

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE**

BAYER HEALTHCARE PHARMACEUTICALS
INC.; BAYER PHARMA
AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT; and BAYER
AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT

Case No. _____

Plaintiffs,

v.

SABA ILAC SANAYI VE TICARET A. S.,

Defendant.

**COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT AND FOR DECLARATORY
JUDGMENT OF PATENT INFRINGEMENT**

Plaintiffs Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals Inc., Bayer Pharma Aktiengesellschaft (“Bayer Pharma AG”), and Bayer Aktiengesellschaft (“Bayer AG”) (collectively, “Bayer” or “Plaintiffs”), for their Complaint against Defendant SABA Ilac Sanayi ve Ticaret A. S. (“SABA” or “Defendant”), hereby allege as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is an action for patent infringement and for a declaratory judgment of patent infringement of United States Patent No. RE49,826 (the “RE’826 Patent”). This action arises out of SABA filing or causing to be filed Abbreviated New Drug Application No. 220708 (“SABA’s ANDA”) with the United States Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) for approval to market a generic version of Bayer’s KERENDIA®, (finerenone) drug product. Through SABA’s ANDA, SABA seeks approval to market a generic version of the pharmaceutical product KERENDIA® before the expiration of the RE’826 Patent. This action also arises out of SABA’s current and/or imminent manufacture, use, sale, offer to sell within the United States, and/or importation to the

United States of SABA's generic version of the pharmaceutical product KERENDIA®. A true and correct copy of the RE'826 Patent is attached as Exhibit A. Plaintiffs seek injunctive relief precluding infringement, attorneys' fees, costs and expenses, and any other relief the Court deems just and proper.

THE PARTIES

2. Plaintiff Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals Inc. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware and has a principal place of business at 100 Bayer Blvd., Whippany, NJ 07981.

3. Plaintiff Bayer Pharma AG is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Germany and has a principal place of business at Müllerstrasse 178, 13353 Berlin, Germany.

4. Plaintiff Bayer AG is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Germany and has a principal place of business at Kaiser-Wilhelm-Allee 1, 51368 Leverkusen, Germany. Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals Inc. and Bayer Pharma AG are wholly owned subsidiaries of Bayer AG.

5. Bayer is a pioneering pharmaceutical company that aims to develop therapies and treatments that can help prevent, treat, or potentially cure diseases. Bayer is committed to the discovery and development of new therapies that improve the health of millions of patients around the world. Guided by science and Bayer's commitment to patients, Bayer strives to address the individual needs of patients in order to achieve improved and sustainable health for all. By unlocking previously undruggable targets and applying breakthrough technologies, Bayer is challenging the limitations of medical treatment. Through this approach, Bayer has become a global leader in treating and preventing cardiovascular disease.

6. On information and belief, Defendant SABA is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Turkey, having a principal place of business at Halkali Merkez Mah. Basin Ekspres Cad. No:1 34303, Kucukcekmece, Istanbul, Turkey, as indicated on page 1 of its Paragraph IV Notice Letter.

7. On information and belief, Defendant SABA is a subsidiary of EastPharma S.a.r.l. Exhibit B at 8 (available at https://www.eastpharmaltd.com/uploads/mali_tablolar/FYLk5ZoBepo1ACIerDTd.pdf). On information and belief, SABA's ultimate parent company is EastPharma Ltd. *Id.*

8. On information and belief, Defendant SABA, directly or through one or more of its wholly-owned subsidiaries and/or agents, develops, manufactures, markets, distributes, imports, offers for sale, and/or sells generic versions of branded pharmaceutical products throughout the United States, including in Delaware.

9. On information and belief, SABA prepared and submitted SABA's ANDA and continues to seek FDA approval of that application.

10. On information and belief, SABA intends to commercially manufacture, market, offer for sale, and sell the product described in SABA's ANDA ("SABA's ANDA Product") throughout the United States, including in the State of Delaware, in the event the FDA approves SABA's ANDA.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

11. This is a civil action for patent infringement and declaratory judgment of infringement of U.S. Patent No. RE49,826. This action arises under the patent laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. §§ 100 *et seq.*, and under the Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201 *et seq.*

12. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1338(a), 2201-02, and 35 U.S.C. § 271.

13. Venue is proper in this Court as to SABA under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(c)(3) because SABA is a foreign corporation and may be sued in any judicial district in the United States where SABA is subject to the court's personal jurisdiction. For reasons set forth below, SABA is subject to personal jurisdiction in this district.

14. This Court has personal jurisdiction over SABA, and venue is proper as to SABA, at least because, upon information and belief, SABA: (1) has purposely availed itself of the privilege of doing business in Delaware, directly or indirectly through its subsidiaries, agents, and/or alter egos; (2) maintains pervasive, continuous, and systematic contacts with Delaware, including the marketing, distribution, and/or sale of generic pharmaceutical products in Delaware; (3) derives substantial revenue from the sale of its products in Delaware; and (4) intends to, directly or indirectly through its subsidiaries, agents, and/or alter egos, market, sell, or distribute SABA's ANDA Product for which it seeks approval under SABA's ANDA, including throughout Delaware.

15. This Court has personal jurisdiction over SABA for at least the additional reason that it has availed itself of the legal protections of Delaware by previously consenting to personal jurisdiction and asserting counterclaims in this Judicial District. *See, e.g., Arbor Pharmaceuticals, LLC, et al. v. Saba Ilac Sanayi ve Ticaret AS*, No. 1-22-cv-00353 (D. Del.).

16. Alternatively, this Court may exercise jurisdiction over SABA pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(k)(2) because (1) Bayer's claims arise under federal law; (2) SABA is a foreign defendant not subject to personal jurisdiction in any state's court of general jurisdiction; and (3) SABA has sufficient contacts with the United States as a whole, including but not limited to

preparing and submitting numerous ANDAs to the FDA and manufacturing, importing, offering to sell, or selling generic pharmaceutical products distributed throughout the United States, such that this Court's exercise of jurisdiction over SABA satisfies due process.

17. On information and belief, SABA filed or caused to be filed SABA's ANDA with the FDA.

18. On information and belief, SABA maintains distribution channels for the commercial supply of generic drugs, including on information belief SABA's ANDA Product, throughout the United States, including in Delaware.

BAYER'S APPROVED KERENDIA® AND THE RE'826 PATENT

19. Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals Inc. holds New Drug Application ("NDA") No. 215341 on KERENDIA®, which the FDA approved on July 9, 2021. The FDA also granted five years of regulatory exclusivity on KERENDIA® for a new chemical entity pursuant to 21 C.F.R. § 314.108, which regulatory exclusivity expires on July 9, 2026. Bayer markets and sells products that are the subject of NDA No. 215341 in the United States under the brand name KERENDIA®.

20. KERENDIA® (finerenone) is a non-steroidal mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist (nsMRA) indicated to reduce the risk of: sustained estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) decline, end stage kidney disease, cardiovascular death, non-fatal myocardial infarction, and hospitalization for heart failure in adult patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) associated with type 2 diabetes (T2DM); and cardiovascular death, hospitalization for heart failure, and urgent heart failure visits in adult patients with heart failure with left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) ≥40%. A true and correct copy of the prescribing information for KERENDIA® is attached as Exhibit C.

21. The prescribing information for KERENDIA® instructs that each KERENDIA® tablet contains “10 mg, 20 mg, or 40 mg of finerenone” which “is a white to yellow crystalline powder.” Exhibit C at Section 11.

22. Pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 355(b)(1), the RE’826 Patent is listed in the FDA’s publication titled Approved Drug Products with Therapeutic Equivalence Evaluations (commonly referred to as the “Orange Book”) as covering KERENDIA®.

23. The RE’826 Patent was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (“USPTO”) on February 6, 2024, and is titled “Method for the preparation of (4S)-4-(4-cyano-2-methoxyphenyl)-5-ethoxy-2,8-dimethyl-1,4-dihydro-1,6-naphthyridine-3-carboxamide and the purification thereof for use as an active pharmaceutical ingredient.” Ex. A. The RE’826 patent will expire on July 29, 2035.

24. RE’826 Patent is a reissue of U.S. Patent No. 10,336,749 (“’749 Patent”), originally issued on July 2, 2019, with the same title as the RE’826 Patent. The RE’826 Patent comprises claims 14-30; claims 1-13 of the original ’749 Patent do not form a part of the RE’826 Patent.

25. Bayer Pharma AG is the assignee of the RE’826 Patent.

26. Bayer AG holds an exclusive license to the RE’826 Patent.

SABA’S ANDA AND NOTICE LETTER

27. On information and belief, SABA submitted its ANDA to the FDA under § 505(j) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. § 355(j)), seeking approval to engage in the commercial manufacture, use, offer for sale, or sale within the United States, and/or importation into the United States, of SABA’s ANDA Product as a purported generic version of KERENDIA® before the expiration of the RE’826 Patent.

28. SABA sent Bayer a letter dated September 7, 2025 (“SABA’s Paragraph IV Notice Letter”) providing notice that SABA’s ANDA contains a certification with respect to the RE’826 Patent under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. § 355(j)(2)(A)(vii)(IV) (“Paragraph IV Certification”). Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals Inc. received SABA’s Paragraph IV Notice Letter on September 12, 2025.

29. The Paragraph IV Certification represents that SABA filed its ANDA seeking approval from the FDA to commercially manufacture, use, market, or sell its generic finerenone tablets, 10 mg and 20 mg, in the United States before the expiration of the RE’826 Patent.

30. SABA’s Paragraph IV Notice Letter purported to contain a “Confidential Detailed Factual And Legal Bases for SPONSOR’s [SABA’s] Paragraph IV Certification that the U.S. Patents Are Invalid, Unenforceable and/or Will Not Be Infringed” (“Detailed Statement”).

31. SABA’s purported Detailed Statement alleged that claims 14-30 of the RE’826 Patent are invalid as inherently anticipated or rendered obvious; that claims 14-30 are invalid for violating 35 U.S.C. § 251; that claims 14-26 of the RE’826 Patent will not be infringed by the marketing of SABA’s ANDA Product; that claims 14-26 of the RE’826 Patent will not be infringed by SABA’s ANDA Product because SABA’s ANDA Product does not contain the claimed subject matter; and that claims 27-30 will not be infringed because neither SABA’s ANDA Product nor the compound itself are made in the United States. SABA’s Paragraph IV Notice Letter did not allege that any other claims of the RE’826 Patent are invalid or that any other claims of the RE’826 Patent will not be infringed.

32. SABA’s Paragraph IV Notice Letter purported to include an Offer of Confidential Access (“OCA”) to certain SABA confidential information regarding SABA’s ANDA Product.

Plaintiffs requested that SABA revise its purported OCA on September 19, 2025. Bayer and SABA reached an impasse regarding the terms of an OCA on September 24, 2025.

33. On information and belief, if the FDA approves SABA's ANDA, SABA will manufacture, offer for sale, or sell its ANDA Product within the United States, including within Delaware, or will import its ANDA Product into the United States, including Delaware.

34. On information and belief, if the FDA approves SABA's ANDA, SABA will actively induce or contribute to the manufacture, use, offer for sale, or sale of its ANDA Product.

35. Bayer is commencing this action within 45 days of the date of receipt of SABA's Paragraph IV Notice Letter in accordance with the time frame for filing such a suit established by the Hatch-Waxman Act, 21 U.S.C. § 355(j)(5)(B)(iii).

**FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION
INFRINGEMENT OF THE RE'826 PATENT**

36. The allegations of paragraphs 1-35 above are repeated and re-alleged as if set forth fully herein.

37. On information and belief, SABA has submitted or caused the submission of SABA's ANDA to FDA, and continues to seek FDA approval of the SABA ANDA.

38. SABA has infringed the RE'826 Patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(e)(2)(A) by submitting SABA's ANDA with a Paragraph IV certification and seeking FDA approval of SABA's ANDA before the expiration of the RE'826 Patent.

39. SABA is liable for direct infringement of the RE'826 Patent under § 271(e)(2)(A) because, on information and belief, SABA actively and knowingly caused to be submitted, assisted with, participated in, contributed to, and/or directed the submission of SABA's ANDA and its accompanying Paragraph IV Certification directed to the RE'826 Patent to the FDA. On

information and belief, SABA's ANDA seeks FDA approval to engage in the commercial manufacture, use or sale of a product claimed in the RE'826 Patent.

40. On information and belief, if SABA's ANDA is approved, SABA and its affiliates will immediately make, sell, offer for sale, or otherwise distribute SABA's ANDA Product in the United States, including in Delaware, thereby directly infringing one or more claims of the RE'826 Patent.

41. Unless enjoined by this Court, upon approval of ANDA No. 220708, SABA will make, use, offer to sell, or sell SABA's ANDA Product within the United States, or will import SABA's ANDA Product into the United States, and will thereby actively contribute to the infringement of and/or induce the infringement of one or more claims of the RE'826 Patent.

42. On information and belief, SABA has acted with full knowledge of the RE'826 Patent and without a reasonable basis for believing that the manufacture, use or sale of its generic product would not infringe and, likewise, lacks any reasonable basis for believing that its generic product is a staple article or commodity of commerce suitable for substantial non-infringing use.

43. SABA's Detailed Statement in SABA's Paragraph IV Notice Letter lacks sufficient basis to show that SABA's ANDA Product will not infringe, contribute to the infringement of, or induce the infringement of the RE'826 Patent.

44. Bayer will be irreparably harmed if SABA is not enjoined from infringing, and from actively inducing or contributing to the infringement of the RE'826 Patent. Bayer does not have an adequate remedy at law, and considering the balance of hardships between Bayer and SABA, a remedy in equity is warranted. Further, the public interest would not be disserved by the entry of a permanent injunction.

45. The submission of SABA's ANDA to obtain FDA approval to engage in the commercial manufacture, use, offer for sale, sale, and/or import into the United States of SABA's ANDA Product before the expiration of the RE'826 Patent also entitles Bayer to fees under 35 U.S.C. § 271(e)(4) and § 285.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION
DECLARATORY JUDGMENT OF INFRINGEMENT OF THE RE'826 PATENT

46. The allegations of paragraphs 1-45 above are repeated and re-alleged as if set forth fully herein.

47. Bayer's claims also arise under the Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201 and 2202.

48. On information and belief, if SABA's ANDA is approved, SABA and its affiliates will immediately make, sell, offer for sale, and/or import SABA's ANDA Product in the United States, including in Delaware, thereby directly infringing one or more claims of the RE'826 Patent under at least 35 U.S.C. §§ 271 (a). Additionally, on information and belief, health care professionals or patients who use SABA's ANDA product will directly infringe one or more claims of the RE'826 Patent under one or more of 35 U.S.C. §§ 271 (a), (f), and (g).

49. On information and belief, SABA knows and intends that health care professionals or patients will use SABA's ANDA Product in accordance with the labeling sought by SABA's ANDA and SABA will therefore contribute to the infringement of and/or induce the infringement of one or more claims of the RE'826 Patent under one or more of 35 U.S.C. §§ 271 (b) and (c).

50. As a result of the foregoing facts, there is a real, substantial, and continuing justiciable controversy between Bayer and SABA concerning liability for the infringement of the

RE'826 Patent for which this Court may grant declaratory relief consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution.

51. Bayer will be irreparably harmed if SABA is not enjoined from infringing, and from actively inducing or contributing to the infringement of the RE'826 Patent. Bayer does not have an adequate remedy at law, and considering the balance of hardships between Bayer and SABA, a remedy in equity is warranted. Further, the public interest would not be disserved by the entry of a permanent injunction.

52. This case is exceptional, and Bayer is entitled to an award of attorneys' fees under 35 U.S.C. § 285.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Bayer requests that the Court grant the following relief:

A. A judgment that SABA infringes the RE'826 Patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(e)(2)(A);

B. A declaratory judgment that SABA's manufacture, use, offer for sale, or sale of SABA's ANDA Product in the United States, or importation into the United States, will directly infringe one or more claims of the RE'826 Patent under 35 U.S.C. §§ 271(a), (f), and/or (g);

C. A declaratory judgment that SABA's manufacture, use, offer for sale, or sale of SABA's ANDA Product in the United States, or importation into the United States, will induce and/or contribute to the infringement of one or more claims of the RE'826 Patent under 35 U.S.C. §§ 271 (b) and/or (c);

D. A permanent injunction pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §§ 271(e)(4)(B) and/or 283 restraining and enjoining SABA, its affiliates and subsidiaries, and all persons or entities acting in concert with SABA from commercially manufacturing, using, offering for sale, selling, or

importing any product that infringes the RE'826 Patent by the commercial manufacture, use, provision, offer for sale, or sale within the United States, and/or importation into the United States, including SABA's ANDA Product described in ANDA No. 220708;

E. An order pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271(e)(4)(A) decreeing that the effective date of any FDA approval of SABA's ANDA No. 220708 be a date that is not earlier than the expiration date of the RE'826 Patent, or any later expiration of any patent term extension or exclusivity for the RE'826 Patent to which Bayer is or becomes entitled;

F. A declaration under 28 U.S.C. § 2201 that if SABA, its officers, agents, servants, employees, licensees, representatives, and attorneys, and any other persons acting or attempting to act in active concert or participation with SABA or acting on its behalf, engages in the commercial manufacture, use, offer for sale, sale and/or importation of the product described in ANDA No. 220708, it will constitute an act of direct and/or indirect infringement of the RE'826 Patent;

G. An award of damages or other relief pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271(e)(4)(C) to the extent SABA commercially manufactures, uses, provides, offers to sell, or sells within the United States, or imports into the United States any product that infringes or induces or contributes to the infringement of the RE'826 Patent within the United States before the expiration of the RE'826 Patent, including any later expiration of any patent term extension or exclusivity for the RE'826 Patent to which Bayer is or becomes entitled, and that any such monetary relief be awarded to Bayer with prejudgment interest;

H. The entry of judgment declaring that SABA's acts render this case an exceptional case, and awarding Bayer its attorneys' fees pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §§ 271(e)(4) and 285;

I. An award of Bayer's costs and expenses in this action; and

J. Such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: October 20, 2025

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