- I've never prescribed
4 them for anything other than pain.

5 Q Do you see SoonerCare patients, Doctor?

6 A Rarely.

7 Q Okay. Do you know, do you have a general
8 understanding of what SoonerCare is?

9 A Yeah. It's kind of the Medicaid program.

10 Q Once you've decided that an opioid is
11 appropriate, do you consider brand versus generic
12 types of drugs or do you care?

13 A I don't really care.

14 Q Okay.

15 A Not usually. Unless the patient cares. I
16 think that most of the generics are reasonably as good
17 as the originals, most of the time.

18 Q When you prescribe, do you usually make a
19 distinction between brand and generic?

20 A No.

21 Q Okay. Why not?

22 A It's just not relevant to me. I don't
23 really care. If the patient comes back and tells me
24 the medication's not working or that they've had that
25 brand before, whatever, you know, generic or label, I

1 mean, I don't -- I'll kind of abide by their wishes,
2 but I don't tell them that I want them to get a
3 particular brand.

4 Q And I think we touched on this a second ago.
5 Do you as the physician consider what kind of or type
6 of insurance they have when deciding between possible
7 prescriptions?

8 A No. Not unless I'm told that that
9 prescription isn't covered. If it comes back they're
10 not covered, then I'll go back and try to come up with
11 something else that is when we get that list. But
12 seems like the insurance companies don't want to tell
13 you what's covered. They only want to tell you what's
14 not covered.

15 Q Are there any other factors, Doctor, that
16 influence your prescribing --

17 MR. ANGELOVICH: Objection. Form.

18 Q (BY MR. CURRAN) -- that we haven't talked
19 about?

20 A Other factors. You've gone over a lot of
21 stuff. Age of the patient, I guess we didn't really
22 talk about because NSAIDs are more risky in the more
23 age of the person. And in young people, obviously,
24 you want to stay away from them because of issues with
25 longer term needs. So I guess age is the only thing

1 we haven't talked about.

2 Q Do you have any knowledge of how -- and I
3 forgot to ask this, and I apologize. Do you have any
4 knowledge of where or how patients on SoonerCare get
5 their prescriptions filled?

6 A I do not.

7 Q Let's change topics just for -- have you
8 ever dealt -- you personally dealt with any
9 pharmaceutical sales representatives?

10 A They've come in intermittently. Not very
11 much anymore, but they used to come in more.

12 Q Throughout your career have you personally
13 dealt with pharmaceutical sales representatives?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Describe your personal involvement with
16 pharmaceutical sales representatives?

17 A Well, I'm usually pretty busy in the clinic
18 so if they're -- well, it's changed a little bit so...

19 In the past they kind of had -- they kind of
20 come in the clinic and walk around a little bit. And
21 they'd come up and talk to the nurse. And she would
22 tell me when there's somebody there.

23 And when I would come out of the room, I
24 would stop by and talk to them for a couple minutes
25 and head on back into the rooms.

1 Q Generally speaking, what do they want?
2 What's the purpose of those visits, if you recall?

3 A Well, they want to tell you what drugs
4 they're covering and give you any new data about them
5 and see if you have any questions.

6 Q Okay. Specifically do you recall any
7 dealings with sales reps from Cephalon?

8 A I'm not going to remember what company they
9 were from or --

10 Q Are you -- is that true no matter what the
11 company's name?

12 A Yeah. There are drugs and there are sales
13 reps and there are companies, but I don't keep them in
14 my head.

15 Q Do you keep track of how many times sales
16 reps may come by your office?

17 A No. I know that it was a problem more in
18 that they were just kind of walking around in the
19 clinic so they were taking up the nurse's time. So we
20 eventually made up a little rule that they could only
21 come into a certain room.

22 And the way we do it now is that if the
23 sales reps come in and want to talk to somebody, the
24 nurses put them in a certain room and they let us know
25 they're there. And we go by and say hi to them.

1 rheumatologists so they use a lot of drugs that I
2 don't use. And so if there's common medications, they
3 might be there longer because they're going to go to
4 each one of us probably. If it's a medication that
5 only I use, then they probably just come and talk to
6 me and then go. I don't know how long they're out
7 there because I go back in the rooms.

8 Q Do you or have you ever relied on any
9 representation a pharmaceutical sales representative
10 has made about a particular drug?

11 A Relied on what they tell me as the reason to
12 prescribe it?

13 Q Sure. Relied on anything they've told you.

14 A Well, sure. I mean, I listen to what they
15 tell me. And if they have a new article or something
16 that implies a positive effect of one of the
17 medications or a negative effect of one of the
18 medications then, yeah, I listen to those.

19 Q Well, you listen to them, but do you do any
20 follow-up after that representation has been made?

21 A With the drug reps?

22 Q No. Not with them, but on your own.

23 A If I've had a problem with that, yeah. I
24 mean, there's, you know, certain medications that -- I
25 had a lady that had a lot of sweating with Cymbalta,

1 so, you know, I learned that to be a big problem with
2 Cymbalta. So, you know, I pay attention to that
3 probably with patients that -- that's why all my
4 questions are there, is to find those sorts of things.

5 Q Sure. Let me ask it a different way. I've
6 been a little bit unclear. I apologize.

7 Have you ever made a prescription decision
8 based solely on what a drug rep has represented to
9 you?

10 A No.

11 Q Regardless of a representation that may have
12 been made to you, do you rely on your own medical
13 judgment in making a prescription decision?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Why?

16 A Well, because I'm the one that knows the
17 patient more than -- you know, it's not like any one
18 medication is the right one for every patient that
19 comes through. So I have to take in all those factors
20 that we've talked about earlier and this particular
21 individual and who's around them and what's going to
22 go on in their lives to make a decision about what I
23 think is going to be the best, you know -- and
24 probably polymedication regimen for them, along with
25 everything else that I treat them.

1 Q What do you mean by that, polymedication?

2 A Well, they're probably going to be on
3 multiple meds. You know, they're on Tylenol or
4 ibuprofen and they're also on an antidepressant. Or
5 they're on this other antidepressant that I don't even
6 use. So I know I can't use this.

7 They're already on three or four other --
8 maybe they're on several heart medications. They're
9 on all kinds of stuff. People come in with lists of
10 medications that take two pages. And, of course, you
11 have to look at what you're getting ready to give them
12 and the potential side effects with that other soup
13 that they're already on.

14 Q To make an individualized decision?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Do you have any personal knowledge of any
17 pharmaceutical company's sales or marketing practices
18 or efforts in Oklahoma?

19 A I know the drug reps come by once in a
20 while.

21 Q Do you know anything about why they come to
22 you or -- why they come to you with any degree of
23 frequency?

24 A Well, like I said, I don't remember the last
25 time I talked to a drug rep. So, you know, if --

1 Q Okay. Is it fair to say your knowledge and
2 exposure to sales representatives is limited to
3 whoever may have visited your office?

4 A Right.

5 Q And, again, you don't recall any Teva,
6 Cephalon, Actavis or Watson representative that has
7 ever made a visit to you or your office; correct?

8 A No. I know at the moment when they're
9 there, but -- but I don't even know which drugs are
10 made by which companies, to tell you the truth.

11 Q Do you have any personal knowledge as to
12 which Oklahoma providers or doctors any of the
13 companies may have targeted or visited or how often?

14 A No. I'm not in any of their offices so...

15 Q Does it surprise you to know that companies
16 who make pain medications make sales calls on doctors
17 who prescribe medications?

18 A Would it surprise me?

19 Q Does that surprise you?

20 A No.

21 Q Would it offend you to know that some of
22 these companies might refer to you or any other doctor
23 as sales targets?

24 A No.

25 Q Would it surprise or offend you to know that

1 they classify you and other doctors based on
2 prescribing habits?

3 A No.

4 Q Have you ever heard the term "super
5 prescriber" or "super core prescriber"?

6 A I don't think so.

7 Q To your knowledge, has anything a sales rep
8 has said to you or anything they may have done ever
9 improperly influenced your prescribing decisions?

10 A No.

11 Q Whether that be prescribing a drug at all or
12 prescribing a certain dosage of a drug. Is that still
13 true?

14 A I don't think so.

15 Q Do you have any personal knowledge of how
16 sales representatives from any pharmaceutical
17 companies are paid?

18 A No. But -- no. I don't think so.

19 Q Is that anything you concern yourself with?

20 A No.

21 Q Why not?

22 A Well, I'm trying to figure out how to take
23 care of the patient. I've got -- that's my biggest
24 time frame is taking care of the patient. Not
25 anything else.

1 three patients on OxyContin. I have at least one lady
2 on fentanyl. I don't have -- I may have one guy --
3 one guy that's still on MS Contin.

4 And then I have, you know, a lot of patients
5 that are taking a few Norco per day or -- which is
6 hydrocodone and -- or a few Percocet per day,
7 oxycodone.

8 Q And -- oh, I'm sorry.

9 A I was just -- that's oxycodone.

10 Q And I think you mentioned earlier that you
11 probably had right now 3- to 400 patients that are on
12 opioids?

13 A No. That was just a throw-out guess. I
14 really don't know the numbers. I don't know the
15 numbers. There's -- I have no idea how many patients
16 I follow, but fair percent are on some opioid.

17 Q And it sounds like probably it would be
18 primarily at this point in time the Norco and the
19 Percocet?

20 A Hydrocodone is probably my number one opioid
21 now since the state took Darvocet away from us.

22 Q Tell me, when did the state take Darvocet
23 away from you?

24 A Gosh, probably eight years ago, as a guess.

25 Q Do you know why?

1 A Well, they said it was causing heart
2 problems. I never saw that, but that was my
3 understanding of the reason. I don't know if it's the
4 state or the feds, but somebody took propoxyphene away
5 from us.

6 Q I think you testified to this in your -- or
7 testified to this earlier, but I want to ask again
8 just to make sure. At any point in time during the
9 entirety of your medical practice, do you believe an
10 opioid sales rep ever influenced your decision to
11 prescribe that opioid product?

12 A No. I think that -- I mean, depending on
13 how you want to answer that, when Butrans first came
14 out I didn't know anything about it so, yes, the rep
15 coming by influenced me to know that it existed and
16 make a decision about whether or not I thought it was
17 appropriate for any of my patients. And I have had a
18 couple of patients that I've used it on.

19 Q At any point during your medical practice do
20 you believe that any opioid sales rep influenced the
21 amount or the manner in which you prescribed an
22 opioid?

23 A No.

24 Q Do you have a belief one way or another
25 whether the fact that these drug companies paid their

1 sales reps hundreds of thousands of dollars a year, do
2 you think they would do that if they weren't
3 effective?

4 MR. CURRAN: Object to the form.

5 THE WITNESS: I have no idea what they pay
6 them.

7 Q (BY MR. ANGELOVICH) All right. When was
8 the last time that you saw a Purdue sales rep?

9 A I have no idea. It may have been years.
10 Because the only drugs they have -- what is it you
11 said, OxyContin, MS Contin or Duragesic? Or what was
12 the other one?

13 MR. BURNS: I probably shouldn't answer that
14 question, but the other one I said was Butrans.

15 THE WITNESS: Butrans. Okay. You know, the
16 last time I saw one of those reps -- I don't remember.
17 It's been years since I've seen one of those reps.

18 Q (BY MR. ANGELOVICH) Okay. Are you aware
19 that Purdue has fired its entire sales force?

20 MR. CURRAN: Object to the form.

21 THE WITNESS: No.

22 Q (BY MR. ANGELOVICH) Are you aware that
23 the stated purpose of firing their entire sales
24 force is to help abate the opioid crisis?

25 MR. CURRAN: Object to the form.

EXHIBIT 33

1 IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CLEVELAND COUNTY
2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 STATE OF OKLAHOMA, ex rel.,
4 MIKE HUNTER, ATTORNEY GENERAL
5 OF OKLAHOMA,

6 Plaintiff,

7 vs.

 No. CJ-2017-816

8 PURDUE PHARMA L.P.;
9 PURDUE PHARMA, INC.;
10 THE PURDUE FREDERICK
11 COMPANY;
12 TEVA PHARMACEUTICALS
13 USA, INC.;
14 CEPHALON, INC.;
15 JOHNSON & JOHNSON;
16 JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.;
17 ORTHO-McNEIL-JANSSEN
18 PHARMACEUTICALS, INC., n/k/a
19 JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.;
20 JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICA,
21 INC., n/k/a JANSSEN
22 PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.;
23 ALLERGAN, PLC, f/k/a
24 ACTAVIS PLC, f/k/a ACTAVIS, INC.,
25 f/k/a WATSON PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.;
 WATSON LABORATORIES, INC.;
 ACTAVIS LLC; and
 ACTAVIS PHARMA, INC.,
 f/k/a WATSON PHARMA, INC.,

 Defendants.

_____/

VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF LESLIE OLLAR-SHOEMAKE, D.O.
TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE DEFENDANTS
ON MARCH 13, 2019, BEGINNING AT 4:00 P.M.
IN OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

VIDEOTAPED BY: Greg Brown
REPORTED BY: D. Luke Epps, CSR, RPR

1 Q I'm not going to burden you with that
2 today. Let's talk about C-sections.

3 A Yes.

4 Q Is C -- describe what a C-section is.

5 A C-section is delivery of a baby via an
6 abdominal incision.

7 Q Okay. And is that -- can that be a fairly
8 invasive procedure?

9 A Seven layers of tissue I'm cutting through
10 to deliver the baby, yes.

11 Q Okay. Would it affect your practice here
12 in Norman, Oklahoma, if a -- if you were not able to
13 prescribe opioids to mothers post C-section?

14 MS. HARNESS: I think you're asking her
15 expert questions again.

16 MS. FISCHER: I'm trying to, again, be
17 specific to a specific procedure in her practice
18 here in Norman and not ask the general question. I
19 thought I worked around the objection that you had,
20 Ms. Harness, I'm sorry, asking specific procedures
21 and not being specific to the allegations in the
22 case.

23 MR. LEONOUKAKIS: Objection.

24 THE WITNESS: I can't imagine having a
25 surgery and not having opioids available after

1 surgery. No matter what the surgery is, no matter
2 whether it's a second, third or fourth degree
3 laceration vaginally, I can't imagine that
4 happening.

5 MS. FISCHER: That's all the questions I
6 have. Thank you. Sorry.

7 DIRECT EXAMINATION

8 BY MR. MERKLEY:

9 Q Dr. Ollar-Shoemake, I just have two quick
10 questions. Have you ever been visited by a sales
11 rep for an opioid medication?

12 MR. LEONOUidakis: Objection. Form.

13 THE WITNESS: No.

14 Q (BY MR. MERKLEY) In your 26 years of
15 practice, have you ever been misled by a
16 representative of an opioid manufacturer?

17 MR. LEONOUidakis: Objection. Form.

18 THE WITNESS: No.

19 MR. MERKLEY: Nothing further. Thank you
20 for your time.

21 MR. LEONOUidakis: Pass the witness?

22 MR. MERKLEY: Pass the witness.

23 CROSS-EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. LEONOUidakis:

25 Q Okay. Doctor, my name is Ross

1 Leonoudakis. I represent the state of Oklahoma in
2 this case, and I just have a few follow-up
3 questions.

4 MS. RYAN: Ross, before you start --

5 MR. LEONOUDAKIS: Yeah.

6 MS. RYAN: I don't mean to interrupt you.

7 Can we have an agreement that an objection by one of
8 us is good for all of us?

9 MR. LEONOUDAKIS: Yes, you can.

10 MS. RYAN: Okay. Thank you.

11 Q (BY MR. LEONOUDAKIS) Doctor, who -- who
12 did you meet with to prepare for this deposition
13 today?

14 A My attorney.

15 Q Okay. Did you talk with anybody from any
16 of the defendants' law firms? Do you know?

17 A I talked to Nick.

18 Q Okay. Talk to anybody else?

19 A No.

20 Q What did you and Nick talk about?

21 A He asked me if -- he told me that there
22 was a case that he was involved in involving
23 narcotics, and did I prescribe narcotics, and had I
24 been repped, and I said no, and he said would you
25 testify on our behalf for that reason.

1 Q Okay. Nobody else from Nick's firm called
2 you?

3 A No.

4 Q Okay. And you didn't meet with any of
5 them to prepare for your deposition today?

6 A No.

7 Q Okay. These three lawyers in here
8 represent drug -- opioid manufacturers. Are you
9 aware of that?

10 A Yes.

11 Q And these three defendants have all
12 acknowledged that there's an opioid crisis in this
13 country. Did they tell you that?

14 MR. MERKLEY: Object to the form.

15 MS. RYAN: Objection. Form.

16 MS. FISCHER: Object to the form.

17 MS. HARNESS: Object to the form. She's
18 already testified that she never talked to them
19 except for Nick, and she told you what she talked
20 about. So that question is argumentative with what
21 she's already said. It's an improper question, and
22 I object to the form.

23 Q (BY MR. LEONOUDAKIS) Okay. Did any of
24 these -- has anybody told you that the defendants in
25 this lawsuit are blaming doctors for the opioid

EXHIBIT 34

1 mentioned the word proper prescriber training, but 10:42
2 I believe that vernacular has kind of fallen away. 10:42
3 So I don't -- I don't believe we call it proper 10:42
4 prescriber training anymore. 10:42
5 Q. Okay. Was something like this implemented? 10:42
6 A. Yeah. He did a pain management tool kit, is 10:43
7 what he ended up doing. And that may be from this. 10:43
8 Q. Did you -- okay. Now, flip over to the 10:43
9 module. 10:43
10 A. Uh-huh. 10:43
11 Q. It's titled -- if you can flip over to the -- 10:43
12 no, flip over to the -- yeah, keep going. 10:43
13 A. Okay. Hold on. 10:43
14 Q. Yeah, right there. 10:43
15 A. Right here? Okay. 10:43
16 Q. So it says module 3, controlled substances -- 10:43
17 A. Uh-huh. 10:43
18 Q. -- Burl Beasley. 10:43
19 A. Uh-huh. 10:43
20 Q. Did you author this? 10:43
21 A. I believe I copied this from another module. 10:43
22 I was doing some training at the time. 10:43
23 Q. Okay.
24 A. So I would say no. And I've -- hopefully I 10:43
25 have referenced this in the document somewhere. 10:43

1 There's a bunch of references at the back. 10:43

2 Q. Okay.

3 A. See ASH -- the number 1? And number -- so 10:43

4 there's references there. 10:44

5 Q. Yeah. So you -- 10:44

6 A. So I authored this, but I didn't just pull 10:44

7 all this out. I'm not that smart, you know -- 10:44

8 Q. Right.

9 A. -- to do all this. So I used the references 10:44

10 that are listed to compile this e-mail. 10:44

11 Q. Okay. Fair enough. 10:44

12 A. Okay. 10:44

13 Q. Do you know why it's called module 3? 10:44

14 A. Because it was a training module through the 10:44

15 ASHP, American Society of Hospital Pharmacists. 10:44

16 Since I had just started in 2014, one of the first 10:44

17 things I was charged with was to monitor the opioids 10:44

18 that were being dispensed in Oklahoma. So I wanted 10:44

19 to edge my -- educate myself as to what that would 10:44

20 entail. 10:44

21 Q. And so I guess I'm asking, is there a module 10:44

22 1 and 2? 10:44

23 A. Yes. 10:44

24 Q. What -- what was mod -- what was module 1 and 10:44

25 mod -- module 2? 10:44

EXHIBIT 35

1 at that. If you could mark this as 5, please. Do
2 you want to take a break, Doctor? Are you okay?

3 (Exhibit 5 marked for identification.)

4 A No. I'm good.

5 Q Okay. So this is a section of the
6 Oklahoma Administrative Code. It's Title 17 [sic],
7 Chapter 30, Subchapter 3, Part 1 entitled the
8 "Creation and Implementation of Rules;
9 Applicability." Do you see that?

10 A Yes.

11 Q And it's talking about the Health Care
12 Authority; is that correct?

13 MR. HILL: Objection. Form. Scope.

14 THE WITNESS: Yes.

15 Q (BY MS. KELLY) And if you go down to
16 Subsection D, it says that "Payments to
17 practitioners on behalf of Medicaid eligible
18 individuals," and that would be SoonerCare members;
19 right? Those are the Medicaid eligible individuals?

20 A That's correct.

21 Q "Is made only for services that are
22 medically necessary and essential to the diagnosis
23 and treatment of the patient's presenting problem."
24 Do you see that?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Okay. So that means that any services
2 that the Health Care Authority pays for for
3 SoonerCare members have to be medically necessary;
4 right?

5 MR. HILL: Objection. Scope. Form.

6 THE WITNESS: That's correct.

7 Q (BY MS. KELLY) And when we're talking
8 about medical services, that includes pharmacy
9 benefits; right?

10 A Yes.

11 Q So reimbursing a claim for a prescription
12 would fall within this definition of medical
13 services; right?

14 MR. HILL: Objection. Form. Scope.

15 THE WITNESS: Yes.

16 Q (BY MS. KELLY) And that would include
17 opioid prescriptions; right?

18 A Yes.

19 Q So if the Health Care Authority pays for
20 an opioid prescription for a SoonerCare member, that
21 opioid prescription has to have been medically
22 necessary; correct?

23 MR. HILL: Objection. Form and scope.

24 THE WITNESS: Yes.

25 Q (BY MS. KELLY) Okay. And the services

1 that the Health Care Authority pays for for
2 SoonerCare patients also, as we saw before, have to
3 be essential to the diagnosis and treatment of the
4 patient's presenting problem; right?

5 A Yes.

6 Q So if the Health Care Authority pays for
7 an opioid prescription for a SoonerCare member, that
8 opioid prescription was essential to the treatment
9 of the patient's presenting problem; right?

10 MR. HILL: Objection. Form. Scope.

11 THE WITNESS: By the time it gets to us,
12 we would think that it's medically necessary, yes.

13 Q (BY MS. KELLY) And not just medically
14 necessary, though; right? The rules require that it
15 has to be -- it's medically necessary and essential
16 to the diagnosis and treatment; right?

17 MR. HILL: Objection. Form and scope.

18 THE WITNESS: Uh-huh. That's what it
19 says.

20 Q (BY MS. KELLY) Okay. Who determines
21 whether a service for a SoonerCare patient is
22 medically necessary?

23 MR. HILL: Objection. Form. Scope.

24 THE WITNESS: In my scope for a
25 prescription, it's the physician and the patient.

1 Q So it's up to the Health Care Authority to
2 decide whether the services that it pays for a
3 SoonerCare member are medically necessary; right?

4 MR. HILL: Objection. Form and scope.

5 THE WITNESS: Yes.

6 Q (BY MS. KELLY) And it's only the Health
7 Care Authority that can make that decision under
8 what we just read; right?

9 MR. HILL: Objection. Form and scope.

10 THE WITNESS: In this context, yes.

11 Q (BY MS. KELLY) Okay. So the Health Care
12 Authority only pays for medically-necessary
13 prescriptions for SoonerCare patients; right?

14 MR. HILL: Objection. Form and scope.

15 THE WITNESS: I would like to think so,
16 yes.

17 Q (BY MS. KELLY) Well, we know so because
18 we just looked at the law that says that's all they
19 can do, right?

20 A Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

21 MR. HILL: Objection. Form and scope.

22 That's a different question.

23 Q (BY MS. KELLY) Right?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Okay. And that includes prescription

1 opioids; right?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Okay. So the Health Care Authority only
4 pays for medically-necessary opioid prescriptions
5 for SoonerCare patients; right?

6 MR. HILL: Objection. Form and scope.
7 Duplicative.

8 THE WITNESS: Say that again.

9 Q (BY MS. KELLY) The Health Care Authority
10 only pays for medically-necessary opioid
11 prescriptions for SoonerCare patients; right?

12 MR. HILL: Objection. Form. Scope.

13 THE WITNESS: By the time it gets to us,
14 we would think that it is medically necessary.

15 Q (BY MS. KELLY) Well, it's not just that
16 you would think that. As we looked, it says the
17 services provided shall meet -- shall meet medical
18 necessity criteria; right?

19 A We said that --

20 MR. HILL: Objection. Form. Scope.
21 Argumentative at this point. He's answered your
22 question.

23 THE WITNESS: Yes.

24 Q (BY MS. KELLY) Okay. So for every
25 prescription for -- for every opioid prescription

1 for a SoonerCare patient that the Health Care
2 Authority has paid for, the Health Care Authority
3 has made the determination that that prescription
4 was medically necessary; correct?

5 A Yes.

6 MR. HILL: Objection. Form and scope.

7 Q (BY MS. KELLY) And that's been true from
8 1996 through today?

9 MR. HILL: Objection. Form and scope.

10 THE WITNESS: I wasn't at the Health Care
11 Authority before then, but I would assume so if
12 it's --

13 Q (BY MS. KELLY) Okay. Who at the Health
14 Care Authority makes the decision that services like
15 pharmacy benefits, and we'll talk about that
16 specifically, are medically necessary?

17 A Can you repeat the question?

18 Q Sure.

19 A I'm not sure I understand what -- what
20 you're asking.

21 Q Who within the -- well, let's go back and
22 take a look at this, and you'll see -- which is
23 Exhibit 5. It says "Medical necessity is
24 established through consideration of the following
25 standards"; right?

1 A Uh-huh. Yeah.

2 Q And then if you flip over and it lists six
3 different standards; correct?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Who is responsible within the Health Care
6 Authority for making sure that the claims that the
7 Health Care Authority determines are medically
8 necessary and that it therefore reimburses are
9 considered in light of these six standards?

10 MR. HILL: Objection. Form. Vague.

11 THE WITNESS: I think everybody at the
12 Health Care Authority.

13 THE COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry?

14 THE WITNESS: Everybody at the Health Care
15 Authority --

16 THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you.

17 THE WITNESS: -- would be responsible.

18 Q (BY MS. KELLY) Is there something other
19 than these six standards that the Health Care
20 Authority uses to determine whether a service for a
21 SoonerCare patient is medically necessary?

22 MR. HILL: Objection. Scope. Form.

23 THE WITNESS: I don't know.

24 Q (BY MS. KELLY) If the Health Care
25 Authority determines that a service, including a

1 A That's correct.

2 Q -- which oversees Pharmacy Management
3 Consultants who does these prior authorizations;
4 right?

5 A That's correct. Yes.

6 Q And testifying here today on behalf of the
7 state, you can't identify any specific example where
8 the Health Care Authority reimbursed a claim for
9 prescription opioid, and then went back and
10 determined that, in fact, that claim was medically
11 unnecessary, can you?

12 MR. HILL: Objection. Form and scope.
13 You're outside of your topics. He's made a very
14 reasonable effort to come here prepared to testify
15 about the topics that you identified. To the extent
16 you personally can answer that question, you can try
17 to do so.

18 THE WITNESS: I conducted an audit of
19 topical compounded claims. We were spending
20 \$100,000 a month on creams and lotions and potions
21 that are put on your skin, and of those, several of
22 them contained opioids. Now, it might not have been
23 OxyContin, but it was morphine or an opioid. So we
24 put systems in place that disallowed those kinds of
25 claims. So there are things that we have done.

1 Specifically to you and this lawsuit, no, but there
2 are things that we have done.

3 Q (BY MS. KELLY) And when the Health Care
4 Authority suspects that there are medically -- a
5 large number of medically unnecessary claims being
6 submitted, it can conduct things like the audit you
7 just described; right?

8 MR. HILL: Objection. Form.

9 THE WITNESS: When we know of it, we
10 could.

11 Q (BY MS. KELLY) Okay. And to date, you
12 haven't done anything like that related to
13 prescription opioids; is that fair to say?

14 A Not to my knowledge.

15 MR. HILL: Objection. Form and scope.

16 Q (BY MS. KELLY) And the Health Care
17 Authority is obviously aware? You're here today
18 testifying for them about the lawsuit that's been
19 brought in this case; right?

20 A Yes.

21 MR. HILL: Objection. Form.

22 Q (BY MS. KELLY) Has the Health Care
23 Authority as a result of what's being alleged in
24 this lawsuit undertaken an audit to go back and
25 review opioid prescription claims that it has

1 previously approved?

2 MR. HILL: Objection. Form and scope.
3 You're asking about the Health Care Authority or the
4 state?

5 MS. KELLY: Health Care Authority.

6 MR. HILL: Same objection.

7 THE WITNESS: We haven't gone back
8 retrospectively, but we're putting in morphine
9 milligram equivalent edits starting this month. So
10 going back and looking and recouping our money, no.

11 Q (BY MS. KELLY) Why not?

12 A Probably resources --

13 MR. HILL: Objection. Form and scope.

14 THE WITNESS: -- time, the effort. We
15 just said a million scripts to look at. We've got
16 to figure out somebody to compile that data and
17 figure out where the fraud is, and then go back and
18 recoup that money. So I would think that would be
19 something that Program Integrity would do or Quality
20 Assurance in assistance with the Pharmacy
21 Department.

22 Q (BY MS. KELLY) And has that process been
23 started?

24 MR. HILL: Objection. Form and scope.

25 THE WITNESS: We have not undertaken that

1 effort to my knowledge.

2 Q (BY MS. KELLY) Has there been a
3 discussion about starting that process?

4 MR. HILL: Objection. Form.

5 THE WITNESS: No, there has not.

6 Q (BY MS. KELLY) Why not?

7 MR. HILL: Objection. Form and scope.

8 THE WITNESS: I think we are just trying
9 to, like I said earlier, whack-a-mole. We are a
10 payer, so we are not the ones to decide what
11 physicians prescribe. So going back and looking at
12 all those diagnoses and claims data would take time
13 and resources that frankly we don't have right now.
14 Could it be done? Yes. Has anybody done it yet?
15 No.

16 Q (BY MS. KELLY) And to your knowledge,
17 there's been no discussion about doing that; right?

18 A No.

19 MR. HILL: Objection. Form and scope.

20 Q (BY MS. KELLY) You said when you were
21 talking about the topical compounded creams --

22 A Yes.

23 Q -- that there were -- you guys put systems
24 in place --

25 A Yes.

1 Q Okay. What was the active pharmaceutical
2 ingredient that you were looking at to determine
3 whether it was in these creams?

4 A There were several. Gabapentin was one.
5 Clonidine was another. Estradiol was another. I
6 believe testosterone was another. So there were
7 several, and so what pharmacies were doing were just
8 dumping all these into a tub and mixing them and
9 saying put this on. So if you're getting a cream
10 for clonidine and you have high blood pressure, now
11 you've put something for high blood pressure on your
12 skin. So now you may have possibly an interaction
13 with what you're taking orally. So you go to a
14 pharmacy and get your tub of cream, and then you go
15 to Walmart and get your blood pressure medicine, and
16 they don't talk to each other. So that was the
17 patient safety issue.

18 Q And so was this audit retrospective in
19 that you were looking at prior claims that were
20 paid, and then there were also prospective steps
21 taken in that you were not going to be paying for
22 these creams going forward?

23 A That's correct.

24 Q Okay. Did all of these compounded creams
25 contain opioids? I know you mentioned some of them

1 did.

2 A Not all of them, no.

3 Q Okay. Were any -- do you know whether any
4 of the compounded creams in your audit that were
5 found to be medically unnecessary contain an API
6 that was manufactured by any of the defendants in
7 this lawsuit, Teva, Purdue, and Janssen?

8 A I did not look at drug manufacturers.

9 Q Okay. And you understand that one of the
10 topics that you're testifying about here today as a
11 representative of the state, it's actually Topic 9,
12 is the administration of any pharmacy benefit
13 program by you or on your behalf; right?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And so you're testifying on behalf of
16 SoonerCare about that; right?

17 A Yes.

18 Q In your capacity as the state's
19 representative about the administration of any
20 pharmacy benefit program, are you aware of any
21 prescription that was reimbursed by the state of
22 Oklahoma prior to today for an opioid manufactured
23 by either Purdue, Janssen, or Teva that has since
24 been determined to be medically unnecessary?

25 MR. HILL: Objection. Form.

1 THE WITNESS: Not that I know of.

2 Q (BY MS. KELLY) Okay. We were talking
3 about Exhibit 20 before we took a break. Do you
4 still have that in front of you, Doctor?

5 (Exhibit 20 marked for identification.)

6 A Yes.

7 Q And that is a petition for medication
8 prior authorization. Do you see that?

9 A Yes.

10 Q That's another one of the prior
11 authorization forms that the Health Care Authority
12 uses; right?

13 A It is Pharm-4, the generic prior
14 authorization form.

15 Q Okay. And the Health Care Authority sets
16 what information has to go in this prior
17 authorization form; right? That's up to the Health
18 Care Authority?

19 A That's correct.

20 Q So for example, this generic form includes
21 the name of the medication; right?

22 A Yes.

23 Q It includes the strength of the
24 medication; right?

25 A Yes.

1 Q That's sometimes referred to as the dose?
2 Well, no. You know what? It's not referred to as
3 the dose, so let me strike that. It includes the
4 fill quantity; right?

5 A Yes.

6 Q The day's supply; right?

7 A Yes.

8 Q The prescriber name; correct?

9 A Yes.

10 Q The diagnosis; correct?

11 A Yes.

12 Q What happens if the person submitting this
13 form does not complete all of the information that's
14 requested?

15 A I believe it's marked as incomplete.

16 Q Okay. This also asks the doctor to list
17 previous Tier 1 or OTC trials; right?

18 A Correct.

19 Q This form doesn't require a doctor to
20 enter their DEA number, does it?

21 A No.

22 Q Are you familiar with the fact that for
23 Schedule II drugs, doctors have to register with --
24 or I guess I should say prescribers have to register
25 with the DEA before they can prescribe Schedule II