



1 court convened on the record to report the status of the case and the interim plan to move  
2 forward. Those matters are as follows:

3 **1. Master Pleadings**

4 The Master Consolidated Complaint and the Master Consolidated Short Form  
5 Complaint (collectively, “Complaints”) were both approved by the Court on December 2,  
6 2013. (Doc. No. 203). Pursuant to the Court’s December 2, 2013 Order, Defendants  
7 filed their Master Answers on December 31, 2013. (Doc. Nos. 237, 238, 240, 241.) The  
8 parties have conferred regarding a Case Management Order to complement the Master  
9 Answers and address issues regarding service of the Complaints filed directly in the  
10 MDL. The parties will submit a proposed order detailing the agreed upon procedures  
11 shortly.

12 **2. Case Management Schedule**

13 The parties have conferred, and are continuing to confer, on an overall case  
14 management schedule to govern this litigation. The Court recently agreed to extend the  
15 time for the parties to reach agreement or, alternatively, to apprise the Court of their  
16 respective positions. The deadline in this regard is now *February 10, 2014*. To the  
17 extent the parties can reach agreement or articulate their positions prior to the Science  
18 Days, the Court will convene a Case Management Conference on *February 7, 2014 at*  
19 *9:00 a.m.* to enter an appropriate scheduling order. To the extent the parties are unable to  
20 submit either a joint motion or their respective positions by the Science Days, the  
21 deadline for the parties’ respective submissions remains *February 10, 2014*, and the  
22 Court will hold a telephonic Status Conference on *February 18, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.*  
23 Plaintiffs’ counsel is directed to make arrangements for the February 18, 2014 conference  
24 call, which be held regardless of whether the Court enters a scheduling order prior to this  
25 date.

26 **3. Science Days**

27 The parties have agreed on an agenda for Science Days, which will be held on  
28 February 5 and 6, 2014. (Doc. No. 258.) The parties will continue to refine their

1 positions with regard to the necessary time allotment for each party on each topic. To the  
2 extent all of the necessary topics cannot be adequately covered in the time allotted, the  
3 Court will convene further sessions as appropriate.

4 **4. Discovery Disputes**

5 Judge Dembin has resolved each of the parties' disputes submitted to date. Judge  
6 Highberger reported no tensions between discovery related matters in the JCCP and the  
7 MDL proceedings pending in this Court.

8 **5. JCCP**

9 Judge Highberger provided a report on the status of the cases in the Los Angeles  
10 County JCCP. This included a trial scheduled to commence on February 18, 2014  
11 regarding pancreatitis. Judge Highberger will participate in the Science Days, but will  
12 defer participating in future Case Management Conferences until issues warrant.

13 **6. Thyroid Cancer Cases**

14 There are now thirty-five (35) cases involving thyroid cancer pending in the  
15 Southern District of California involving Defendants Eli Lilly and Amylin. There is a  
16 potential that this number may grow to something in the hundreds (100s). Counsel are  
17 conferring with regard to consolidation of those cases by low number, or the potential to  
18 file a motion before the JPML to join those cases with the MDL. The Court will continue  
19 to monitor counsels' progress in this regard to ensure a plan is soon in place. In the  
20 meantime, any new thyroid cancer cases filed in the Southern District of California  
21 cannot be filed directly in the MDL, and must have independent subject matter jurisdic-  
22 tion in this court.

23 **7. Other Matters**

24 The Court asked counsel for information regarding the recent filing of several  
25 cases against AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals and Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, which  
26 allege pancreatic cancer as a result of the use of the drug Onglyzer. Counsel were able to  
27 report that there are a small number of these cases, that Onglyzer is an Incretin Mimetic  
28 type drug, and pancreatic cancer is the only claimed injury. Whether these cases will be

1 joined with the MDL, or handled by separate low number consolidation, is currently  
2 being discussed by counsel. This issued will be addressed again at the next status  
3 conference. Counsel also reported that there are approximately fourteen (14) drugs on  
4 the market that have the same six (6) ingredients that allegedly caused the injuries  
5 claimed in these cases. This may mean that additional drugs and/or defendants will  
6 become related, consolidated, or member cases at some point. The Court will continue to  
7 monitor the filing of new cases and will look to counsel for further status on these matters  
8 as the case proceeds.

9 **8. Upcoming Case Management and Status Conferences**

10 A Case Management Conference is tentatively scheduled for *February 7, 2014 at*  
11 *9:00 a.m. in Courtroom 3B*. The February 7, 2014 Case Management Conference will  
12 proceed if counsel has been able to submit a joint case management plan or their disputed  
13 alternatives before the start of Science Days. The Court is also calendaring the next  
14 Status Conference for *February 18, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.* The Status Conference will be  
15 held telephonically in order to resolve case management issues and otherwise discuss the  
16 status of the case.

17  
18 IT IS SO ORDERED.

19 DATED: January 17, 2014

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22 Hon. Anthony J. Battaglia  
23 U.S. District Judge  
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