

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

BAYER INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY)
GMBH, BAYER AG and)
JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.,)
)
Plaintiffs,)
)
 v.) C.A. No. _____
)
ACCORD HEALTHCARE, INC.,)
ACCORD HEALTHCARE LIMITED and)
INTAS PHARMACEUTICALS LIMITED,)
)
Defendants.)

COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs Bayer Intellectual Property GmbH (“BIP”), Bayer AG (Bayer AG and BIP are collectively referred to herein as “Bayer”), and Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (“Janssen”) (Bayer and Janssen are collectively referred to herein as “Plaintiffs”), by their attorneys, for their Complaint, hereby allege as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is an action for patent infringement under the patent laws of the United States, Title 35, United States Code, that arises out of the submission by Accord Healthcare Inc., Accord Healthcare Ltd., and Intas Pharmaceuticals, Ltd. of an Abbreviated New Drug Application (“ANDA”) to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) seeking approval to engage in the commercial manufacture, use, offer for sale, sale, and/or importation of generic versions of Plaintiffs’ XARELTO® products prior to the expiration of U.S. Patent No. 9,539,218.

THE PARTIES

Plaintiffs

2. Plaintiff Bayer Intellectual Property GmbH is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Federal Republic of Germany, with a place of business at Alfred-Nobel-Strasse 10, 40789 Monheim am Rhein, Germany.

3. Plaintiff Bayer AG is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Federal Republic of Germany, with a place of business at Kaiser-Wilhelm-Allee 1, 51368 Leverkusen, Germany.

4. Plaintiff Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, with a place of business at 1125 Trenton-Harbourton Road, Titusville, New Jersey.

Defendants

5. On information and belief, Defendant Accord Healthcare Inc. (“Accord Inc.”) is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of North Carolina, with a place of business at 1009 Slater Road, Suite 210-B, Durham, North Carolina 27703.

6. Upon information and belief, defendant Accord Healthcare Limited (“Accord Ltd.”) is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of India, having a place of business at Corporate House, Nr. Sola Bridge, S. G. Highway, Thaltej Ahmedabad – 380 054, India.

7. On information and belief, Defendant Intas Pharmaceuticals Limited (“Intas”) is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of India, with a place of business at Chinubhai Centre, Off. Nehru Bridge, Ashram Road, Ahmedabad 380009, Gujarat, India.

8. On information and belief, Accord Inc. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Intas, and is controlled and dominated by Intas.

9. On information and belief, Accord Ltd. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Intas, and is controlled and dominated by Intas.

10. On information and belief, Intas is in the business of, among other things, manufacturing, marketing, distributing, offering for sale, and selling generic drug products. As a part of this business, on information and belief, Accord Inc., acting in concert with Intas and/or Accord Ltd., files ANDAs with the FDA seeking approval to engage in the commercial manufacture, use, offer for sale, sale, and/or importation of generic versions of drug products that are covered by United States patents. On information and belief, as part of these ANDAs, Accord Inc., acting in concert with Intas and/or Accord Ltd., files certifications of the type described in Section 505(j)(2)(A)(vii)(IV) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (“Paragraph IV Certifications”) to engage in the commercial manufacture, use, offer for sale, sale, and/or importation of generic drug products prior to the expiration of United States patents that cover such products.

11. On information and belief, Accord Inc., Accord Ltd., and/or Intas acted in concert to prepare and submit ANDA No. 213340 for Accord Inc.’s 10 mg, 15 mg, and 20 mg rivaroxaban tablets (“Accord’s ANDA Products”), which was done at the direction of, under the control of, and for the direct benefit of Accord Ltd. and/or Intas.

12. On information and belief, Accord Inc., Accord Ltd., and/or Intas are agents of one another, and/or operate in concert as integrated parts of the same business group, and enter into agreements with each other that are nearer than arm’s length, including with respect to the development, regulatory approval, marketing, sale, offer for sale, and distribution

of generic pharmaceutical products throughout the United States, including into Delaware, and including with respect to Accord's ANDA Products at issue.

13. On information and belief, following any FDA approval of ANDA No. 213340, Accord Inc., Accord Ltd., and/or Intas will act in concert to market, distribute, offer for sale, and sell Accord's ANDA Products throughout the United States and within Delaware. These three entities are hereafter collectively referred to as "Accord."

14. On information and belief, following any FDA approval of ANDA No. 213340, Accord knows and intends that Accord's ANDA Products will be marketed, used, distributed, offered for sale, and sold in the United States and within Delaware.

JURISDICTION

15. Plaintiffs incorporate each of the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

16. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1338(a), 2201, and 2202.

17. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Accord Inc., Accord Ltd., and Intas because, among other things, on information and belief: (1) Accord Inc., acting in concert with Accord Ltd. and/or Intas, has filed an ANDA for the purpose of seeking approval to engage in the commercial manufacture, use, offer for sale, sale, and/or importation of Accord's ANDA Products in the United States, including in Delaware; and (2) Accord Inc., Accord Ltd., and/or Intas, acting in concert and/or as agents of one another, will market, distribute, offer for sale, and/or sell Accord's ANDA Products in the United States, including in Delaware, upon approval of ANDA No. 213340, and will derive substantial revenue from the use or consumption of Accord's ANDA Products in the State of Delaware. On information and belief, if ANDA No.

213340 is approved, the generic Accord products charged with infringing the '218 patent would, among other things, be marketed, distributed, offered for sale, and/or sold in Delaware, prescribed by physicians practicing in Delaware, and dispensed by pharmacies located within Delaware, and/or used by patients in Delaware, all of which would have a substantial effect on Delaware.

18. Alternatively, if Accord Ltd.'s connections with Delaware, including its connections with Accord Inc., are found to be insufficient to confer personal jurisdiction, then, upon information and belief, Accord Ltd. is not subject to jurisdiction in any state's courts of general jurisdiction, and exercising jurisdiction over Accord Ltd. in Delaware is consistent with the United States Constitution and laws. *See Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(k)(2).*

19. Alternatively, if Intas's connections with Delaware, including its connections with Accord Inc., are found to be insufficient to confer personal jurisdiction, then, upon information and belief, Intas is not subject to jurisdiction in any state's courts of general jurisdiction, and exercising jurisdiction over Intas in Delaware is consistent with the United States Constitution and laws. *See Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(k)(2).*

20. Upon information and belief, Accord Inc. and Intas have consented to jurisdiction in Delaware in one or more prior cases arising out of the filing of its ANDAs, and have filed counterclaims in such cases.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

21. XARELTO® (active ingredient rivaroxaban) is a factor Xa inhibitor indicated: (i) to reduce the risk of stroke and systemic embolism in patients with nonvalvular atrial fibrillation; (ii) for the treatment of deep vein thrombosis (DVT); (iii) for the treatment of pulmonary embolism (PE); (iv) for the reduction in the risk of recurrence of DVT and/or PE in

patients at continued risk for recurrent DVT and/or PE after completion of initial treatment lasting at least 6 months; (v) for the prophylaxis of DVT, which may lead to PE in patients undergoing knee or hip replacement surgery; and (vi) in combination with aspirin, to reduce the risk of major cardiovascular events (cardiovascular (CV) death, myocardial infarction (MI) and stroke) in patients with chronic coronary artery disease (CAD) or peripheral artery disease (PAD). XARELTO® is available as tablets in 2.5 mg, 10 mg, 15 mg, and 20 mg dosage strengths.

22. Janssen is the holder of New Drug Application No. 022406 for XARELTO®, which has been approved by the FDA.

23. U.S. Patent No. 9,539,218 (“the ’218 patent”), entitled “Prevention and Treatment of Thromboembolic Disorders,” was duly and legally issued on January 10, 2017. The ’218 patent is attached as Exhibit A.

24. As set forth in greater detail in the ’218 patent, the claims of the ’218 patent, incorporated by reference herein, cover certain methods involving rivaroxaban. For example, claim 1 recites, “A method of treating a thromboembolic disorder comprising administering a direct factor Xa inhibitor that is 5-Chloro-N-((5S)-2-oxo-3-[4-(3-oxo-4-morpholinyl)phenyl]-1,3-oxazolidin-5-yl)methyl)-2-thiophenecarboxamide no more than once daily for at least five consecutive days in a rapid-release tablet to a patient in need thereof, wherein the thromboembolic disorder is selected from the group consisting of pulmonary embolisms, deep vein thromboses, and stroke.”

25. BIP is the assignee of the ’218 patent.

26. Bayer AG is an exclusive licensee under the ’218 patent.

27. Janssen is an exclusive sublicensee under the ’218 patent.

28. Pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 355, the '218 patent is listed in the Approved Drug Products with Therapeutic Equivalence Evaluations ("the Orange Book") in connection with XARELTO® tablets in 10 mg, 15 mg, and 20 mg dosage strengths.

Infringement by Defendants

29. By letter dated May 24, 2019 (the "Accord Notice Letter"), Accord notified BIP and Janssen, among others, that Accord had submitted to the FDA ANDA No. 213340 for Accord's ANDA Products. These products are generic versions of XARELTO®.

30. In the Accord Notice Letter, Accord stated that Accord's ANDA Products contain rivaroxaban.

31. In the Accord Notice Letter, Accord stated that the dosage form of Accord's ANDA Products is tablets. On information and belief, the dosage form of Accord's ANDA Products satisfies the "rapid-release tablet" requirement of claim 1 of the '218 patent.

32. On information and belief, the proposed labeling for Accord's ANDA Products directs the use of Accord's ANDA Products for one or more of the following indications: (i) to reduce the risk of stroke and systemic embolism in patients with nonvalvular atrial fibrillation; (ii) for the treatment of deep vein thrombosis (DVT); (iii) for the treatment of pulmonary embolism (PE); (iv) for the reduction in the risk of recurrence DVT and/or PE in patients at continued risk for recurrent DVT and/or PE after completion of initial treatment lasting at least 6 months; and (v) for the prophylaxis of DVT, which may lead to PE in patients undergoing knee or hip replacement surgery. On information and belief, the proposed labeling for Accord's ANDA Products further directs the use of Accord's ANDA Products in a manner that satisfies the "no more than once daily for at least five consecutive days" requirement of claim 1 of the '218 patent.

33. In the Notice Letter, Accord did not substantively contest infringement of any claim of the '218 patent.

34. On information and belief, the manufacture, use (including in accordance with and as directed by Accord's proposed labeling for Accord's ANDA Products), offer for sale, sale, marketing, distribution, and/or importation of Accord's ANDA Products will infringe at least claim 1 of the '218 patent.

35. In the Accord Notice Letter, Accord indicated that, in connection with its ANDA No. 213340, Accord had filed a Paragraph IV Certification with respect to the '218 patent.

36. The purpose of ANDA No. 213340 was to obtain approval under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to engage in the commercial manufacture, use, offer for sale, and/or sale of Accord's ANDA Products with their proposed labeling prior to the expiration of the '218 patent.

37. Accord intends to engage in the manufacture, use, offer for sale, sale, marketing, distribution, and/or importation of Accord's ANDA Products with their proposed labeling immediately and imminently upon approval of ANDA No. 213340, *i.e.*, prior to the expiration of the '218 patent.

38. Accord has knowledge of the claims of the '218 patent. Notwithstanding this knowledge, Accord has continued to assert its intent to engage in the manufacture, use, offer for sale, sale, marketing, distribution, and/or importation of Accord's ANDA Products with their proposed labeling immediately and imminently upon approval of ANDA No. 213340. On information and belief, by such activities, Accord specifically intends to infringe the '218 patent.

39. On information and belief, Accord plans and intends to, and will, actively induce infringement of the '218 patent when its ANDA is approved, and plans and intends to, and will, do so immediately and imminently upon approval.

40. On information and belief, Accord knows that Accord's ANDA Products are especially made or adapted for use in infringing the '218 patent, and that Accord's ANDA Products are not suitable for substantial noninfringing use. On information and belief, Accord plans and intends to, and will, contribute to infringement of the '218 patent immediately and imminently upon approval of ANDA No. 213340.

41. The foregoing actions by Accord constitute and/or will constitute infringement of the '218 patent, active inducement of infringement of the '218 patent, and/or contribution to the infringement by others of the '218 patent.

42. An actual case or controversy exists between Plaintiffs and Accord with respect to infringement of the '218 patent.

43. This action is being commenced before the expiration of forty-five days from the date BIP and Janssen received the Accord Notice Letter.

**CLAIM FOR RELIEF
(Infringement of the '218 Patent)**

44. Plaintiffs incorporate each of the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

45. Accord's submission of ANDA No. 213340 for the purpose of obtaining approval to engage in the commercial manufacture, use, offer for sale, and/or sale of Accord's ANDA Products was an act of infringement of the '218 patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(e)(2).

46. On information and belief, Accord has made, and will continue to make, substantial preparation in the United States to manufacture, use, sell, offer to sell, and/or import Accord's ANDA Products with their proposed labeling prior to the expiration of the '218 patent.

47. Accord intends to engage in the manufacture, use, offer for sale, sale, marketing, distribution, and/or importation of Accord's ANDA Products with their proposed labeling immediately and imminently upon approval of ANDA No. 213340, *i.e.*, prior to the expiration of the '218 patent.

48. The foregoing actions by Accord constitute and/or will constitute infringement of the '218 patent, active inducement of infringement of the '218 patent, and/or contribution to the infringement by others of the '218 patent.

49. Unless Accord is enjoined from infringing the '218 patent, actively inducing infringement of the '218 patent, and contributing to the infringement by others of the '218 patent, Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable injury. Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs request the following relief:

(a) A judgment that Accord has infringed the '218 patent;

(b) A judgment ordering that the effective date of any FDA approval for Accord to make, use, offer for sale, sell, market, distribute, or import Accord's ANDA Products, or any product or compound the use of which infringes the '218 patent, be no earlier than the expiration date of the '218 patent, inclusive of any extension(s) and additional period(s) of exclusivity;

(c) A preliminary and permanent injunction enjoining Accord, and all persons acting in concert with Accord, from making, using, selling, offering for sale, marketing, distributing, or importing Accord's ANDA Products, or any product or compound the use of

which infringes the '218 patent, or the inducement of or the contribution to any of the foregoing, prior to the expiration date of the '218 patent, inclusive of any extension(s) and additional period(s) of exclusivity;

- (d) A declaration that this is an exceptional case and an award of attorneys' fees for Plaintiffs pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 285;
- (e) An award of Plaintiffs' costs and expenses in this action; and
- (f) Such further and other relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

MORRIS, NICHOLS, ARSHT & TUNNELL LLP

/s/ Jack B. Blumenfeld

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