

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION



In the Matter of)
)
Schering-Plough Corporation,)
a corporation,)
)
Upsher-Smith Laboratories,)
a corporation,)
)
and)
)
American Home Products Corporation,)
a corporation.)

Docket No. 9297

**RESPONDENTS' JOINT MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE
EXPERT TESTIMONY OF DR. NELSON L. LEVY**

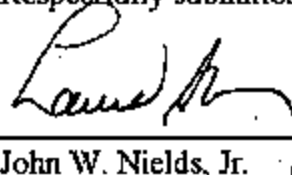
Respondents Schering-Plough Corporation ("Schering") and Upsher-Smith Laboratories, Inc. ("Upsher-Smith") respectfully submit this motion to exclude the expert testimony of Nelson L. Levy. Complaint counsel offers Dr. Levy as a proposed expert witness in support of complaint counsel's allegation that the license payments from Schering to Upsher-Smith for Niacor-SR and other pharmaceutical products were in fact disguised payments to keep Upsher-Smith from entering the market with a generic version of Schering's K-Dur.

Dr. Levy's experience does not qualify him to give the testimony complaint counsel has requested, however. Dr. Levy is not a cardiologist and is plainly not knowledgeable about cholesterol-reducing drugs. He has little or no experience in marketing and no experience in the valuation of pharmaceutical products. He has meager experience in in-licensing pharmaceutical products at large companies (since 1983 he has worked at only one for fourteen months in the early 1990s), he has no regulatory expertise, and no experience in marketing drugs overseas. Moreover, his conclusion

rests, in large part, on his determination that the fact witnesses in this case are lying. Dr. Levy may not opine on the credibility of witnesses or Schering's intent, however, and his opinion in this regard must be excluded.

For these reasons, as set forth in the accompanying joint memorandum, Respondents respectfully request that the Court grant this motion, and exclude the testimony of Dr. Levy.

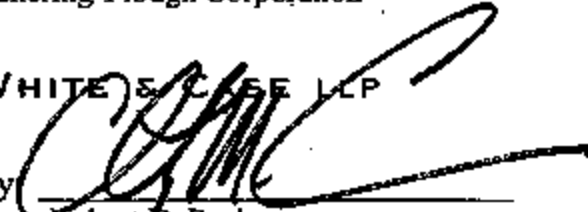
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Dated: January 3, 2002

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

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Schering-Plough Corporation,)
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Docket No. 9297

NON-PUBLIC VERSION

**MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF RESPONDENTS' MOTION
TO EXCLUDE THE EXPERT TESTIMONY OF DR. NELSON L. LEVY**

Respondents Schering-Plough Corporation ("Schering") and Upsher-Smith Laboratories ("Upsher-Smith") submit this memorandum in support of their motion to exclude the expert testimony of Nelson L. Levy.

I. INTRODUCTION

Complaint counsel contends that the \$60 million (made in three payments over two years) Schering paid Upsher-Smith for the license rights to market Niacor-SR, a sustained-release niacin product to treat elevated cholesterol, and three other pharmaceutical products in Europe cannot reasonably be considered to have been a licensing fee. Complaint counsel contends that the payments were instead disguised payments to Upsher-Smith to refrain from entering the market with its generic version of Schering's K-Dur.

Complaint counsel has no direct evidence to support this claim. The Niacor-SR product was evaluated in writing by a uniquely well-credentialed official at Schering—an

official who knew nothing about the patent case or its settlement. And every witness who knew about the license has testified that it was a *bona fide* transaction. Schering will call these witnesses live at trial.

Complaint counsel plans to prove its contention through the opinion testimony of an expert witness, Dr. Nelson Levy. Dr. Levy will testify that in his opinion, and contrary to the testimony of every fact witness in the case, that: (1) the licensing fee was "grossly excessive for the value received;" (2) data from Upsher-Smith's clinical trials made FDA approval of Niacor-SR questionable; and (3) the "due diligence" Schering performed was inadequate and that the \$60 million payment must have been intended for something other than the licenses.

As set forth more fully below, Dr. Levy's experience does not qualify him to give expert testimony on these subjects. Dr. Levy is medically trained and spent three years in the Research and Development department of Abbott Laboratories—a large pharmaceutical manufacturer—in the early 1980s. However, Dr. Levy is not a cardiologist and is plainly not knowledgeable about cholesterol-reducing drugs. He has little or no experience in marketing, and virtually none in the valuation of pharmaceutical products. He has meager experience in in-licensing pharmaceutical products at large companies (in the seventeen years since 1983 he has worked at only one such company for fourteen months in the early 1990s), he has no regulatory expertise, and no experience in marketing drugs overseas.

Dr. Levy betrayed his lack of experience related to cholesterol-reducing drugs in his deposition. He testified that liver toxicity, a frequently encountered side effect of cholesterol-reducing drugs, is measured by persistent elevations at 1.5 times the upper limit of normal (ULN). He was unaware that FDA and all experts in the field, including complaint counsel's rebuttal expert, Dr. Pitt, agree that the relevant benchmark is 3 times ULN. As a result, Dr. Levy drew wild conclusions about the liver toxicity results of the Niacor-SR clinical trials. Further, Dr. Levy thought that Schering should be faulted for

not looking at data from animal studies on Niacor-SR, when no such studies were required or conducted. And he believed Schering should have rounded up the subjects of Upsher-Smith's clinical trials, re-dosed them with higher doses of Niacor-SR, and taken biopsies from their livers before entering into an agreement. Biopsies involve inserting a large needle through the skin and flesh into the liver and extracting a plug of the liver itself. Not surprisingly, Dr. Levy's astonishing testimony on this subject drew no agreement from complaint counsel's other expert. See Pitt Dep. (attached as Exhibit 1 to Memorandum in Support of Respondents' Motion to Limit the Rebuttal Testimony of Dr. Bertram Pitt Regarding Conversations with FDA Officials) at 47-49.

Because Dr. Levy's clinical research experience does not include any experience with cholesterol-reducing drugs or with the FDA approval process, he has nothing to offer in the way of expertise on the prospects for FDA approval. And because he has no experience in marketing or in-licensing drugs for sale outside North America, he is uniquely ill-suited to second-guess Schering's sales projections and Schering's valuation of the rights to Niacor-SR. Finally, his four years of work at pharmaceutical companies, most of which occurred almost twenty years ago, does not begin to qualify him to testify to what due diligence "standards" exist in the industry today.

Finally, Dr. Levy's opinion that the licensing fee was "grossly excessive" and cannot "reasonably be considered to be a licensing fee" is squarely at odds with the sworn testimony of the witnesses involved in the transaction. His opinion thus rests heavily on his conclusion that these witnesses, none of whom he has ever laid eyes on, are not telling the truth. (Deposition of Nelson Levy ("Levy Dep." at 244) (attached as Exhibit 1 hereto) ("I think to the extent that they maintain this was a license fee for Niacor-SR, they are being untruthful"). And, believing that his experience qualifies him to opine on Schering's motivations, he also intends to opine that Schering, in paying \$60 million, was motivated by something other a desire to obtain the rights to market the licensed products. See Levy Dep. at 117 ("I do not see that consideration being

anywhere near provided by the licensed products, and so either Schering was in a very charitable mood or it got something else for it"). Under dispositive case law, an expert witness may not opine on the credibility of fact witnesses or on a party's intent, and Dr. Levy's opinions in this regard are inadmissible.

II. DISCUSSION

A. Principles Governing the Qualifications of Experts

1. The Expert's Area of Expertise Must Match the Subject Matter of His Testimony

Courts have "broad discretion" to exclude expert testimony. *In re Natural Organics, Inc.*, 2001 FTC Lexis 25 *9 (Feb. 26, 2001). A purported expert witness must have expertise on each of the particular matters upon which he intends to render an opinion:

Even where a witness has special knowledge or experience, *qualification to testify as an expert also requires that the area of the witness's competence matches the subject matter of the witness's testimony*. Thus, the courts have frequently precluded a witness from testifying as an expert where the witness has specialized knowledge on one subject but offers to testify on a different subject.

29 C. Wright & V. Gold, *Federal Practice & Procedure*, § 6265 at 255-56 (1997) (emphasis added). See also *Kumho Tire Co. v. Carmichael*, 526 U.S. 137, 157 (1999) ("The trial court had to decide whether this particular expert had sufficient specialized knowledge to assist the jurors 'in deciding the particular issues in the case.'). When an expert lacks the requisite credentials, it is not simply a matter of according less weight to his testimony—the proper remedy is to exclude the testimony. See *In re Air Crash Disaster at New Orleans*, 795 F.2d 1230, 1233 (5th Cir. 1986) ("[W]e recognize the temptation to answer objections to receipt of expert testimony with the shorthand remark that the jury will 'give it the weight it deserves.' . . . [but] [t]rial judges must be sensitive to the qualifications of persons claiming to be experts.").

The law is also clear that the testimony of an expert who is not experienced in the specific field at issue, but is instead experienced in a more generalized field, or in a related one, should be excluded for lack of the requisite qualifications. See *Coal Resources, Inc. v. Gulf & Western Indus., Inc.*, 954 F.2d 1263, 1268 (6th Cir. 1992) (CEO of coal company with expertise on development of mining rights not qualified as expert on costs and appropriateness of coal preparation plants); *United States v. Chang*, 207 F.3d 1169, 1173 (9th Cir. 2000) (expert in international finance cannot opine whether international securities were counterfeit); *McDonald v. Federal Labs, Inc.*, 724 F.2d 243, 248 (1st Cir. 1984) (expert on chemistry of mace cannot opine on mace canister design); *Wilson v. Woods*, 163 F.3d 935, 937 (5th Cir. 1999) (expert with 25 years' experience consulting on fire reconstruction and teaching mechanical and industrial engineering cannot opine on auto accident reconstruction where he never taught, conducted studies or published in that field); *Barrett v. Atlantic Richfield Co.*, 95 F.3d 375, 382 (5th Cir. 1996) (expert on animal studies not qualified to testify on correlation between animal results and human results).¹ Courts particularly adhere to this rule to exclude medical experts where they attempt to provide an expert opinion beyond their particular fields of medicine in which they possess expertise. See *Edmonds v. Illinois Central Gulf R. Co.*, 910 F.2d 1284, 1287 (5th Cir. 1990) (clinical psychologist not qualified as expert on whether stress worsened coronary disease).²

¹ See also *United States v. Kladoris*, 964 F.2d 658, 669 (7th Cir. 1992) (witness with general knowledge of hydrocarbons not qualified as an expert on chemistry of fire causation); *Firemen's Fund Ins. Co. v. Videfreeze Corp.*, 540 F.2d 1171, 1180 (3d Cir. 1976) (geologist not an expert on seismology); *Jones v. Lincoln Elec. Co.*, 188 F.3d 709, 724 (7th Cir. 1999) (abuse of discretion not to exclude metallurgist from testifying on health effects of manganese); *City of Hobbs v. Hartford Fire Ins. Co.*, 162 F.3d 576, 587 (10th Cir. 1998) (expert with 30 years experience in handling and adjusting third-party claims not qualified to opine on first-party claims); *McCulloch v. H.B. Fuller Co.*, 981 F.2d 656, 657 (2d Cir. 1992) (electrical and industrial engineer not qualified to opine on adequacy of warning label).

² See also *Watkins v. Schriver*, 52 F.3d 769, 771 (8th Cir. 1995) (neurologist not qualified to opine on accident reconstruction in case involving paralyzing neck injury); *Gates v. United States*, 707 F.2d 1141, 1145 (10th Cir. 1983) (professor of immunology not qualified to review particular patient's medical records).

This rule has also been specifically applied to experts who wish to opine on issues of valuation. Courts regularly exclude purported experts who have merely demonstrated some general experience or expertise, but who lack the specific expertise necessary to perform the valuation of the asset in question. See *Suitum v. Tahoe Regional Planning Agency*, 80 F.3d 359, 363 (9th Cir. 1996) (vacated on other grounds) (excluding expert on development rights transfers as not qualified to opine on market valuation of development rights).

Further, it is well established that where geographic distinctions matter, even a witness with great experience in one geographic area is not qualified to render expert opinions on other regions. See *Taylor v. Ouachita Parish School Bd.*, 648 F.2d 959, 970 (5th Cir. 1981) (affirming exclusion of "able sociologist with a fine academic record" who had studied segregation in 16 cities but not the city at issue).³ Thus, an expert on the value of real estate in California would not be qualified to opine on the value of a piece of real estate in Massachusetts.

Finally, supervision of others while in an executive position at a company does not itself qualify a person as an expert on the matter supervised. See *Coal Resources, Inc.* 954 F.2d at 1268 (rejecting plaintiff's assertion that CEO's approval and review of all coal preparation plant construction and modification during his tenure qualified him as expert on the costs and appropriateness of such plans; holding "review of plans and budgets prepared by others differ substantially from the preparation and design of the plans" himself).

³ See also *United States v. Hirschberg*, 988 F.2d 1509, 1514 (7th Cir. 1993) ("knowledge of police practices in Chicago does not qualify Illinois police detective as expert on practices in Miami"); *Koch v. Gorilla*, 552 F.2d 1170, 1173 (6th Cir. 1977) (expert on medical standards in Duluth cannot testify on standards in community located 100 miles away).

2. An Expert May Not Testify on the Credibility or Motivation of Witnesses

It is fundamental that assessments of credibility belong to the trier of fact, and are not a proper subject for expert testimony. *See Wright & Gold*, § 6262 at 178 (Rule 702 “seeks to preserve the trier of fact’s traditional powers to decide the meaning of evidence and the credibility of witnesses”). *See, e.g., United States v. Awkard*, 597 F.2d 667, 671 (9th Cir. 1979) (error to allow expert to testify on witness’ ability to recall incident: “opinion testimony on credibility is limited to character; all other opinions on credibility are for the jurors themselves to form”); *United States v. Benson*, 941 F.2d 598, 604 (7th Cir. 1991) (“credibility is not a proper subject for expert testimony”).

It is equally improper for an expert to testify about a party’s intent or motivation. *See, e.g., Aerotech Resources, Inc. v. Dodson Aviation, Inc.*, 2001 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 5646, *6-*7 (D. Kan. Apr. 4, 2001) (improper for expert to testify about intended effect of agreement, as that was province of factfinder); *In re Diet Drugs Products Liability Litigation*, 2001 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 1174, *7 (E.D. Pa. 2001) (“any proffered expert testimony concerning the intent of AHP or any other entity (such as the FDA) shall be excluded on the basis that the question of intent is to be determined by the jury, not experts”).

B. Dr. Levy is Not Qualified to Render an Opinion on Whether the Rights to Market Niacor-SR Outside North America Were Worth \$60 Million

1. Factual Background

a. The licensed product. Niacor-SR, a sustained release niacin formulation being developed by Upsher-Smith was the principal product involved in the licensing transaction at issue. Niacin (vitamin B-3) is a well-known compound, which Dr. Levy admits has valuable cholesterol-lowering properties. (Report of Nelson Levy (“Levy Rep.”), attached hereto as Exhibit 2, at 4-5). Well before 1997, niacin was recognized (as it is now) as a good complement to statins (such as Mevacor and now

Lipitor) for use in combination therapy in the management of cholesterol and lipid levels. However, as of 1997, the use of niacin was limited because the then-available immediate-release niacin products frequently produced unpleasant side effects. Niacor-SR, however, utilized a novel sustained-release technology, which, by introducing niacin into a patient's system more gradually, offered the promise of fewer side effects. Because Upsher-Smith planned to market Niacor-SR in North America on its own, Schering and Upsher-Smith negotiated a license giving Schering the rights to market Niacor-SR outside North America. Thus, the principal targets for Schering were Europe and Asia's multi-billion dollar markets for cholesterol-lowering drugs.

Shortly before negotiating with Upsher-Smith for the rights to market Niacor-SR outside North America, Schering had negotiated with a company called Kos Pharmaceuticals, Inc. ("Kos"), for the rights to co-market its sustained-release niacin product, known as Niaspan. Schering did detailed sales projections for Niaspan in the United States, and concluded that its sales would exceed \$100 million per year and that the profits had a net present value of over \$250 million. Market analysts predicted even greater sales for Niaspan of over \$250 million per year, and Kos (then a one-product company) raised \$60 million from the public in an initial public offering in exchange for less than 30 percent of Kos' stock. Partly because of the fact that Kos' expectations for Niaspan exceeded Schering's, no transaction with Kos was ever consummated.

When the opportunity arose to acquire the rights to market Niacor-SR outside North America in June 1997, Schering once again prepared sales and profit projections. The Schering official who performed these projections, James Audibert, was uniquely qualified to do so. He is scientifically trained and had spent several years in Research and Development inside a pharmaceutical company. He was extraordinarily knowledgeable about cholesterol-reducing drugs, having made them a special focus of his study and work during the previous six months. He had extensive experience in sustained-release technology and in bringing sustained-release formulations of old drugs

to market. He was in 1997 a member of Schering's Global Marketing division, and had experience in markets outside the United States.

Mr. Audibert reviewed the results of the Niacor-SR clinical trials provided by Upsher-Smith. He projected annual sales for Niacor-SR of over \$100 million after its third year on the market—sales which would yield a profit to Schering with a net present value of \$225-265 million.

b. Dr. Levy's opinion. Dr. Levy does not question that in 1997 Schering had the experience and acumen to evaluate and market a drug such as Niacor-SR on a successful basis. But he nonetheless renders the opinions that (1) Schering paid too much for the rights to Niacor-SR, (2) approval by regulators was questionable, and (3) Schering's due diligence was unusually cursory, and Schering must have intended the \$60 million as payment for something other than the rights to the licensed products. Based on these opinions Dr. Levy cavalierly concludes that the payments for the license reflect either "charity", "idiocy" or dishonesty on Schering's part. (*Id.* 118-19).

c. Dr. Levy's Credentials. After completing his medical education in the 1967 and obtaining a Ph.D. in immunology 1973, Dr. Levy spent eight years at Duke University doing academic research and teaching on cancer immunology, neurology, multiple sclerosis and brain control of the immune system. (Levy Rpt. 1). He does not report having done any research in the field of cardiology. He is board certified in allergy and immunology. He is not board certified in cardiology.

Starting in 1981, he spent three years at a pharmaceutical company, Abbott Laboratories, overseeing drug research on HIV, infections, hypertension and prostatic hypertrophy. (*Id.*). During the course of his deposition he could not identify any instance in which he oversaw or did any research on any niacin products, any of the statins, or any other cholesterol reducing agent. *See generally* Levy Dep.

For nearly all of the 17 years since he left Abbott, Dr. Levy has worked out of his home, running a small consulting firm with two other professionals advising start-up

companies and investors, quite unlike Schering, principally on product development. (*Id.*; Levy Dep. 99). In response to questions regarding his qualifications and experience, the one product that he proffered as an example of a product that CoreTechs, his consulting operation, was working on was a so-called "Lox Box," a device for converting salmon into lox. (Levy Dep. 167-76).

Finally, more than seven years ago Dr. Levy briefly headed the U.S. operations of a Japanese pharmaceutical company, Fujisawa, with no claim that any of the drugs with which he dealt treated cholesterol or were similar to Niacor-SR in terms of pharmacology or market prospects. (Levy Rpt. 1). After just 14 months at that job he was asked to leave the company. (Levy Dep. 79-80). Levy has not been employed by a pharmaceutical company in any capacity since 1993. (*Id.* at 77).

Unlike Mr. Audibert, Dr. Levy has no expertise in cholesterol-reducing drugs, no expertise in sustained-release technology, no marketing or valuation experience, and absolutely no experience marketing or licensing drugs outside North America. Given his credentials, it is surprising that Dr. Levy believes he is qualified to second-guess Mr. Audibert's evaluation of Niacor-SR, and astonishing that he purports to render an opinion that Schering did not intend the \$60 million as a *bona fide* payment for the licensing rights.

2. Dr. Levy Is Not An Expert On Valuing A License For The Sale Of Pharmaceuticals Anywhere – Let Alone In European Market

a. Dr. Levy is Not Qualified to Value the Niacor-SR License

Dr. Levy has no experience, education or training that qualifies him to appraise the value of the Niacor-SR license. First, Dr. Levy's educational and teaching background through 1981 does not qualify him to evaluate the value of a pharmaceutical products license. He never attended business school, he has not written any articles on

the topic of valuation of pharmaceutical licenses, and he never took or taught any courses on the subject. Moreover, Dr. Levy himself admits that when he left academia: "I would not characterize myself in 1981 as an expert on the in-licensing or out-licensing of pharmaceuticals" and that he "knew very little about the general area of finance." (Levy Dep. 144). Thus, any claim to expertise necessarily depends on his subsequent work experience. And little or none of it involves marketing or valuation of pharmaceuticals.

Dr. Levy's brief tenure at two pharmaceutical corporations many years ago, where he supervised research in therapeutic areas unrelated to cardiology and cholesterol and presided briefly over the American subsidiary of a Japanese company, does not provide him with the relevant expertise. His experience overseeing R&D at Abbott is inapposite – experience in scientific research does not make one an expert in other aspects of the business, such as valuation and marketing. *See, e.g., Chang*, 207 F.3d at 1173 (international finance expert cannot opine on whether international securities were counterfeit). Likewise, Dr. Levy's ill-starred 14 months at Fujisawa, where he merely supervised others, does not qualify him as an expert. *See, e.g., Coal Resources*, 954 F.2d at 1268 (CEO's oversight of coal plant construction did not qualify him as an expert on construction budgets and plans prepared by others).

Dr. Levy's own description of his work history confirms that he is unqualified to opine regarding pharmaceutical license valuations generally:

- He admits that most of his corporate pharmaceutical experience was overseeing pharmaceutical research departments. (*Id.* 144).
- He admits that in his roughly three years at Abbott and his 14 months at Fujisawa – his only corporate pharmaceutical work – he never worked in market research at all, let alone for markets outside of the US. (Levy Dep. 169).
- He admits that while at Fujisawa he never negotiated licensing deals because he "had business development people who had responsibility for negotiating the deals . . ." (*Id.* at 238).

- He admits that during his corporate experience any valuation, licensing, or marketing work was outside his area of responsibility and incidental to his primary research responsibilities at Abbott. (*Id.* at 97-98).
- His CV indicates that he has in-licensed only two major drugs in his lifetime (*id.* 81) and, although in his deposition he claimed to have been involved with four, he admits none of these in-licensed drugs treated cholesterol. (Levy Depo. 83-84).

For these reasons alone his opinions on the valuation of Niacor-SR do not meet the requirements of *Daubert* and *Kumho* and Rule 3.43(b).

b. Dr. Levy Lacks Experience in Cholesterol-Reducing Drugs

Dr. Levy, as he admits, is not an expert on lipidology and cholesterol, which is at the very heart of Niacor-SR's technology:

Q: Sir, is it generally accepted in the scientific community that the effects of niacin on blood lipids reduce the incidence of coronary artery disease?

A: I can't say what's generally accepted. *As I said, the state of knowledge about blood lipids and coronary vascular disease ... changes as we learn more, and I really can't speak to what the current state of knowledge is in this area.* I think maybe you ought to consult a guy like Joe Goldstein who might be able to give you more up-to-date information about that.

* * *

I don't represent the scientific community that focuses on cholesterol metabolism.

(Levy Dep. 191-92 (emphasis added)). He could not name the five drugs, either by brand or generic name, that comprise the immensely successful statin class of cholesterol-reducing drugs.

The only knowledge Dr. Levy may possess regarding cholesterol is based on his medical school days of 34 years ago. (*Id.*) This knowledge is plainly outdated and an insufficient a basis for an expert opinion on new drugs or the current regulatory environment and market conditions. See *Posado v. Deters*, 5 F.3d 119, 124 (5th Cir.

1993) (excluding expert who had not worked in relevant field in almost 20 years and had not taken any refresher courses). For example, during the course of his deposition he recanted a statement in his report regarding current research on niacin's effect on cholesterol (*id.* 186) and conceded that he was unfamiliar with "newer" medical terminology.⁴ Obviously, a new drug's prospects for FDA approval depend on the current state of the art. (*id.*) Dr. Levy's research after medical school did not involve cholesterol-lowering drugs. (*id.* 84, 91, 192). He also has no professional experience with sustained release drugs or drugs using a new delivery mechanism for a known compound. (*id.* 89, 91).

c. Dr. Levy is Not Qualified to Opine on European Market Potential

Dr. Levy also has no expertise in marketing or licensing drugs outside North America. The prospects for drugs differ among various geographical markets due to differences in drug pricing, regulatory structures, prescribing patterns, and insurance coverage, among others factors. Dr. Levy does not disagree. *See* Levy Rep. at 16.⁵ This is striking because not only is Dr. Levy's general experience with valuing pharmaceutical drugs marginal at best, but by his own admission he has virtually no experience in the European market. In his deposition he admitted that:

- He has no sales or marketing experience for pharmaceuticals outside North America. (Levy Dep. 87).
- He has never been substantially involved in filing a new drug application in any European country. (*id.* 251-253).

⁴ Dr Levy was unfamiliar with several common acronyms for the liver enzymes at issue used by lipidologists and cardiologists, such as ALT and AST. "AST is a term I must admit is a newer term from when I went to medical school, so I don't use that term very fluently." (Levy Dep. at 11). "ALT is the newer term, and its an analogous comment to AST." (*id.* at 12).

⁵ Indeed, one of Dr. Levy's criticisms is that one member of Schering's internal review team, Raman Kapur, was the head of Schering's U.S. generic pharmaceutical business, rather than a European expert. (Levy Rep. at 14).

- He has never done a licensing deal or sought a licensing partner for a pharmaceutical product to be sold in the European market. (*Id.* 238).
- He has not even consulted with anyone having European market expertise regarding this case. (*Id.* 125).
- He is unfamiliar with the European drug approval testing requirements (*id.* 253) or the acronym for European drug applications. (*Id.* 98).
- He believes that niacin products are available over the counter in Europe, (Levy Rpt. 18), but was unable to name any such products. (Levy Dep. 127).
- His knowledge about the availability of niacin in Europe in 1997 is “based solely on the deposition testimony he has read in this case.” (*Id.* at 128).

In fact, it is apparent from these admissions that Dr. Levy’s knowledge regarding niacin in Europe and European markets and licensing generally is based on what he has learned from reading depositions in this case. Knowledge gained through work as a witness, however, does not count toward an expert’s credentials. 29 *Wright & Gold*, § 6265 at 248. Indeed, courts routinely exclude expert testimony where the expert is merely interpreting the deposition testimony of the witnesses. For example, one court excluded an expert who relied “almost exclusively on his interpretation of deposition testimony” to reach his conclusions because in so doing the witness “does not serve as an expert, but seeks to supplant the role of counsel in making argument at the trial and the role of the jury interpreting the evidence.” *Primavera Familienstiftung v. Askin*, 130 F.Supp. 2d 450, 528 (S.D.N.Y. 2001).

In sum, Dr. Levy simply lacks the expertise to evaluate cholesterol-reducing drugs or to value any drug for marketing either here or in Europe. He plainly lacks expertise to opine, as he does, that Schering personnel must have been “flaming idiots” or “blithering idiots” (Levy Dep. 119, 242) to value Niacor-SR’s European potential as they did. Without knowing the range of reasonable values for a license for Niacor-SR in Europe, Dr. Levy’s conclusions regarding the license agreement are unsupportable.

3. Dr. Levy Is Not Qualified To Render an Opinion Regarding the Likelihood of FDA or European Regulatory Approval For Niacor-SR

Dr. Levy is similarly unqualified to opine regarding the likelihood of regulatory approval of Niacor-SR in 1997. His lack of expertise is demonstrated not only by his lack of qualifications regarding U.S. approval of cholesterol-fighting drugs, but also by the jarring fundamental errors in his description of Niacor-SR and the applicable FDA standards. Further, in his deposition he effectively admitted he was uninformed as to basic European regulatory approval matters. Accordingly, his opinion that Schering should have concluded that the side effects of Niacor-SR raised questions regarding FDA or European approval is neither correct nor admissible.

At no point in his brief corporate pharmaceutical career did Dr. Levy ever have substantial involvement with issues related to regulatory approval. His three years as a laboratory researcher did not involve interactions with any agency responsible for drug approvals. Levy Dep. at 251. And his consulting work out of his home over the past 17 years has not focused on FDA drug approval issues. *See id.* at 99-105, 159-61. Dr. Levy never worked for the FDA or a regulatory agency in any European country, and does not claim to have shepherded any cholesterol-fighting drug remotely similar to Niacor-SR, or, indeed, any other drug, through the FDA approval process. *Id.* at 251.

Dr. Levy revealed his ignorance of European regulatory approval procedures during his deposition. He was unable to identify any instance in which he had substantial personal involvement in the filing of an NDA in the European Union on any product, much less a sustained-release product. (*Id.* 251-52). Although he made much of the pharmacokinetic testing required for Niacor-SR by the FDA his report, in his deposition he admitted and that he was unfamiliar what pharmacokinetic study or data European regulators would have required in 1997. (*Id.* 253). In fact, he was even unfamiliar the acronym commonly used in referring to European drug applications ("HRD"). (*Id.* at

98). Plainly, Dr. Levy is not qualified to opine on the likelihood and timing of approval of Niacor-SR by European regulators.

Moreover, Dr. Levy's opinion regarding the likelihood of regulatory approval of Niacor-SR depended on his views on the drug's potential liver toxicity. That opinion rests primarily on data received by Schering showing that as part of its clinical studies Upsher-Smith already had tested Niacor-SR for liver toxicity and found that some patients exhibited elevated liver enzymes at the level of 1.5 times the upper limit of normal ("ULN"). According to Dr. Levy, this would have precluded FDA approval and would have caused the FDA to require further tests.

Not only does Dr. Levy lack any professional basis to opine that FDA would reject a drug at the low 1.5 ULN threshold, the evidence is clear that he could not be more wrong. Liver enzyme levels of 1.5 times ULN cause no concern at FDA at all. Indeed, the subjects in cholesterol drug clinical trials, such as those conducted by Upsher-Smith on Niacor-SR, can and do *begin* the trials with liver enzyme levels of up to 1.5 times ULN. FDA told Upsher-Smith the relevant standard was 3 times ULN and this is the standard the FDA used in evaluating all the other major cholesterol reducing agents (including the blockbuster statins).⁶ See June 29, 1993 record of telephone communication between FDA and Upsher-Smith (Upsher-Smith-FTC 095036-7). Moreover, other experts in this case who opine on this issue, including Complaint Counsel's rebuttal witness Dr. Pitt, confirm that the relevant standard is 3 times ULN. See, e.g., Pitt Rep. 5; Horowitz Rep. 14-15; McVey Rep. 11. In light of this record and the total absence of evidence that "other experts in the industry" (or the FDA) uses Dr. Levy's 1.5 times ULN standard, his opinion regarding the FDA approval (and therefore the reasonableness of the license agreement) should be excluded. *Kumho*, 526 U.S. at 157.

⁶ Cholesterol drugs which cause liver enzyme levels to exceed 3 times ULN in some percentage of patients may nonetheless be approved. Davidson Dep. at 89-92. FDA recommends liver enzyme monitoring for such drugs. Horowitz Dep. at 190-93.

Indeed, Dr. Levy made several other strikingly erroneous assertions regarding FDA approval. Based on his incorrect assumption that 1.5 times ULN is the relevant standard, he assumes that Upsher-Smith should have conducted invasive liver biopsies of the test patients (Levy Rep. at 8) as well as further testing at twice the previous dosing. (Levy Dep. at 44-45). These speculations on his part are again at odds with standard practice and the opinions of the other medical experts in this matter, including Dr. Pitt. (Pitt Dep. at 12). Moreover, through questioning it became clear that his basis for these conclusions was not any experience with the FDA, but that he was simply extrapolating from what he as a "general practitioner"⁷ would do for a patient with elevated liver enzymes. (*Id.* at 36). Finally, Dr. Levy even asserted that Schering should have reviewed the animal toxicology results for Niacor-SR because such tests are required by the FDA and would be informative. In fact, however, such tests are not required for known compounds (such as niacin) and no such studies had been conducted. Thus, the basis for his conclusions is not properly tethered to reality and, as the Supreme Court cautioned, "nothing...requires a district court to admit evidence that is connected to existing data only by the *ipse dixit* of the expert." *General Electric Co. v. Joiner*, 522 U.S. 136, 146 (1997).

For these reasons, Dr. Levy's conclusions regarding the approvability of Niacor-SR are fatally flawed, and thus his conclusions regarding the reasonableness of the license agreement is without foundation and should be excluded.

C. Dr. Levy Failed to Use Reliable Methods and Principles in Reaching His Conclusion as to Valuation of Niacor-SR and the Other Licensed Products

Even if Dr. Levy's credentials were sufficient to qualify him on the valuation of pharmaceutical licenses, his methods and conclusions fail to meet the standard of

⁷ It does not appear that Dr. Levy has been a general practitioner for at least two decades.

reliability *Daubert*, *Kumho*, and Rule 3.43(b) require. Indeed, although Dr. Levy purports to opine on the reasonableness of the license agreement negotiated by Schering and Upsher-Smith, he rejects the standard measure of asset valuation used in the pharmaceutical industry and finance generally, i.e., discounted cash flows (net present value). Having done this, however, he fails to perform any quantitative valuation of Niacor-SR, let alone the other pharmaceutical products Schering licensed.

As part of its internal process for approving the Niacor-SR license, Schering performed a detailed financial analysis of the value of the drug to Schering. As part of that analysis, Mr. Audibert concluded in a June 17, 1997 memorandum that Niacor-SR would produce profits of \$345 million in its first five years of sales. (SP 1600035-36). Mr. Audibert's documents have been produced, and he has stood by his valuation throughout both of his depositions.

Dr. Levy nonetheless opines that the license fees "cannot reasonably be considered to have been a license fee (Rep. at 3), or, as he stated in his deposition, "there is no way in hell that \$60 million was a license fee." Levy Dep. at 116. Yet nowhere in his report, or, for that matter, anywhere else, does Dr. Levy provide a calculation of what he believes the Niacor-SR license was worth.

The use of net present values (NPVs) to determine the value of a license is a long-established practice in the pharmaceutical industry. See Deposition of James Egan (former Searle executive) at 12 -13 (describing use of discounted cash flow model to determine whether NPV of product made it a good candidate for in-licensing). Indeed, every economic expert in the case agrees on this point.

Dr. Levy's explanation for why he did not perform an NPV evaluation here, however, is contrary to the accepted practice in the pharmaceutical industry: "I find classical financial analyses — let's just be more specific, net present value calculations — to be very unhelpful in almost every situation, and particularly in a situation where the product itself is not on the market or is not yet marketable." Levy Dep. at 179. Although

acknowledging that NPVs are widely used and requested, Dr. Levy flat out rejects using NPV analysis; he even states that in advising clients with start-up or new products, his company, CoreTechs, does not “present to ourselves or to potential investors any valuation numbers.” *Id.* at 177. Tellingly, Dr. Levy also concedes (perhaps because he is aware he is far outside of the industry standard) that not preparing valuation numbers “may sound strange . . . and . . . it’s somewhat unusual in this industry” *Id.*

Where an expert’s opinion deviates from the majority view, he is obligated to show that the alternative method he suggests is employed by at least a recognized minority of within the field. *See Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharms., Inc.*, 43 F.3d 1311, 1318 (9th Cir. 1995) (scientific experts might be permitted to testify if they could show that the methods they used were also employed by “(at least) a recognized minority of scientists in their field.”). Moreover, where an expert claims to be applying principles and methods in accordance with standards in the field, but reaches a conclusion that other valuation experts would not reach (here, that NPV is useless), the trial court should be skeptical. Fed. R. Evid. 702, Committee Note (2000 Amendment) (“[W]hen an expert purports to apply principles and methods in accordance with professional standards, and yet reaches a conclusion that other experts in the field would not reach, the trial court may fairly suspect that the principles and methods have not been faithfully applied.”) (citing *Lust v. Merrell Dow Pharms., Inc.*, 89 F.3d 594, 598 (9th Cir. 1996).

Dr. Levy’s report cannot meet this requirement of Rule 702. He simply does not propose his own method of evaluating the value of the license agreement, let alone provide a quantitative valuation of the license agreement. Instead, his opinion is exactly that – his *personal* opinion. Even a cursory review of his report reveals that his is not relying on any objective or industry standard, but rather his own gut feelings:

- The due diligence would “fall immeasurably below that *I have ever encountered . . .*” (Levy Rep. 3).

- “It is *inconceivable to me* that any pharmaceutical company would spend anything approaching \$60 million . . .” (*Id.* 3).
- “Summary of My Perception of Niacor-SR . . .” (*Id.* 13).
- “It is *my opinion* that Mr. Audibert was quite junior to handle by himself the due-diligence . . .” (*Id.* 14).
- It was “*strange to me*” that David Poorvin wasn’t involved in this license. (*Id.* 14).
- “*In my experience*” it is “almost unheard of” for a pharma company to pay “\$60 million in non-contingent payments.” (*Id.* 25).

These statements in his report articulating a personal rather than industry standard, combined with Dr. Levy’s resort in his deposition to unsupported and often inflammatory rhetoric, rather than reasoned analysis,⁸ only further demonstrates his unfamiliarity with the standards prevailing in the industry at the time the licensing agreement Schering and Upsher-Smith in June 1997.

Dr. Levy’s reliance on inexact conclusory statements, which are based on his personal reactions, and his failure to perform the analysis that is standard in the industry is simply another reason Dr. Levy’s opinion should be excluded. See *Navarro v. Fuji Heavy Indus., Ltd.*, 925 F. Supp. 1323, 1329 (N.D. Ill. 1996) (finding an expert witness’s affidavit inadmissible as it “includes nothing defining the ‘reasonable standard of care’ in the industry, much less any information showing that Fuji failed to conform to such a standard.”). As he does not offer an alternative industry standard for valuation, Dr. Levy’s testimony “supplies nothing but a bottom line [and] supplies nothing of value to the judicial process . . .” *Id.* at 1329 (internal citations and quotations omitted). Because Dr. Levy’s opinion is not based on any reliable principles or methods but rather

⁸ During his deposition, in the guise of analysis, Levy offered a variety of epithets and pejorative conclusions about the license agreement and the work of the pharmaceutical employees of Schering-Plough. See Levy Dep. at 119 (opining one possibility is “they’re just flaming idiots”, referring to Schering employees); *id.* at 242 (“blithering idiots” as a potential view of Schering employees); *id.* at 223 (“\$60 million was an “absurd” payment); *id.* at 246 (“\$60 million was so absurd as to defy belief”); *id.* at 116 (“there is no way in hell that that \$60 million was a license fee”); *id.* at 115-16 (“This behavior [the transaction] was so out of the norm for anything I had ever experienced, I had ever heard of, and I could ever conceive of occurring that the picture to me seemed utterly and totally inexplicably ridiculous.”).

unsupported and conclusory opinions which do not assist the Court, his expert report should be excluded.

D. Dr. Levy Is Not Qualified To Render An Opinion On The Credibility Of Schering Witnesses Or Schering's Intentions In Entering Into The License Agreement

Dr. Levy concludes that Schering witnesses, "to the extent that they maintain that this was a license fee for Niacor-SR, they are being untruthful." (Levy Dep. 244). *See also id.* at 246 ("there's dishonesty somewhere"); *id.* at 247 ("they have been untruthful in their testimony throughout this matter"); *id.* (Q: "Well, you said you've reached the conclusion that there was dishonesty, correct?" A: "Yes."); *id.* at 249 ("I don't know how this plot emerged and how this process emerged. What I know is it doesn't begin to meet a basic smell test, and where the errancy has its root, I am not able to testify.")

Expert opinion does not assist the trier of fact "if it draws inferences or reaches conclusions within the jury's competence or within an exclusive function of the jury." *Nichols v. American National Insurance Co.*, 154 F.3d 875, 883 (8th Cir. 1998). In *Nichols*, a psychiatric expert testified as to the "psychological credibility" of the plaintiff in a sexual harassment case. The expert testified that "recall bias, secondary gain and malingering" influenced the plaintiff's testimony. *Id.* The Court held that the expert "used these terms to indicate that [the plaintiff's] version of the facts was inconsistent and changed over time and that it was tainted by bias and desire for financial gain." *Id.* at 884. Because these were "inferences" that the jury was required to draw, the Court excluded the expert's opinion on the grounds that it "impermissibly instructed the jury on how to weigh . . . evidence." *Id.*

Similarly, in *Securities and Exchange Commission v. Lipson*, an accounting expert offered an opinion that the defendant would not have traded stocks on the basis of his company's internal reports because the defendant believed that those reports were unreliable. The court refused to admit this testimony because "all of [the expert's] years

of training and experience as an accountant . . . do not specially equip him to divine what Defendant truly believed about the reliability of the reports.” 46 F. Supp. 2d at 763. The court characterized the experts’ opinions as “at worst, rank speculation” and “at best, . . . credibility choices that are within the province of the jury, not [the expert], to make.” *Id.* Cf. *In re Diet Drugs*, 2000 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 9037, * 22 (“testimony of an expert that constitutes mere personal belief as to the weight of the evidence invades the province of the jury”); *DeJager Construction, Inc. v. Larry Schleninger*, 938 F.Supp. 446, 449 (W.D. Mich. 1996) (expert’s opinion excluded where expert selected portions of record supporting client’s position and then opined on credibility of witness statements).

Nothing in Dr. Levy’s background qualifies him to give “expert” testimony to the effect that Schering witnesses lied in their depositions. To the extent his opinion is based on his belief that Schering’s due diligence fell below some “standard” in the pharmaceutical industry, it is inadmissible: Dr. Levy has been out of the industry for far too long to render an expert opinion on this subject.

To the extent Dr. Levy’s opinion is based on his belief about their credibility, he must not be permitted to render it at the hearing. The question whether Schering witnesses are telling the truth is one for this Court to decide for itself. Dr. Levy is equally unqualified to opine on Schering’s motivations in entering into the license agreement. In his deposition, he testified that, based on his belief that Schering grossly overpaid for the rights to market the licensed products, Schering must have been motivated by something else. Levy Dep. at 117. When asked what qualifications he possessed that would render him an expert on Schering’s motivations, he cited his experience in the pharmaceutical industry. *Id.*

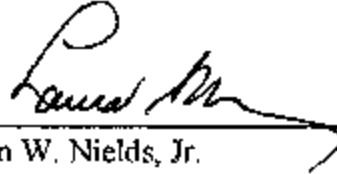
Dr. Levy’s beliefs about Schering’s motivations must be excluded. The intent or motivation of a party is a matter for the trier of fact, not experts. In *Aerotech*, for example, an aviation consulting expert proposed to testify that the parties’ contract negotiations demonstrated an intent to establish an exclusive brokerage agreement rather

than the sale of an aircraft. The district court excluded this testimony, on the ground that it "would speak to the effect that the parties intended their agreement to have. This is a task more properly performed by a fact finder." *Id.*; *see also Salas*, 980 F.2d at 305 ("conclusory assertions regarding [a defendant's] state of mind would not be helpful to a jury, [and are] not admissible."). Dr. Levy should be similarly precluded from testifying about the intentions of Schering and Upsher-Smith and entering the license agreement.

III CONCLUSION

Because Dr. Levy has no specialized knowledge that will assist the Court in understanding the evidence or determining the disputed factual issues, his testimony should be excluded.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: January 3, 2002

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION**

_____)	
In the Matter of)	
)	
Schering-Plough Corporation,)	
a corporation,)	
)	
Upsher-Smith Laboratories,)	Docket No. 9297
a corporation,)	
)	
and)	
)	
American Home Products Corporation,)	
a corporation)	
_____)	

**ORDER GRANTING RESPONDENTS' JOINT MOTION
TO EXCLUDE THE TESTIMONY OF DR. NELSON L. LEVY**

The Court finds that the background and experience of complaint counsel's proposed expert, Dr. Nelson L. Levy, do not qualify him to offer his proposed testimony in this matter.

Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondents' joint motion to exclude the testimony of Dr. Levy is hereby GRANTED, and Dr. Levy shall not be permitted to testify in this matter.

D. Michael Chappell
Administrative Law Judge

Dated: January _____, 2002

In The Matter Of:

*SCHERING-PLOUGH & UPSHER-SMITH
MATTER NO. D09297*

*NELSON L. LEVY, Ph.D, M.D.
November 20, 2001*

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(1) FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
 (2)
 (3)
 (4) In the Matter of)
 (5) SCHERING-PLOUGH CORPORATION,)
 (6) a corporation,)
 (7) and)
 (8) UPSHER-SMITH LABORATORIES,) File No. D09297
 (9) a corporation,)
 (10)
 (11)
 (12) Tuesday, November 20, 2001
 (13)
 (14) Federal Trade Commission
 (15) 601 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
 (16) Washington, D.C. 20580
 (17)
 (18) The above-entitled matter came on for
 (19) deposition, pursuant to notice, at 8:17 a.m.
 (20)
 (21)
 (22)
 (23)
 (24)
 (25)

(1) EXHIBITS DESCRIPTION FOR ID
 (2) Number 5 Lexis-Nexis Trade & 88
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(12) ALSO PRESENT:

(13) Richard DiCicco

(1) PROCEEDINGS

(3) Whereupon---

(4) NELSON L. LEVY, PhD, MD

(5) a witness, called for examination, having been first
(6) duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

(7) EXAMINATION

(8) BY MS. SHORES:

(9) Q: Please state your name for the record.

(10) A: Nelson L. Levy.

(11) Q: And what is your home address?

(12) A: 1391 Concord Drive, Lake Forest, Illinois
(13) 60045.

(14) (Levy Deposition Exhibit Number 1, Expert
(15) Report of Nelson Levy, was marked for identification.)

(16) BY MS. SHORES:

(17) Q: Dr. Levy, I'm showing you what's been marked as
(18) Levy Exhibit 1 for identification. I see you have
(19) another copy of what appears to be the same document in
(20) front of you. Is that correct?

(21) A: Yes.

(22) Q: Does the copy of the report in front of you
(23) contain any handwritten annotations?

(24) A: I don't recall. I have circled a few things,
(25) that's all.

(1) MS. SHORES: Seth, I don't know what you want
(2) to do here. If he wants to refer things that he's
(3) written on, I guess I need copies of that.

(4) MR. SILBER: That's fine. Do you want us to
(5) have copies made now or --

(6) BY MS. SHORES:

(7) Q: If we could try this, Dr. Levy, if you could
(8) refer to the one that we've marked, and then if you
(9) find that you need to look at the one that you've
(10) written on, maybe you could defer that issue.

(11) A: Fine.

(12) Q: Okay, if you could turn to page 8 of your
(13) report. Dr. Levy, does page 8 of the report that you
(14) have in front of you, your version of it, contain any
(15) handwritten annotations?

(16) A: Yes, it does.

(17) Q: And do you feel you're going to need to refer
(18) to those to answer questions about page 8?

(19) A: I don't know what the questions will be. What
(20) those handwritten notes are are simply the page numbers
(21) in the Schering documents from which these various
(22) pieces of data came from. It just was -- would
(23) expedite my going back to your documents to --

(24) Q: Do you mind if I take a look at page 8?

(25) A: No. Is it --

(1) MR. SILBER: No, that's perfectly fine.

(2) THE WITNESS: That's probably the most marked
(3) up of the pages.

(4) MS. SHORES: I guess I would like to have a
(5) copy made of this.

(6) MR. SILBER: Okay.

(7) MR. CURRAN: Likewise.

(8) MR. SILBER: Do you want us to just run a copy
(9) of the whole thing?

(10) MS. SHORES: We might as well since we may run
(11) into this issue more than once, if we could just go off
(12) the record.

(13) (A brief recess was taken.)

(14) (Levy Deposition Exhibit Number 2, Expert
(15) Report of Nelson Levy with handwritten annotations, was
(16) marked for identification.)

(17) BY MS. SHORES:

(18) Q: Dr. Levy, I've now marked as Exhibit 2 to your
(19) deposition the annotated version of your report, which
(20) I think will help us enormously.

(21) Looking at the left-hand -- the note that
(22) appears in the middle of the page on the left-hand
(23) side, can you read that for the record?

(24) A: "Also headache at least one --" hmm, I honestly
(25) can't read my own writing -- "at least one something at

(1) all doses -- "oh, "at least one AE," that is adverse
(2) event, "at all doses in 80 percent."
(3) Q: Dr. Levy, is that a page number reference?
(4) A: No, that 80 refers to 80 percent.
(5) Q: Okay. So, when you said before that there was
(6) nothing on this page but page number references, that
(7) wasn't true, right?
(8) A: I'm a little uncomfortable saying it wasn't
(9) true. It was certainly not meant to be misleading.
(10) Q: Well, are there -- I'm sorry, it might have
(11) been misleading, is that what you said?
(12) A: I said that I would not characterize it as
(13) being untrue. I think that's a bit of a pejorative
(14) perspective. It was -- there are annotations on the --
(15) most of the annotations on the page refer to page
(16) numbers, and that is the exception.
(17) Q: Well, let's look at the right-hand margin also
(18) in about the middle of the page. Are those page number
(19) references?
(20) A: Yes.
(21) Q: So, where it says, "Abnormal, greater than
(22) 1.5," that's a page number reference?
(23) A: No, that refers to the standard of abnormality
(24) that was applied to that column.
(25) Q: And underneath that, what does it say?

(1) A: My opinion is as stated in my report.
(2) Q: Well, do you agree with this statement?
(3) A: Of course I agree with it. I wrote it.
(4) Q: Okay. There's a table that appears above that.
(5) Which lines in this table reflect the increased
(6) incidence of the elevation of liver enzymes?
(7) A: The lines -- well, there are several actually.
(8) Directly, the second and third lines from the bottom
(9) refer to that, but also lines one, two and three were
(10) heavily concerned with the hepatic enzyme elevations.
(11) Q: Okay. Referring to the second and third lines
(12) from the bottom, what is SGOT?
(13) A: That's one of the transaminases, which is an
(14) enzyme that's found in hepatic cells.
(15) Q: Do you know what SGOT stands for?
(16) A: Serum glutamic-oxaloacetic transaminase, I
(17) believe.
(18) Q: What about AST, do you know what that stands
(19) for?
(20) A: AST is a term that I must admit is a newer term
(21) from when I went to medical school, and so I don't
(22) really use that term very fluently.
(23) Q: So, you don't know what those letters stand
(24) for?
(25) A: I -- I actually don't.

(1) A: "Fit used 92."
(2) Q: Is that a page number reference?
(3) A: Yes, it is.
(4) Q: Okay. In your report on this page or just
(5) generally, you point to a number of concerns you say
(6) existed regarding the safety of Niacor-SR. Is that
(7) correct?
(8) MR. SILBER: Misstates his report, objection.
(9) THE WITNESS: It's correct that -- it's correct
(10) that I refer to a number of adverse problems with
(11) Niacor-SR.
(12) BY MS. SHORES:
(13) Q: And do those include safety issues?
(14) A: They include some safety issues.
(15) Q: It says right at the top of this page that
(16) there are a number of concerns regarding the safety of
(17) Niacor-SR, does it not?
(18) A: That's correct.
(19) Q: You say in -- where it's bolder in letter (a)
(20) about the middle of the page that most significant was
(21) the increased incidence of the elevation of liver
(22) enzymes in the blood of patients taking Niacor-SR. Is
(23) that correct?
(24) A: You're reading correctly.
(25) Q: Well, is that your opinion?

(1) Q: Okay. What about SGPT?
(2) A: That's another -- another transaminase enzyme
(3) found in liver cells.
(4) Q: And can you --
(5) A: And there, it's pyruvic. The P is pyruvic, and
(6) it's serum -- I presume that's glutamic-pyruvic
(7) transaminase, but I'm not certain of that. It's
(8) embarrassing, actually having used these -- this
(9) acronym for 40 years, never really to have thought
(10) about what it specifically stands for.
(11) Q: And what about ALT?
(12) A: ALT is the newer term, and it's an analogous
(13) comment to AST.
(14) Q: Okay. Which of these, whether you refer to
(15) them as SGOT -- why don't we go with the terms you're
(16) more familiar with -- which of these is considered more
(17) indicative of liver toxicity?
(18) A: I can't intelligently respond to that. I have
(19) never considered one of those enzyme elevations to be
(20) more important than the other.
(21) Q: Is a patient's age a factor in liver function
(22) test results?
(23) A: Yes, in my experience, there are -- there are
(24) myriad factors that can lead to the -- to enzyme
(25) elevations, and these tests are meant as screening

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1) tests. They're associated with hepatic toxicity but
2) are found in — oh, for instance, trauma to the liver,
3) trauma to the musculature. In some older patients
4) there are wasting conditions, for instance, that can
5) lead to release of enzymes not from the liver but from
6) musculature particularly, since we have such a
7) predominant mass of musculature in our bodies.

8) Q: So, is that a question, that age is a factor in
9) liver function test results or it can be?

10) A: My answer is there are a myriad of things, and
11) I don't think age, per se, is — is as important as
12) some of the conditions that may be associated with age.

13) Q: Okay. How about a person's race?

14) A: I don't know the answer to that question.

15) Q: Okay. How about a person's body weight?

16) A: I don't know the answer to that question
17) either.

18) Q: How about a person's gender?

19) A: I don't know the answer to that either.

20) Q: How about a person's consumption of alcohol,
21) say the night before they get tested?

22) A: That most definitely can lead to enzyme
23) elevations.

24) Q: Okay. How about if a person exercises or works
25) out prior to being tested?

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1) A: That is — that is somewhat controversial.
2) When I went to medical school and even when I was a
3) professor, it was generally accepted that heavy —
4) heavy work and heavy exercise could lead to enzyme
5) elevations. As I understand it now, there are people
6) who don't feel as comfortable with that assumption.

7) Q: Okay. How about if the person was taking some
8) sort of pain medication?

9) A: That's a rather ambiguous question, because
10) there are — there are certain pain medications that
11) are associated with hepatic enzyme elevations, and it's
12) not necessarily related to their analgesic activity.
13) It's — it's — it is related to their having an effect
14) on the liver. I mean, the most commonly recognized
15) example of that is Tylenol or acetaminophen.

16) Q: Okay. Well, let me ask the question this way:
17) If you were designing, you know, a study and you wanted
18) to control for the effect of medications or at least
19) keep a record of what the patients had taken to — so
20) as to know whether the enzyme elevations that you're
21) seeing are the result of what you're studying or
22) something else, are there particular medications that
23) you would want to control for?

24) A: Yes, there are medications that are known to —
25) I mean, such as acetaminophen.

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1) Q: Okay.

2) A: I think that in general, when conducting
3) particularly a short-term study, the most prudent thing
4) to do is to exclude all medications since there are —
5) there are myriad drug interactions that could occur,
6) and many of these have not been fully characterized,
7) because each drug is not studied in concert with every
8) other drug, and so the safest thing, if one can do the
9) trial this way, is to exclude all medications.

10) Q: Okay. And other than Tylenol and acetaminophen
11) — those are the same thing, is that correct, or are
12) they different?

13) A: Johnson & Johnson might think otherwise, but —

14) Q: Fair enough.

15) A: — if one assumes that the generic
16) acetaminophens are manufactured to the same standard as
17) Tylenol is, they are the same thing.

18) Q: Okay. But other than those, can you name any
19) particular ones that are known to have some effect on
20) liver enzymes?

21) A: Yes, toradol is an enzyme — is an analgesic
22) that does that. The opiates in general are not to my
23) knowledge associated with any form of hepatotoxicity,
24) and so that excludes, you know, a large number of the
25) analgesics.

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1) Q: Can you tell me where the data came from that
2) appears in, again, those same two lines of your report,
3) the ones entitled Elevation of Liver Enzyme?

4) A: Yes, all of the data in that chart I believe
5) came from the — an exhibit that was attached to
6) several of the depositions, and I believe it was —
7) among other things, it was Exhibit 2 to the Audibert
8) deposition. It's this document: entitled Upsher-Smith
9) Laboratories, Inc.

10) Q: And that's your personal copy of that document
11) that you have before you?

12) A: I'm not sure I understand the word "personal."
13) It is my copy of that document.

14) Q: And does that contain your handwritten notes?

15) A: I wrote a — just a couple of things on the
16) cover. I don't believe there are any other notes in
17) it.

18) MR. SILBER: Laura, we're obviously willing to
19) let you look at the documents. If you want to check
20) what notes are in there, you can do it yourself.

21) MR. CURRAN: I definitely want to check any
22) documents that may have underlinings or annotations or
23) other forms of the witness' notes.

24) MS. SHORES: Well, perhaps at a — when we take
25) a break, we can check it and make a copy of it if it's

[1] necessary, but for now, I'm going to mark a clean copy
[2] of the document Levy Exhibit 3.

[3] (Levy Deposition Exhibit Number 3, Upsher-Smith
[4] Innovative Pharmaceuticals Since 1919, was marked for
[5] identification.)

[6] BY MS. SHORES:

[7] Q: Can you tell me where in Levy Exhibit 3, which
[8] I believe is the data package that Upsher-Smith gave to
[9] Schering prior to the Niacor license, the data in the
[10] — in your chart that reflect elevated liver enzymes
[11] came from?

[12] A: Yes, it was SP 160091.

[13] Q: Okay. And what level of liver enzyme
[14] elevations do these data reflect? Again, the ones that
[15] appear in the two lines of your table on page 8
[16] referring to elevated liver enzymes.

[17] A: I don't understand your question.

[18] Q: I'm trying to understand what level of liver
[19] enzyme elevations these numbers refer to.

[20] A: These numbers refer to an elevation of 1.5
[21] times the upper limit of normal.

[22] Q: Okay. Is there a reason why you focus on 1.5
[23] times the upper limit of normal?

[24] A: Yes, I view the SGOT and SGPT tests as
[25] screening tests. If you will, we can personalize this

[1] for a moment. If you or I were to go for our physical
[2] examination where they do a chemistry battery, 15-20
[3] tests, and if you were to have an SGOT or an SGPT at
[4] all above the upper limit of normal, it would be
[5] flagged, and what that would mean, depending on the
[6] magnitude of the elevation, is that if it were a
[7] relatively minor elevation, it would signal the
[8] physician to repeat the test. If it were a greater
[9] elevation, he would most likely still repeat the test,
[10] but it would signal to him to look further, perhaps to
[11] do a liver biopsy or some other exploratory action on
[12] you or me in the course of your physical examination,
[13] and I view this as the same thing.

[14] Unfortunately, we were presented very little
[15] data in this package from Upsher-Smith. I can't say
[16] whether this represents a multitude of tests on the
[17] same patient. It most likely represents a single test
[18] on those patients. And so, I think that one in using a
[19] screening test, as this is, should use a fairly
[20] sensitive indicator.

[21] Q: Can you tell me how many categories there are
[22] of lipid-lowering drugs?

[23] A: I would say there are four major categories.

[24] Q: And what are they?

[25] A: HMD-CoA reductase inhibitors or the statins,

[1] the bile acid sequestrants, a class of drugs that are
[2] referred to as fibrates, and then the nicotinic
[3] acid-related drugs.

[4] Q: Can you name — how many reductase inhibitors
[5] are there on the market now?

[6] A: Many. I don't know the exact number.

[7] Q: Can you name any of them?

[8] A: Sure. Atorvastatin, you know, is probably the
[9] most commonly used one.

[10] Q: Does that have a brand name?

[11] A: Lipitor.

[12] Q: Can you name any others?

[13] A: Yeah, pravastatin.

[14] Q: Does that have a brand name?

[15] A: Yes, it does, and I — I don't usually refer to
[16] drugs by their brand name, I'm embarrassed to say in
[17] front of the branded pharmaceutical companies here, so
[18] I don't know.

[19] Q: Okay. Any others?

[20] A: There are several others. Mevacor.

[21] Q: Does that have a generic name?

[22] A: That is — actually, I believe that that is its
[23] brand name, and I believe its generic name is probably
[24] mevastatin. I don't know.

[25] Q: Any others?

[1] A: There are many others. I just don't — you
[2] know, off the top of my head, I don't recall the names.

[3] Q: Okay. How about bile acid sequestrants?

[4] A: The —

[5] MR. SILBER: What's the question?

[6] MS. SHORES: The question is, can he name them?

[7] THE WITNESS: The only one that I can name in
[8] that category is cholestyramine, which has many — it's
[9] a generic drug, and it has many brand names now, and I
[10] really don't know all the brand names.

[11] BY MS. SHORES:

[12] Q: Do you know which — what the name of the
[13] pioneer drug was?

[14] A: I've just forgotten.

[15] Q: And can you think of any other bile acid
[16] sequestrants other than cholestyramine?

[17] A: I cannot, no.

[18] Q: Okay. How about fibrates, can you name what
[19] drugs fall in that category?

[20] A: Clofibrate is I think the one which at least to
[21] me is most — is most prominently known, and I won't
[22] venture a guess on the others.

[23] Q: Okay. And is —

[24] A: There are others, though.

[25] Q: And is clofibrate the generic name or the brand

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71 name?
72 A: I believe that is the generic name.
73 Q: What are — I want to ask you about the side
74 effects of each of these classes. Let's start with the
75 reductase inhibitors or the statins. Can you tell me
76 what the side effects are associated with statins?
77 A: The statins have been recognized as pretty
78 clean drugs that have relatively few side effects.
79 They are — they have been studied for a long time in
80 many patients, and, of course, they're taken
81 chronically, and I don't think there are any prominent
82 side effects that appear frequently with these drugs.
83 I believe that they have been reported to cause
84 headache, and then when one looks at the PDR, there are
85 — there's a whole litany of things that have been
86 associated with them, but I don't think that any of
87 those are prominent and frequent side effects of these
88 drugs.
89 Q: Among the litany of things that have been
90 associated with the statins, is hepatotoxicity one of
91 them?
92 A: Hepatotoxicity, per se, is not what I would
93 characterize as having been associated with the
94 statins. The statins have been associated in a very
95 small number of patients, a dose-related elevation of

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96 hepatic enzymes, and these elevations have — well, for
97 instance, with Lipitor, where I have more recently
98 looked at the data, at the — at the 10-milligram dose,
99 for instance, the incidence was merely 0.2 percent. It
100 was 0.2 percent at the 20-milligram dose. It went up
101 to 0.6 percent at the 40-milligram dose, and at the
102 highest dose, it was approximately 2 percent. And this
103 refers to liver enzyme elevations, and all of these
104 elevations were — were transient and were reversible.
105 So, I don't look at that as hepatotoxicity.
106 Q: And when you say — you gave me a couple of
107 different percentages, 0.2 percent at 20 milligrams, I
108 think you said, 0.6 percent at 40 milligrams and 2
109 percent at the highest dose.
110 A: Um-hum.
111 Q: What do those percentages refer to, what level
112 of liver enzyme elevation?
113 A: The fraction of patients in the clinical
114 studies that showed these enzyme elevations.
115 Q: And do you know what level of enzyme elevations
116 those percentages refer to? In other words, how many
117 times the upper limit of normal?
118 A: I don't recall that number.
119 Q: Well, you say the data that's reflected in the
120 data package showing the enzyme elevations at 1.5 the

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121 upper limit of normal is a problem for Niacor. Is that
122 correct?
123 A: I didn't use those words.
124 Q: Well, what words did you use?
125 A: I said that those data raised a heightened
126 sensitivity in me as I looked at those data and
127 prompted me to have concern —
128 Q: Well, I think you said —
129 A: — that these drugs may be hepatotoxic and
130 would definitely have prompted me to seek more
131 information.
132 Q: I think you said, referring back to page 8 of
133 your report, that, in your opinion, "such enzyme
134 elevations in patients taking Niacor-SR would have
135 alerted any person familiar with drug toxicity issues
136 to the strong possibility that Niacor-SR was a
137 hepatotoxic (i.e., toxic to the liver) drug."
138 Is that true?
139 A: I'm very comfortable with that statement.
140 Q: Okay. And in that sentence you're referring to
141 the data showing enzyme elevations at 1.5 times the
142 upper limit of normal. Is that correct?
143 A: It's correct that that statement refers to
144 those data and the overall picture that was seen with
145 this drug that is reflected in the table. It's not

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146 just the enzyme elevations. It's that these enzyme
147 elevations were among the elements that were associated
148 with the patients having to either drop the dose of the
149 drug during the clinical trials or to remove themselves
150 from the trial altogether.
151 In other words, these enzyme elevations were
152 perceived by the patients and/or the physicians as
153 significant enough to alter the course of the patient's
154 participation in the trial.
155 Q: But the — from your point of view, the
156 clinically significant information with respect to
157 liver enzyme elevations is the data that shows 1.5
158 times the upper limit of normal?
159 MR. SILBER: Objection, misstates his
160 testimony.
161 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I — that's not what I
162 said, so I mean if you would like to — to give your
163 own testimony, you're more than welcome to do that.
164 That's not what I said.
165 BY MS. SHORES:
166 Q: I'm just asking you a question. You can
167 correct me if I've misstated your testimony.
168 MR. SILBER: He just restated his testimony and
169 the basis for his testimony.
170 THE WITNESS: I think that counsel has spoken

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(1) for me in that regard.

(2) BY MS. SHORES:

(3) Q: Well, that's not exactly the way things are
(4) supposed to go.

(5) Is there any other line in your table on page 8
(6) that has any other level of enzyme elevation other than
(7) 1.5 times the upper limit of normal?

(8) A: In this table, there is no other information
(9) reflected.

(10) Q: Is there anywhere else in your report where
(11) there's any other level of liver enzyme elevation other
(12) than 1.5 times the upper limit of normal?

(13) A: I don't recall in my — in my report referring
(14) to any other data specifically on that — on that
(15) matter.

(16) Q: Okay. But you're not backing away from your
(17) statement that those data gave you concern. Is that
(18) right?

(19) A: It's correct that I felt when I wrote the
(20) report and I feel, as I sit here today, that the
(21) incidence of enzyme elevations reflected in this table
(22) cause me considerable concern and still do.

(23) Q: Do you know what the data for some of the other
(24) lipid-lowering drugs — let's take the statins. Do you
(25) know what the data for the statins show with respect to

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(1) how many incidences patients experienced in the
(2) clinical trials of liver enzyme elevation at 1.5 times
(3) the upper limit of normal? I'm trying to get at what
(4) you compared this data to.

(5) A: Well, now you're asking me two questions. If
(6) you're asking me directly what — to what I compared
(7) these data and what led to my conclusion, I think I
(8) responded to it earlier. In my opinion, as a
(9) physician, as a scientist, as a person who's conducted
(10) clinical trials, as a person who's reviewed many, many,
(11) many clinical trials, these liver enzymes to me are a
(12) mere screening test, and if they are elevated at all
(13) above the upper limit of normal in any significant
(14) fraction of patients, they absolutely alert me to a
(15) potential concern and a grave concern about the
(16) possibility of there being liver toxicity.

(17) They don't by themselves speak to the presence
(18) of liver toxicity. They alert any cogent physician in
(19) my opinion to the possibility that liver toxicity
(20) exists and should mandate to that clinical researcher
(21) or physician further investigation.

(22) Q: Okay. Do you know what the comparable data are
(23) for the statins?

(24) A: As I testified earlier, I know the data that I
(25) related to you, and I don't recall what standard was

(1) used in arriving at that percentage of patients in the
(2) clinical trial.

(3) Q: Okay. So, you don't know what multiplier of
(4) upper limit of normal those percentages that you gave
(5) me earlier reflect?

(6) A: I would repeat what I just said.

(7) Q: Well, I'm asking you to answer the question.
(8) I'm just trying to understand your testimony.

(9) A: I do not recall what standard was used to
(10) arrive at the percentages of patients taking Lipitor
(11) that had elevations of their hepatic enzymes.

(12) Q: Okay. So, when you said that Lipitor showed,
(13) for example, 2 percent of patients experiencing liver
(14) enzyme elevations at the highest dose, you can't tell
(15) me whether 2 percent of the patients experienced liver
(16) enzyme elevations at 1.5 times the upper limit of
(17) normal or two times the upper limit of normal or three
(18) times the upper limit of normal. Is that right?

(19) MR. SILBER: Objection, misstates his
(20) testimony.

(21) THE WITNESS: What I'd say to you is what I
(22) said before, is that candidly, I don't care. I'm
(23) looking — I spent my time looking at these data, not
(24) comparing them to another situation, another drug.

(25) In my opinion — and I will repeat this — that

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(1) the enzyme elevations at the level of 1.5 percent the
(2) upper limit of normal is significant enough to me that
(3) I would not have failed to insist that further
(4) information be gathered on this matter.

(5) BY MS. SHORES:

(6) Q: Do you know what the exclusion criteria were
(7) for Upsher's clinical trials for Niacor on the issue of
(8) liver enzyme elevations?

(9) A: Yes, I believe that at least in one of the
(10) clinical trials, the — I don't recall seeing the
(11) inclusion criteria for both of their pivotal trials,
(12) but I do recall seeing that at least with one of those
(13) clinical trials, they purposefully excluded patients
(14) that had enzyme elevations greater than 1.5 times the
(15) upper limit of normal.

(16) Q: So, does that mean that there could have been
(17) patients in the trial who even before they took Niacor
(18) had liver enzyme elevations of 1.4 times the upper
(19) limit of normal?

(20) A: I would — I would repeat that they excluded
(21) patients with enzyme elevations greater than 1.5 times
(22) the upper limit of normal. What degree of flexibility
(23) they used in applying that standard I can't — I can't
(24) say. I don't know what they would have done with
(25) someone with a 1.4 times the upper limit of normal.

19 One can assume that all the physicians followed the
20 protocol, but I can't know that.
21 Q: Well, let's assume they followed that standard
22 strictly and that they excluded people with 1.5 times
23 the upper limit of normal and greater and included
24 people who didn't have enzyme elevations at that level.
25 Would that mean that patients at 1.4 times the upper
26 limit of normal would have been included in the study?
27 MR. SILBER: Objection, incomplete
28 hypothetical.

29 THE WITNESS: By your hypothetical, if you're
30 assuming that the protocol was adhered to strictly,
31 patients could have been included in this study with
32 enzyme elevations 1.4 times the upper limit of normal;
33 however, the distribution of those patients would have
34 been random and would have been in both the placebo or
35 control groups as well as all the various dosage
36 groups, and therefore, one would not have expected to
37 see a dose-related increase in the percentage of those
38 elevations in patients taking Niacor-SR.

39 BY MS. SHORES:

40 Q: Can you explain why if 1.5 times the upper
41 limit of normal is in your view evidence that strongly
42 suggests liver damage why the studies would include
43 people up to 1.5?

44 MR. SILBER: Objection, misstates his
45 testimony.

46 THE WITNESS: Yes, I — you seem particularly
47 interested in mischaracterizing what I've said, and
48 that's — if you enjoy doing it, I'll be happy to —

49 BY MS. SHORES:

50 Q: Well, please correct me. I don't mean to
51 mischaracterize it.

52 A: No, I did not say that an enzyme elevation of
53 1.5 times the upper limit of normal definitely connotes
54 liver toxicity. I've said, and I'll say it again, that
55 this test is a screening test. It alerts me and it
56 should alert anybody else looking at these data for the
57 possibility of there being hepatotoxicity associated
58 with this drug.

59 Q: A strong possibility. Is that correct?

60 A: If you — a strong possibility I'm not
61 uncomfortable with.

62 Q: Well, you said it in your report.

63 A: As I say, I'm not uncomfortable with that at
64 all.

65 Q: Good. So, 1.5 times the upper limit of normal,
66 in your view that's indicative of a strong possibility
67 that there's liver damage, correct?

68 MR. SILBER: Objection, misstates his

69 testimony.

70 MS. SHORES: I'm just asking a question.

71 THE WITNESS: That's not correct. There is a
72 strong possibility that an elevation of liver enzymes
73 associated with 1.5 times — an enzyme elevation 1.5
74 times the upper limit of normal could be associated
75 with liver toxicity.

76 BY MS. SHORES:

77 Q: Okay. Do you think you're in the minority of
78 experts who consider 1.5 times the upper limit of
79 normal to be the relevant benchmark?

80 A: I think that I am in the distinct majority
81 since virtually every physician in America, certainly
82 those that went to the medical schools and residence
83 trainings that I attended, would use an SGOT or SGPT
84 elevation exactly as I said, that if it were elevated
85 at all above the upper limit of normal, it would be
86 flagged. It would suggest to the physician that at a
87 minimum he or she repeat the test, and if it were still
88 elevated, even minimally elevated, and consistently so
89 after repeat tests, would prompt that physician to look
90 for an explanation.

91 Q: Would it surprise you to learn that the FDA
92 told Upsher-Smith that it considered liver function
93 tests at three times the upper limit of normal, at

94 successive elevations of that, to be clinically
95 significant?

96 A: You're asking me a very different question now.

97 Q: Yep.

98 A: And if you're asking me did it surprise me that
99 the FDA set a standard of three times the upper limit
100 of normal to connote the presence of liver toxicity, I
101 am — no, it doesn't surprise me. They're using the
102 test differently from the way I am using it in this
103 regard.

104 Q: In what way are —

105 A: I said I am using it as a screening test. What
106 I tried to do in reviewing these data is to put myself
107 in the position that Mr. Audibert was in when he first
108 saw these data and tried to speculate as to what I
109 would have done in that position, and that is a very
110 different position from that that the FDA faces when it
111 sees a compilation of data and has to make a decision
112 on those data.

113 To me, when I saw those data, and hence, when I
114 wrote this report, it said to me that without question,
115 without one iota of question, having seen those data, I
116 would have demanded more information and a more
117 extensive elucidation of those elevations before I
118 would have considered moving forward in any way, shape

(1) or form with this compound.
(2) Q: If Mr. Audibert had considered the relevant
(3) benchmark to be successive elevations at three times
(4) the upper limit of normal as opposed to what you
(5) considered to be a red flag at 1.5, would he just be
(6) wrong?
(7) A: In my opinion, he would be wrong.
(8) Q: Are you familiar with Dr. Bertram Pitt?
(9) A: Yes, I am.
(10) Q: Would it surprise you to learn that he
(11) considers successive elevations at three times the
(12) upper limit of normal to be clinically significant?
(13) A: No, I've read his report, and I would repeat to
(14) you that I view these enzyme tests as a sensitive
(15) screen that should be pursued if they're abnormal. If
(16) Dr. Pitt or Mr. Audibert chooses a less sensitive
(17) indicator in this kind of screening modality, then I
(18) would ask you to have them defend that. I would choose
(19) a different standard.
(20) Q: Okay. Well, you said Mr. Audibert would have
(21) been wrong if he had chosen a different standard.
(22) A: If he —
(23) MR. SILBER: Misstates his testimony.
(24) THE WITNESS: — if he were to choose the
(25) standard of three times the upper limit of normal as

(1) the screening threshold that would have led him to seek
(2) additional information on this matter, I would consider
(3) him wrong.
(4) BY MS. SHORES:
(5) Q: And what about Dr. Pitt?
(6) A: I would say the same for Dr. Pitt. If he were
(7) to have used the standard as three times the upper
(8) limit of normal to alert himself to the possibility of
(9) there being liver toxicity present and to prompt him to
(10) look for additional information, were he in that
(11) context to have used the standard of 3X times the upper
(12) limit of normal, I would think he is being — I would
(13) think he as being incorrect.
(14) Q: And the FDA would have been incorrect, too, if
(15) they had focused on two or three times — successive
(16) elevations at two or three times the upper limit of
(17) normal, they would be wrong?
(18) A: No, the FDA is using it in a different manner.
(19) The FDA has to make the judgment as to whether the drug
(20) is hepatotoxic, and they can't go back and — they can
(21) mandate additional studies being done, but they can't
(22) go back and simply do those studies, and they have
(23) chosen a standard that is at 3X to connote
(24) hepatotoxicity, and that's a different matter from
(25) choosing a standard that would suggest the possibility

(1) of hepatotoxicity.
(2) Q: Well, the FDA is charged with determining
(3) whether or not a drug is safe. Is that correct?
(4) A: Yes, they are.
(5) Q: Okay. And are you saying they're not being
(6) conservative enough if they focus on three times the
(7) upper limit of normal?
(8) MR. SILBER: Objection, misstates his
(9) testimony.
(10) MS. SHORES: I'm just asking a question.
(11) THE WITNESS: That's not what I said.
(12) BY MS. SHORES:
(13) Q: I'm just asking to try to understand where
(14) you're coming from here.
(15) A: The FDA is faced with a data set and must make
(16) the — must draw the conclusion as to whether a drug is
(17) or is not hepatotoxic, and they have chosen that
(18) standard. That is a more conservative standard than
(19) the one that I would choose that's one and a half times
(20) the upper limit of normal, because I have the luxury,
(21) as a person who is going to make the decision to
(22) license a drug or not license a drug, to ask for
(23) additional information. I don't have to license that
(24) drug. I don't have to take the chance that that drug
(25) would be hepatotoxic.

(1) Q: Does the FDA —
(2) A: I can ask the sponsor of the study for more
(3) information, and I would choose to do that were I to be
(4) faced with those data, just as I would and as any
(5) physician in America would were he faced with an enzyme
(6) elevation one and a half times the upper limit of
(7) normal. Were you to go in for your physical
(8) examination or I and to have an SGOT or SGPT elevation
(9) of the magnitude that I'm defending, that is, one and a
(10) half times the upper limit of normal, your physician or
(11) mine would seek that test to be repeated, and if it —
(12) if it consistently was elevated, he would or she would
(13) seek a cause and an explanation of that elevation, and
(14) I would expect no less in my review or anyone else's
(15) review of a potential in-licensing candidate.
(16) Q: Going back to the FDA, did you — you might
(17) have misspoken or I might have misheard you, I thought
(18) you said their standard was more conservative than
(19) yours.
(20) A: Their standard was more conservative in terms
(21) of identifying a compound as being hepatotoxic. I
(22) mean, they are not willing to label a compound as
(23) hepatotoxic unless it has this elevation of 3X upper
(24) limit of normal. They are being conservative vis-a-vis
(25) the wishes of the industry. They may be being — they

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(1) would be being less conservative if one looks at it
(2) from the other context of identifying potentially
(3) hepatotoxic agents.
(4) Q: So, do you think the FDA is less conservative
(5) than you are in their concern for identifying
(6) potentially hepatotoxic agents?
(7) A: That's not what I said. There it's not a
(8) question of the FDA's concern or lack of concern. It's
(9) a question that the FDA has a different charge from
(10) what I would have in making the decision to in-license
(11) a compound, and the other parameter that you are not
(12) considering in any of this discussion is the frequency
(13) with which these kind of elevations appear.
(14) Q: I just haven't gotten there yet.
(15) Still on page 8 of your report, it says — and
(16) I'm reading from the bottom of the paragraph labeled
(17) (a), "Such data would have mandated a detailed
(18) examination of the effects of Niacor-SR on the liver
(19) prior to any consideration of in-licensing the drug.
(20) Such detailed examination in my opinion would have
(21) included, at the least," and then there's a little (i),
(22) "Examination of liver biopsies in patients treated with
(23) Niacor-SR."
(24) What does a liver biopsy entail?
(25) A: It entails — the most frequent liver biopsies

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(1) are needle biopsies, and it would entail placing a
(2) small needle or trocar in the liver and withdrawing a
(3) piece of tissue and examining it under the microscope.
(4) Q: How does it — can you just describe the
(5) procedure? I mean, how does it work? How does the
(6) needle get to the liver?
(7) A: The patient is given local anesthetic. The
(8) area is surgically prepped, it's cleansed, and a needle
(9) — usually I used an 18-gauge needle when I did this,
(10) and people use larger ones, but 18-gauge is about the
(11) size needle that's used to give an intramuscular
(12) injection, and it has a metal plunger that goes down
(13) through the bore of the needle. This is injected —
(14) this is pushed through the skin into the liver, and
(15) then the plunger is withdrawn, and it pulls a small
(16) piece of tissue with it.
(17) Q: So, the needle actually, it goes through your
(18) flesh to your — I mean, through your skin, through
(19) your flesh, and then takes out a little piece of your
(20) liver?
(21) A: That's correct.
(22) Q: Is the patient awake for the procedure?
(23) A: Yes.
(24) Q: Now, how is it that you would expect someone
(25) who was considering an in-license of Niacor-SR to do

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(1) these liver biopsies?
(2) A: I would expect to see some additional clinical
(3) data generated on patients who were dosed with
(4) Niacor-SR and liver biopsies obtained. Ideally, I'd
(5) like to go back to those patients that had had the
(6) enzyme elevations and examine the course that they had
(7) following the study and also seek to dose them again
(8) and biopsy them again, biopsy them.
(9) Q: So, again, how would you expect someone who was
(10) considering an in-license to accomplish that? Would
(11) they demand that of in this case Upsher, that they go
(12) and perform these liver biopsies?
(13) A: Yes, it would be quite reasonable to ask the
(14) licensor to do these kind of studies. This class of
(15) drugs, sustained-release niacin compounds, have been
(16) associated with quite significant liver toxicity, not
(17) just enzyme elevations. Likewise, nicotinic acid
(18) itself has been associated with fulminate, serious
(19) hepatotoxicity, and knowing that, one would have been
(20) and should have been very careful with the in-licensing
(21) decision on another member of this very class, and it
(22) is in that context that I would insist upon the
(23) assiduousness that I've described in this report.
(24) Q: Would you expect that the FDA would have
(25) required Upsher to perform liver biopsies of the

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(1) patients in this clinical trial?
(2) A: It's my opinion that the FDA would have
(3) rejected this drug based on the data that it had before
(4) it and wouldn't have required them to do anything
(5) further, just simply would have rejected the drug and
(6) insisted that they go back and perform more pivotal
(7) trials.
(8) Q: Let's assume that the FDA differed with you on
(9) what these data show and that they wouldn't have
(10) rejected the drug based on the data that you examined.
(11) Let's just assume that.
(12) A: Um-hum.
(13) Q: Would you expect that the FDA, before approving
(14) the drug, assuming that that didn't knock it out by
(15) itself, would ask Upsher to conduct liver biopsies?
(16) MR. SILBER: Objection, incomplete
(17) hypothetical.
(18) THE WITNESS: I would say — let me understand
(19) what — what your hypothetical is.
(20) BY MS. SHORES:
(21) Q: Okay.
(22) A: Am I correct in assuming that you're asking me
(23) whether — were the FDA to have been unconcerned about
(24) the elevations in liver enzymes, then had asked the
(25) sponsor to conduct liver biopsies?

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11 Q: Um-hum, before approving the drug, yeah.
12 A: I would say that that is to me a bizarre
13 hypothetical, because certainly if the FDA had no
14 concerns about the liver enzyme elevations —
15 Q: I — I —
16 A: — I don't think that they would require a
17 party to do a liver biopsy.
18 Q: Maybe I misspoke. I don't think I asked you to
19 assume they had no concerns. I asked you to assume
20 that they disagreed with you and your view that these
21 data alone were sufficient grounds to reject the drug,
22 but let's say it gave them some concern. If they were
23 concerned but not concerned enough to reject it out of
24 hand, would you expect the FDA to ask Upshero conduct
25 liver biopsies?
26 MR. SILBER: Objection, misstates his
27 testimony, incomplete hypothetical.
28 THE WITNESS: Would you mind repeating that
29 hypothetical again?
30 BY MS. SHORES:
31 Q: Sure, sure, absolutely.
32 I'm asking you to — you said, I think, that in
33 your opinion, the FDA would not have approved Niacor-SR
34 based on these data.
35 A: Let me respond to that.

36 THE WITNESS: If the FDA were to have looked at
37 the data that I saw, that is, all these enzyme
38 elevations, the — the high incidence of withdrawal
39 from the study and dose reductions, you know, in the
40 pivotal trials, if they were to look at that whole
41 picture and were still, to paraphrase you, I believe,
42 on the fence about this drug, that is, uncertain which
43 way to go, there are many directions that they could
44 have taken.
45 In my opinion, the FDA looks at this drug —
46 would look at this drug and looks at any other drug
47 before it with a risk-benefit analysis, and they would
48 not look at this liver toxicity information in
49 isolation. They would look at the benefit that this
50 drug offers to the patient community and then try to
51 make an assessment as to whether the adversity produced
52 by the drug or potential adversity produced by the drug
53 is worth the risk.
54 I think when they looked at the whole panoply
55 before them concerning this drug, they would have come
56 to the conclusion that this drug is simply not worth
57 subjecting the populace to the risk of hepatotoxicity.
58 BY MS. SHORES:
59 Q: And now I'm just asking you to assume that they
60 didn't form that conclusion based on these data, but

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61 Q: Okay, I thought that's what you said. We
62 can —
63 A: That is what I said. When I say "these data,"
64 there are other data that were provided, and there were
65 data provided at the higher standard as well. There
66 were data provided for the 115 study, I believe it was,
67 on all three doses plus the immediate release at the
68 higher standard that you alluded to before, and that is
69 three times the upper limit of normal.
70 Q: Um-hum.
71 A: And even at that standard, the incidence of
72 liver toxicity was in my opinion considerably too high
73 for the FDA to have considered approving this drug.
74 Q: Okay, and I'm asking you to go with me a little
75 bit here and assume that you're wrong about that, okay,
76 assume that those data were not sufficient in and of
77 itself for the FDA to reject the drug. They still were
78 interested in it. Had concerns, but didn't reject it
79 out of hand.
80 A: Um-hum.
81 Q: Would you then expect, before approving the
82 drug, that the FDA would require Upsher to conduct
83 liver biopsies?
84 MR. SILBER: Objection, incomplete
85 hypothetical.

86 there were sufficient concerns indicated by the data to
87 make them want to, as you put it, seek further
88 information. Would that include asking Upsher to
89 conduct liver biopsies?
90 A: There are — if your hypothetical were, indeed,
91 to have been operative, that is, if they were to have
92 been, if you will, on the fence about this drug
93 vis-a-vis the enzyme elevation data and other data,
94 there were various paths that they could have taken.
95 One of those would have been to mandate that
96 the sponsor conduct an additional trial that would
97 include dosing patients and performing liver biopsies.
98 There are other paths as well. They could have and
99 probably would have strongly considered mandating that
100 the sponsor perform additional pivotal trials.
101 For instance, taking — dosing patients at
102 higher — at higher levels of the drug, recognizing
103 that this was a dose-related effect and that the
104 behavior of the patient population is often to take
105 more of the drug than is supported by the labeling, and
106 so to afford themselves a margin of safety, a simple
107 thing that they would have done or could have done
108 would be to have mandated an additional pivotal trial,
109 this time dosing the patients at, say, 3000 or 4000
110 milligrams per day as opposed to the upper limit that

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1) they used of 2000.
2) There are various things that the FDA could do.
3) I am quite confident that they would have — that doing
4) nothing is not one of their alternatives. They
5) absolutely would have had their sensitivity raised
6) because of these data, and they would have mandated
7) that the sponsor do something. Whether liver biopsies
8) would have been one of the things that they would have
9) mandated is possible.
10) Q: Would you expect that liver biopsies were done
11) in the clinical trials for statins?
12) A: I don't know the answer to that question.
13) Q: Would it surprise you to learn that there was
14) never a liver biopsy done of any patient in any
15) clinical trial for a statin?
16) A: It wouldn't surprise me at all that liver
17) biopsies were not performed in patients with statins.
18) Q: Okay.
19) A: For a variety of reasons.
20) Q: Why is that?
21) A: First of all, the incidence of elevated enzymes
22) in these patients was considerably less. Secondly,
23) this was a class of drugs that was perceived as a
24) breakthrough in the treatment of hyperlipidemia. And
25) again, on the risk-benefit continuum that I spoke of

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1) earlier, the statins would have — would not have
2) elicited the level of adverse effect sensitivity that a
3) drug of lesser import would.
4) Q: I think earlier you referred to — and I'm
5) going to get in trouble for mischaracterizing your
6) testimony, so please correct me — you said something
7) along the lines of given the past history of this drug,
8) these data would have — and the niacin now I'm talking
9) about — these data would have caused you concern.
10) What past history are you referring to?
11) A: I didn't say the past —
12) MR. SILBER: Objection, mischaracterize his
13) testimony.
14) THE WITNESS: — history of this drug.
15) BY MS. SHORES:
16) Q: I told you I was going to get it wrong.
17) A: I said the past history of that class drug, the
18) sustained-release nicotinic acid.
19) Q: And what past history was there for the
20) sustained-release nicotinic acid?
21) A: There were various attempts to produce a
22) sustained-release-nicotinic acid preparation that are
23) alluded to in the literature.
24) Q: Were those over-the-counter products or
25) prescription products?

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1) A: I don't think they made it that far, but I
2) don't know the answer to that.
3) Q: Okay.
4) Do you want to take a short break?
5) MR. SILBER: Sure.
6) (A brief recess was taken.)
7) BY MS. SHORES:
8) Q: Dr. Levy, can you identify all of the materials
9) that you have spread out before you?
10) A: Yes. I'm confusing myself here. These are
11) both copies — I believe identical copies of the data
12) package that was given to Mr. Audibert when he was
13) evaluating the Niacor opportunity, and this one is the
14) one that I brought with me, and this is the one that I
15) believe is a clean copy that was provided to me.
16) Q: Okay, and just for the record, you're referring
17) to what's been marked as Levy Exhibits — I believe
18) that's —
19) A: This is the — the clean copy is marked as Levy
20) Exhibit 3.
21) Q: Levy Exhibit 3.
22) A: And this one is marked as Audibert Exhibit 2.
23) This was not — this is not an exhibit to my deposition
24) as far as I understand it.
25) Q: Okay, okay.

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1) A: I'm getting confused with these documents.
2) Q: And just so I'm clear, the one that you're —
3) in your right hand here, that is a copy of, again, the
4) Upsher-Smith data package that contains at least some
5) handwritten notes of you. Is that right?
6) A: Yes, ma'am.
7) Q: Okay.
8) A: Let's see, this is a copy of my comment on the
9) expert report of Walter Bratic, and it contains no
10) handwritten marks except for the fact that on the last
11) page I circled the words "company's historical
12) licensing practices."
13) Q: Okay.
14) A: Let's see, this is a copy of Dr. Bertram Pitt's
15) rebuttal report, and it contains on the table — the
16) only additional markings that I placed were the page
17) numbers referred to for each of the numbers in his
18) table.
19) Q: Okay.
20) A: This is a printout of the front page of the
21) subscriber version of the Recombinant Database that Mr.
22) Bratic referred to in his expert report, where he used
23) the free version that doesn't have this detail. So, I
24) thought that if that line of questioning were to have
25) emerged, I could have shown you how those databases

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101 differ. There's no markings on that.

102 Q: Okay.

103 A: This is a table of the Schering agreements that
104 were alluded to in Mr. Bratic's report and contain
105 various markings highlighting some of the elements of
106 those agreements.

107 This is a printout that we derived from the
108 subscriber version of the Recap Database referring to
109 Genome Therapeutics, which was one of the licensing
110 deals, where I simply wanted to identify and
111 characterize the various types of past payments that
112 were made.

113 Q: And that contains some notes, right?

114 A: That contains some notes.

115 Q: Yep.

116 A: This is the same printout from that same
117 database regarding another agreement. This was the
118 Myriad Genetics.

119 Q: And some notes on that document, as well?

120 A: There are some notes on that.

121 Q: Um-hum.

122 A: This is a table, again, listing the 23 other
123 agreements — or non-Schering agreements that were
124 alluded to in Mr. Bratic's report. There are no marks
125 on that table.

101 from that deposition.

102 I believe that's everything.

103 Q: Okay. And are there any other materials that
104 you brought with you today that you feel like you may
105 need to refer to?

106 A: No.

107 MS. SHORES: I think based on that we are
108 entitled to copies of those. I don't need to interrupt
109 the deposition now to have them made, but —

110 MR. SILBER: As I stated off the record, the
111 position that I'm setting forth is that if he needs to
112 refer to one of these documents today in response to
113 your question, we will provide that, and my position in
114 part — and someone else may be helpful to clarify this
115 — is I understand that at the deposition of Greg
116 Brown, who was on the Upsher fact list, there was some
117 dispute about some notes that he had at his deposition
118 that were not provided to counsel, and —

119 MS. BIERI: They were provided to counsel.

120 MR. SILBER: They were provided to counsel?

121 MS. BIERI: Yes.

122 MR. WASSERMAN: Yes.

123 MR. SILBER: At the deposition?

124 MS. BIERI: Yes. There was a disagreement over
125 whether they should be, and they were, in fact,

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101 Q: Okay.

102 A: This is Exhibit 1 from Mr. Audibert's second
103 deposition, and it is the material on Niaspan. There
104 are no marks of any sort in this.

105 Q: Okay.

106 A: This is a printout from the pages of Goodman
107 and Gillman's Textbook of Pharmacology that relate to
108 nicotinic acid.

109 Q: Okay.

110 A: This is a rather unusable copy of the
111 Physicians' Desk Reference entry regarding Niaspan,
112 unusable because it's — the xerox didn't pick up part
113 of the page, and so I can't read it.

114 Q: Okay.

115 A: But that's what it is.

116 Let's see, and finally, this is the transcript
117 from Audibert's second definition —

118 MR. SILBER: Deposition. You said
119 "definition."

120 THE WITNESS: Oh, I'm sorry.

121 BY MS. SHORES:

122 Q: That's all right.

123 A: Audibert's second deposition, and the only
124 notes that it contains are on the front page where I
125 summarize some of the — my comments and recollections

101 provided to counsel. He wasn't relying on them, they
102 were just in front of him.

103 MR. CURRAN: And he's a nonparty fact witness.

104 MR. SILBER: Okay, and doesn't have an
105 attorney-client relationship in the same way that Dr.
106 Levy does, and that was the reason I was raising that
107 and that was the basis for my position. If that's
108 incorrect, I don't have a problem providing these
109 materials.

110 MS. SHORES: Okay, well —

111 MR. CURRAN: Your colleague did get the
112 materials. He also got an oral comment, but —

113 MR. SILBER: I know, I know, I certainly heard
114 about that, but you tell me how you want to proceed. I
115 can have someone now while we continue make copies of
116 these documents.

117 MS. SHORES: That would be terrific, and then
118 if I ask a question that — I hope I don't do this —
119 that you need to refer to something that's out being
120 copied, we will just put it off and pick it up when
121 they come back.

122 MR. SILBER: Okay.

123 MS. SHORES: Okay?

124 MR. SILBER: That's appropriate.

125 (Witness confers with counsel.)

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1) THE WITNESS: This is more consistent with your
2) current line of questioning, so —

3) BY MS. SHORES:

4) Q: Okay, right, and I think I can predict that we
5) are going to be on that for a little bit.

6) Again, I am going to get in trouble again for
7) mischaracterizing something you said, but I thought you
8) said something about the data for statins, that the
9) liver enzyme elevations were shown in the case of
10) statins to be reversible. Is that right?

11) MR. SILBER: Objection, misstates his
12) testimony.

13) THE WITNESS: I don't think I said that. As I
14) understand the liver enzyme elevations on the statins,
15) from my readings in the Physicians' Desk Reference and
16) another analogous publication, as well as the textbooks
17) of pharmacology, the elevations — the hepatic enzyme
18) elevations seen with the statins are seen very
19) infrequently and are reversible when the — when the
20) drug is stopped, and actually in many cases even when
21) the drug is continued, the enzyme elevations remit.

22) BY MS. SHORES:

23) Q: Okay. And why is reversibility important in
24) your opinion?

25) A: Reversibility, per se, I think has to be

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26) qualified. Reversibility can mean that there was
27) hepatic damage being caused, and this hepatic damage,
28) upon stopping the drug, was repaired, the liver having
29) the capacity — I guess it's one of the very few organs
30) in the body that has the capacity for self-repair.

31) It also can mean something even less
32) significant than that, and that's that the enzyme
33) elevations themselves were unrelated to any sort of
34) hepatotoxic event and went away for a variety of
35) reasons.

36) Q: Okay. Are there cases in which the FDA has
37) approved drugs — well, let me strike that, I'll start
38) that over.

39) Are there cases in which you can prescribe and
40) use a drug and monitor the liver enzymes of the patient
41) and then simply remove the patient from the drug when
42) you see that occurring?

43) A: It's very frequent that the FDA will mandate in
44) the labeling that patients be periodically followed
45) with hepatic enzymes and for the purpose of identifying
46) in the screening modality to which I alluded before the
47) possibility of there being hepatotoxicity and thereby
48) alerting the physician to stopping the drug or reducing
49) the dose of the drug in the course of the patients
50) being treated with that drug.

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1) Q: How about any lipid-lowering drugs, do any of
2) those fall in that category other than the niacins?
3) A: I believe that the — there's recommendation
4) that the statins — the patients on the statins be
5) periodically examined for elevations of liver enzymes,
6) and the fibrates as well. I don't — I don't think
7) that the bile acid sequestrants have that
8) recommendation.

9) Q: Okay. And in the case of the statins, do you
10) know whether the labeling or the PDR, what level of
11) liver enzyme elevation they refer to there?

12) A: I don't recall and I don't have in front of me
13) the printout for any of the statins from the PDR, and I
14) don't recall what standards of enzyme elevation they
15) use.

16) Q: Would it surprise you that if, in the case of
17) the statins, the level of liver enzyme elevation that
18) the labeling and the PDR indicate is three times the
19) upper limit of normal?

20) A: If you're asking me whether it would surprise
21) me, I don't think it would surprise me.

22) Q: Okay. So, it wouldn't surprise you that
23) according to the FDA, the relevant standard is three
24) times the upper limit of normal, not 1.5 times the
25) upper limit of normal in the case of drugs where you

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1) might want to remove them from the drug if they show —

2) A: I think, again, you know, if I may say, I think
3) you're mischaracterizing what I'm saying.

4) Q: I'm just asking you a new question, that's all
5) I'm trying to do.

6) A: I don't think that I said that this would —
7) would you mind repeating what you just said?

8) Q: Sure, I'll try, and I believe it was just a
9) poorly phrased question and maybe I'll improve on it.

10) I think you said that there are some drugs
11) where the labeling or the PDR indicates that you should
12) monitor them for increased liver enzyme activity and
13) remove them from the drug, and my question was, would
14) it surprise you that in the case of statins, what the
15) PDR says is you should do so when the patient
16) experiences successive elevations at three time the
17) upper limit of normal as opposed to some lower
18) multiplier?

19) MR. SILBER: Objection, misstates his
20) testimony.

21) THE WITNESS: I don't understand what you mean
22) by —

23) MS. SHORES: I didn't refer to his testimony.

24) THE WITNESS: — by "would do so." What do you
25) mean by "would do so"?

(1) MS. SHORES: Can you read the question back?
(2) (The record was read as follows):
(3) "QUESTION: I think you said that there are
(4) some drugs where the labeling or the PDR indicates that
(5) you should monitor them for increased liver enzyme
(6) activity and remove them from the drug, and my question
(7) was, would it surprise you that in the case of statins,
(8) what the PDR says is you should do so when the patient
(9) experiences successive elevations at three time the
(10) upper limit of normal as opposed to some lower
(11) multiplier?"

BY MS. SHORES:

(12) Q: By "doing so," I meant remove the patient from
(13) the drug.

(14) A: Would it surprise me that the FDA has suggested
(15) that patients be removed from the drug when they have a
(16) persistent elevation of the hepatic enzymes at a level
(17) greater than three time the upper limit of normal? I
(18) would say that that doesn't surprise me if that's the
(19) entry, because removing the patient from the drug,
(20) particularly a drug that is a primary mode of therapy
(21) for a very serious condition, removal of the patient
(22) from the drug is a fairly significant medical decision,
(23) and so the — the FDA has said — the FDA has looked at
(24) this in a — again, a risk-benefit fashion, saying that

(1) a person with an elevated cholesterol, with a
(2) hyperlipidemic condition, who's on a statin, is at
(3) greater risk being removed from the statin and
(4) suffering the hyperlipidemic condition than he or she
(5) may be from less significant elevations of liver
(6) enzymes.

(7) Implied is that this patient would continue to
(8) be monitored, say the patient with an elevation of
(9) liver enzymes but at a lesser degree than the three
(10) times upper limit of normal. The patient, under I
(11) believe prudent medical care, would be monitored and
(12) perhaps monitored more frequently, and the course of
(13) the patient's hepatic function would be followed by
(14) this physician.

(15) For instance, the elevation of liver enzymes,
(16) as I've said many times this morning, is the screening
(17) tool. One would look at the patient for clinical signs
(18) of any hepatic aberrancy. For instance, is there the
(19) presence of jaundice or some of the other symptoms of
(20) hepatotoxicity apparent? There are myriad things that,
(21) again, a physician can and should do in the face of
(22) hepatic enzyme elevations that fall short of simply
(23) removing the patient from a drug that the patient
(24) needs.

(25) Q: Okay. Would you expect, then, in the PDR or

(1) the labeling for statins that there is some guidance
(2) about what to do if the patient shows elevated liver
(3) enzymes on the level of 1.5 times the upper limit of
(4) normal?

(5) A: Excuse me.

(6) Q: Sure.

(7) A: I need my Claritin.

(8) I'm sorry, would you please repeat that?

(9) Q: Sure. My question was, would you expect, then,
(10) in the PDR or the labeling for a statin that there
(11) would be some guidance as to what a physician should do
(12) if a patient on the drug experienced elevated liver
(13) enzymes on the order of 1.5 times the upper limit of
(14) normal?

(15) A: I don't — the PDR is not a textbook of
(16) medicine. The PDR doesn't offer guidelines for
(17) physicians in the proper practice of every facet of
(18) medicine, and I — I think that by suggesting that
(19) liver enzymes be monitored on patients taking these
(20) medications, the assumption is made that physicians
(21) will use those data in a prudent manner and would use
(22) any abnormal laboratory finding as one of the
(23) parameters in the evaluation of this patient's
(24) well-being.

(25) Q: You said in your report that one of the things

(1) somebody or anybody considering a license of Niacor
(2) would have done is to look at the reversibility and the
(3) persistence of the enzyme elevations.

(4) A: Yes, I believe I said that.

(5) Q: Is that right? Okay.

(6) And you fault Schering for not having done
(7) that. Is that right?

(8) A: No, I don't believe I fault Schering for not
(9) having done that. There was provided some information
(10) in this data set from Upsher regarding the
(11) reversibility, and I think that that information in my
(12) opinion should have been more thoroughly examined, and
(13) it — as I believe would have been required by the FDA
(14) and to me would have been required were I to have
(15) licensed the drug, additional pivotal trials should
(16) have looked very carefully at the reversibility or lack
(17) thereof of these enzymes — of these enzyme elevations.

(18) Q: What did the information in the data that
(19) Schering was given show on the issue of reversibility?

(20) MR. SILBER: Feel free to look at the document
(21) if you need to.

(22) THE WITNESS: Yes, please, if I may refer to
(23) that.

BY MS. SHORES:

(25) Q: Sure, please.

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81 A: There is a table in here. (Document review.)
82 Q: If I can help, you might look at pages 92 to
83 93.
84 A: Thank you. (Further document review.) Yes, I
85 believe on page 93 — yes, on page 93, there were data
86 referring to this issue.
87 Q: And did it show whether the enzyme elevations
88 were reversible?
89 A: These data were actually of some concern to me.
90 The answer to your question is I don't think one can
91 really talk about the reversibility from — from these
92 data. This is the sort of incompleteness to which I
93 was referring in my report.
94 Q: Okay. Is —
95 A: What — what the — if one simply looks at the
96 figure on the — the lower of the two figures on that
97 page, it says that 48 patients returned to within
98 laboratory normal range. One normalized on a full dose
99 and completed the study. Forty-eight normalized after
100 the study medication was discontinued —
101 MR. SILBER: I think it says 44.
102 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry, 44 normalized after
103 the study medication was discontinued prematurely or
104 due to study completion. Three normalized on a reduced
105 dose and completed the study.

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106 What I would have preferred to see and what
107 concerns me is recognizing that Niacor-SR is a chronic
108 medication that must be given for the life of the
109 patient, in contrast, for instance, to an acute
110 medication, like an antibiotic. An antibiotic, if
111 given for, say, a two or three-week period causes a
112 transient elevation of liver enzymes, and then those
113 liver enzyme elevations go away after the drug is
114 withdrawn, it's of no real consequence, because the
115 patient only needs this medication for three weeks.
116 This medication must be given for the life of
117 the patient, and so it doesn't solve anything to have
118 to withdraw the patient from the medication for the
119 liver enzyme elevations to remit. What I would have
120 preferred to see is the normalization of the liver
121 enzyme elevations while the patient continues on the
122 drug, and this happens with other types of medications.
123 BY MS. SHORES:
124 Q: So, in your report where you say that someone
125 considering a license should have examined whether the
126 enzyme elevations disappear after the drug is stopped,
127 you now think that's not important?
128 A: I didn't say —
129 MR. SILBER: Are you clear to where she's
130 pointing to?

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131 MS. SHORES: It's at the bottom of page 8.
132 THE WITNESS: I didn't say that that's not
133 important, I want to look at the whole panoply of
134 hepatic effects of this drug when the drug is used as
135 it will be used or would be used in the clinical
136 setting.
137 BY MS. SHORES:
138 Q: Okay, but that's what's referred to in the
139 remainder of that sentence, right?
140 A: Well, you're taking out of context that — a
141 part of that sentence.
142 Q: I am?
143 A: What that whole sentence says is, "Examination
144 of the reversibility and persistence of the enzyme
145 elevations, i.e., do the enzyme elevations disappear
146 after the drug is stopped and do the enzyme — do the
147 elevations persist with prolonged administration of the
148 drug?" And the second half of that sentence, that is,
149 "do the elevations persist with prolonged
150 administration of the drug," is that to which I was
151 alluding earlier and which would be important to me in
152 a patient who is going to need this drug for the
153 duration of his life.
154 Q: And that would have been more important to you
155 to show than the issue of whether they disappear after

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156 the drug is stopped?
157 MR. SILBER: Objection, misstates his
158 testimony.
159 THE WITNESS: I didn't make any value judgment
160 on —
161 BY MS. SHORES:
162 Q: I'm asking you now.
163 A: — on what is more important, I think that
164 it's one incomplete piece of the puzzle that the enzyme
165 elevations do or don't normalize when the drug is
166 stopped. Another piece of the puzzle is whether they
167 do or don't normalize when the drug is continually
168 dosed.
169 Q: And the piece of the puzzle with respect to
170 whether the enzyme elevations disappear after the drug
171 is stopped, that piece was in the data package Schering
172 had, right?
173 A: Would you repeat that, please?
174 Q: Yeah. The piece of the puzzle showing whether
175 the enzyme elevations disappeared after the drug is
176 stopped, that information was in the data Schering had,
177 correct?
178 A: Yes, those data would be the least demanding
179 standard to apply to these enzyme elevations.
180 Q: Okay.

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(1) A: And to me, of far less significance for the
(2) reasons I said before, because this drug is going to be
(3) chronically used.

(4) Q: I tried to ask you that question, and I got an
(5) objection.

(6) Okay, if you would turn to the top of page 9 of
(7) your report. You say that anybody considering an
(8) in-license of Niacor-SR would necessarily have had to
(9) conduct a detailed examination of the histopathology
(10) results from animal toxicology studies done prior to
(11) the clinical trials.

(12) Do you see that at the top of page 9 of your
(13) report?

(14) A: Yes, I do.

(15) Q: What additional information would that have
(16) given somebody considering an in-license on Niacor-SR?

(17) A: As I — as I think I've tried to indicate, the
(18) enzyme elevations in a class of drugs that have been
(19) associated with significant liver toxicity alert me to
(20) the need for all the additional information I can get.
(21) Among the body of additional information realistically
(22) available to me are those data alluded to in this
(23) detailed examination of the histopathology results from
(24) animal toxicology studies done prior to the clinical
(25) trials.

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(1) Q: Okay. And I guess I'm trying to get an
(2) understanding of what the animal toxicology tests might
(3) have shown, if you could just give me an example of the
(4) — what you have been looking to see in that data.

(5) A: Well, there are any number of things that it
(6) could have shown. If the animal toxicology studies
(7) were entirely clean, if the animal toxicology studies
(8) had shown no enzyme elevations, if the examination of
(9) the histopathology in the rats and dogs in which these
(10) studies presumably were done showed no effect on the
(11) liver, it would have been encouraging.

(12) Q: Okay.

(13) A: If, on the other hand, it had shown the
(14) opposite, if there had been the same sort of enzyme
(15) elevations or more seen in the animals and if the
(16) histologic examination of tissues from these animals
(17) had shown actual hepatic necroses or other aspects of
(18) hepatotoxicity, it would have been a very — a very
(19) negative finding, you know, for these drugs.

(20) Q: Okay. What do the histopathology results from
(21) the animal toxicology studies on Niacor-SR show?

(22) A: I have no idea. Those data were never provided
(23) either to me or to Audibert as far as I know.

(24) Q: So, you don't know whether the data therein
(25) would have been encouraging or discouraging?

(1) A: I have absolutely no idea.

(2) Q: Would it surprise you to learn that there
(3) weren't any animal toxicology studies performed?

(4) A: I'm going to be flippant in this answer. The
(5) conduct of research by Upsher-Smith was so abysmal that
(6) nothing would surprise me.

(7) Q: So, it's your expert opinion that in order to
(8) get — well, let me just ask you. Is it your expert
(9) opinion that in order to get approval of Niacor-SR,
(10) Upsher would have had to do animal toxicology studies?

(11) A: It is my experience that in order to file an
(12) investigational new drug application, an IND, in order
(13) to commence clinical trials in humans, one would have
(14) to provide histopathologic data in that IND, and hence,
(15) those type of studies would have been requisite.

(16) Q: And that's true even for known compounds like
(17) niacin?

(18) A: This was not a known compound. This was a new
(19) dosage form of a new delivery system, and it was being
(20) filed as an NDA, a new drug application, and that means
(21) that it is considered a new — a new compound and I
(22) don't think would be excused from these toxicologic
(23) requirements.

(24) Q: So, it's your expert testimony here today that
(25) the FDA would have required animal toxicology studies

(1) or data from them before approving Niacor-SR?

(2) A: I would have been surprised if the FDA would
(3) not have sought preclinical toxicology studies for this
(4) kind of product.

(5) Q: Okay. In your report you also point to what
(6) you characterize as the high incidence of flushing as
(7) something that would have discouraged a potential
(8) licensor. Is that right?

(9) A: Are you — are you referring to some —

(10) Q: Yeah, page 9, letter (c), middle of the page.

(11) A: Yes, I see it.

(12) Q: Based on the information that Schering had at
(13) the time, what was the incidence of flushing associated
(14) with Niacor-SR?

(15) A: I believe I cite that in my report, if I may
(16) refer to it.

(17) Q: Sure.

(18) A: The overall incidence of flushing was 87, 81
(19) and 87 percent respectively for the 1000, 1500 and
(20) 2000-milligram doses of Niacor-SR —

(21) Q: And you're referring to your report there when
(22) you —

(23) A: I'm referring to my report, yes.

(24) Q: What page, sir?

(25) A: That's the table on page 8. And those data, in

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19 turn, were derived from the data set provided to
20 Audibert and to me alluded to before, I believe it's at
21 Exhibit -- Levy Exhibit 3 --
22 Q: Three I believe, yes.
23 A: -- and it's page 00088 of that.
24 Q: Okay. And on page 00088, you're referring to
25 the top line in the table that appears at the top of
26 the page?
27 A: I'm referring to the upper of the two tables
28 and the top line of that table that is listed as --
29 under the Severity column, overall. I also have in my
30 table in my report, on page 8 of my report, another
31 line dealing with flushing that's entitled Flushing
32 (Severe), and those numbers also are derived from this
33 table, and the numbers were 62, 53 and 63 for the three
34 doses of Niacor-SR.
35 Q: Okay. You're familiar I take it with Kos'
36 Niaspan?
37 A: "Familiar" is a -- is a term that I --
38 Q: I don't want to trap you into --
39 A: -- wouldn't be --
40 Q: -- saying something that you don't want to
41 commit to. You have heard of it?
42 A: I have heard of Niaspan, and I have looked at
43 some information on Niaspan.

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44 Q: Okay. In fact, you say in your report that it
45 had distinct safety and performance advantages over
46 Niacor-SR.
47 A: Yes, I believe I said that in my report and
48 still feel that.
49 Q: Okay. Do you know what its overall incidence
50 of flushing was reported to be in 1997?
51 A: I believe that the overall incidence of
52 flushing was about the same as that cited in my table,
53 about 38 percent.
54 Q: Do you know --
55 A: I don't recall what dose of Niaspan that number
56 came from. It was probably the clinical dose of
57 Niaspan, which is 2000 milligrams per day.
58 Q: Okay. In any event, you recall that the
59 overall incidence of flushing of Niaspan was similar to
60 that reported for Niacor?
61 A: The overall incidence of flushing for Niaspan
62 and Niacor I believe were similar.
63 Q: Okay. Are you aware that Kos raised some money
64 in an IPO, in an initial public offering?
65 A: I am peripherally aware of Kos' having done
66 that.
67 Q: Do you know how much money it raised in its
68 IPO?

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69 A: I don't know how much money it raised.
70 Q: Okay. Assume that it sold about 20 percent of
71 its stock and raised \$60 million in its IPO, okay?
72 A: Um-hum.
73 Q: How much would that make the whole company
74 worth?
75 A: That's a -- a strange calculation.
76 Q: It is?
77 A: Because selling part of the company in an IPO
78 does not mean that the whole company would have sold
79 for five times that.
80 Q: Well, okay. Do you know how much money that
81 the marketplace was -- or analysts were estimating that
82 Kos was worth in this time frame?
83 A: The -- the answer to that is no, I don't -- I
84 have not read any analysts' reports on Kos.
85 Q: Okay. Would it surprise you to learn that
86 people were estimating that Kos was worth about a
87 quarter of a million dollars?
88 A: I once again don't want to appear unduly
89 flippant, but I am fairly familiar with the
90 machinations of the investment banking community
91 vis-a-vis IPOs, and I really don't care one lick what
92 valuation they assign to a company whose IPO they are
93 hawking.

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94 Q: Do you know -- well, was Niaspan the main
95 product in Kos' portfolio at the time?
96 A: Niaspan was one of Kos' products, as I
97 understand it, and I don't want to try to leave the
98 impression that I have done much, if any, reading on
99 Niaspan or Kos. Most of what I know comes from having
100 reviewed various depositions and the testimony related
101 to this. I have not myself read any primary
102 information provided by Kos or its analysts.
103 Q: Well, based on Mr. Bell's deposition, for
104 example?
105 A: As I understand it, Kos was presenting itself
106 as a platform company, that is, not a single-product
107 company. Kos was presenting itself as having a
108 delivery mechanism that could be applied to a variety
109 of pharmaceutical products, the first of which but not
110 necessarily the only of which or the most valuable of
111 which was Niaspan.
112 Q: Are you aware that Kos expects that Niaspan
113 sales this year will be about \$100 million?
114 A: Would you ask that again, please?
115 Q: Are you aware that Kos anticipates that its
116 sales of Niaspan in the year 2001 will be about \$100
117 million?
118 A: I've reviewed no information on the current

[1] sales projections of Niaspan, so I —
[2] Q: Well, given that it has an overall incidence of
[3] flushing of 88 percent, would it surprise you if I were
[4] to tell you that it's going to sell \$100 million worth
[5] of Niaspan this year?
[6] A: If you're telling me that that is a fact —
[7] Q: Assume it.
[8] A: — or 2 — would it surprise me that a drug
[9] that is a sustained-release form of nicotinic acid that
[10] can be given once a day at bedtime that has a
[11] negligible incidence of hepatotoxicity and is an entry
[12] into a marketplace with, you know, over \$10 billion
[13] annual sales, that I would not be surprised that Kos
[14] could gather that level of sales in the United States.
[15] Q: Even if it had an incidence — an overall
[16] incidence of flushing at 88 percent?
[17] A: Even if it had an overall incidence of flushing
[18] at 88 percent, I don't find that to be surprising.
[19] Q: Okay. Turning back to page 8 of your report,
[20] in the note that appears under the table, you say that
[21] it's reasonable to use the 2000-milligram dosage of
[22] Niacor-SR as a comparator to immediate-release niacin.
[23] Why is that?
[24] A: There are multiple reasons why. The
[25] 2000-milligram dose of Niacor was the one that I would

[1] 2000-milligram dose. So, to me, it was logical to
[2] focus on that comparison.
[3] Q: Is that true from the standpoint of both
[4] efficacy and safety?
[5] A: It's very much true from that perspective,
[6] because one of the things that I certainly would look
[7] at, and I know my colleagues at the FDA are more than
[8] interested in looking at, is to assure that the safety
[9] advantages and the efficacy advantages of a candidate
[10] drug are compared against the relevant comparators.
[11] So, it would be very nice for a drug company — and
[12] indeed, they often try, that's why the FDA is so
[13] alerted to it — to look at the safety information on
[14] one dose and the efficacy information on another dose,
[15] a higher dose, and that's a fairly obvious and
[16] unacceptable way to look at these data.
[17] Q: Do you have an opinion whether or not the FDA
[18] would have approved Niacor-SR if it were shown to be
[19] effective at the — and safe at the 1500-milligram
[20] dosage?
[21] A: You're asking me a hypothetical, I believe, to
[22] say that would the FDA have approved Niacor-SR at 1500
[23] milligrams if it were shown to be safe and effective at
[24] the 1500-milligram dose.
[25] Q: Yeah.

[1] focused upon. First of all, there were only two
[2] pivotal trials performed on this product. The other
[3] pivotal trial compared the 2000-milligram dose of
[4] Niacor-SR to placebo. It didn't do any of the other
[5] doses. It didn't do the 1000-milligram dose, it didn't
[6] do the 1500-milligram dose, it only did the
[7] 2000-milligram dose.
[8] Secondly, in its other pivotal trial, the
[9] active control — let me back up. The first pivotal
[10] trial, the one to which I alluded first, was a placebo
[11] control trial.
[12] Q: Right.
[13] A: And there, the only dose of Niacor that was
[14] used was 2000 milligrams.
[15] Q: Right, I think you said that.
[16] A: In the second pivotal trial and the only other
[17] pivotal trial that was performed, the active control —
[18] there was no placebo control — the active control was
[19] 2000 milligrams of immediate-release niacin.
[20] Therefore, the only valid statistical comparison that
[21] can be made is in the first trial, the only dose that
[22] was offered was the 2000-mg dose, and in the second
[23] trial, the only valid comparison is between the two
[24] 2000-milligram doses, the immediate-release
[25] 2000-milligram dose and the sustained-release

[1] A: And I think that the answer to that is
[2] possibly, and again, going back to the risk-benefit
[3] analysis that we spoke of before, one has to look at
[4] the clinical need for this compound, and since Niaspan
[5] was already before the FDA and, indeed, was approved
[6] about a month and a half after these data were examined
[7] by Schering, I believe that the FDA would have looked
[8] not just at whether this drug was better than — in one
[9] way or another than immediate-release niacin, it would
[10] have had to have passed the muster of what the new
[11] standard would be, and I think that would be Niaspan.
[12] Q: So, you think the FDA would have compared
[13] Niacor to Niaspan?
[14] A: It would have considered it in its — in its
[15] evaluation. Again, it's a risk-benefit analysis —
[16] evaluation, and if there were an alternative that did
[17] not pose as much risk to the patient population, then I
[18] think they would stay with that alternative and not
[19] allow another riskier compound on the market.
[20] Q: Is it fair to compare Niacor and Niaspan in the
[21] absence of head-to-head trials?
[22] A: Is it fair?
[23] Q: Yep.
[24] A: I think it's fair to compare the compounds.
[25] One would be limited in what one could do with the

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171 results of that comparison. For instance, without a
172 head-to-head comparative trial, one could not use these
173 data in promotion, so that, for instance, if Niaspan
174 were to — were to be superior to Niacor and both were
175 approved products, Niaspan could not make the claim
176 that it was superior unless it had been compared in the
177 same trial.

178 Q: Okay.

179 A: That's a different question from whether the
180 FDA would look at both these compounds in the whole
181 panoply of those matters that it considers in reviewing
182 a drug like this.

183 Q: Okay. Do you know what the primary end point
184 or primary objective of the 115 study was?

185 A: I don't recall what the primary indications —
186 the primary end points were of that study.

187 Q: Okay. Is it your opinion that there's
188 something abnormal about the way that Schering did what
189 you refer to as the due diligence on Niacor-SR?

190 A: To say that Schering's due diligence was
191 aberrant is a monumental understatement.

192 Q: Okay. How long has it been since you've served
193 as an executive in a major pharmaceutical company?

194 A: Seven years.

195 Q: And where — what pharmaceutical company was

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196 that?

197 A: Fujisawa Pharmaceutical.

198 Q: And what was your position there?

199 A: I was the president.

200 Q: Of the entire company?

201 A: Yes.

202 Q: And what geographic territory did that
203 company —

204 A: All of North America.

205 Q: How long were you there? How long were you
206 president of —

207 A: About a year and a half.

208 Q: A year and a half? When were you hired?

209 A: In early '92, and I left in mid-'93.

210 (Levy Deposition Exhibit Number 4, PR Newswire
211 Release, 6/25/92, was marked for identification.)

BY MS. SHORES:

212 Q: I'd like to show you what's been marked as
213 Exhibit 4 to your deposition.

214 A: Okay.

215 Q: This is an article dated June 25th, 1992 of PR
216 Newswire, it appears to be, and it says in the third
217 paragraph, which consists of one sentence that, "Nelson
218 Levy, Ph.D., M.D., became president of Fujisawa
219 Pharmaceutical Company unit in May."

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220 Is that consistent with your recollection?

221 A: No. For some reason — I've never seen this
222 article before, but I brought Ted Odlaug into the
223 company, so I was there well before him, and this is —
224 you know, it's talking about both of us in the same —
225 you know, at the same time.

226 Q: Do you recall what month you started?

227 A: I believe I started in March. I don't recall,
228 but I believe I started in March of that year.

229 Q: And when did you leave Fujisawa?

230 A: I believe it was — I believe it was May or
231 June of the subsequent year.

232 Q: Not January?

233 A: I don't — I don't — I just don't recall, but
234 I thought it was May or June.

235 Q: Well, let's go with what your recollection is.

236 A: Okay.

237 Q: That would put you there about 14 months. Is
238 that right?

239 A: Fourteen-15 months, yes.

240 Q: Why did you leave Fujisawa?

241 A: I was asked by Japanese management — Fujisawa
242 was the North American subsidiary of Japan's third
243 largest pharmaceutical company, which is Fujisawa
244 Pharmaceutical Company Limited, and almost immediately

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245 upon my being hired in the company, our parent company
246 recognized that they were going to be losing a fair
247 amount of money, and I was asked to do a major
248 reorganization of the — of all of the staff, and that
249 entailed my having to fire over 40 percent of the sales
250 force.

251 One of the things of which we were very proud
252 was the fact that we were able to conduct this rather
253 draconian exercise, reorganize the sales force, and
254 then in that very brief period get the remaining
255 salespeople so highly motivated and organized, et
256 cetera, that their sales actually were almost twice
257 what the entire sales force had been prior to my having
258 to let 40 percent of them go.

259 In the course of that, I made a personal
260 commitment to the sales force at a meeting that
261 gathered them all together that the lay-offs were over,
262 that we had been through hell and that it wasn't going
263 to happen again. I had also prior to making that
264 commitment gotten a commitment from my boss, who was
265 the vice-chairman of the company, and I said I'll do
266 this, but I don't want to do it again. We'll do it
267 once, and we're done.

268 In the very next budget cycle, which was about
269 six months later, the top management of Fujisawa

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117 Limited decided that we could cut the sales force
118 again. I said I would not do that until they had made
119 draconian cuts in their own organization. And that was
120 not acceptable, and so we agreed to part under those
121 terms.
122 Q: Were you asked to leave?
123 A: Yes, I was.
124 Q: You say in your report —
125 A: Well — well, let me qualify that. I was not
126 asked to leave. I was told to do what they told me to
127 do, that is, to lay off another — I guess it was
128 another 30-some odd percent of the remaining sales
129 force, and I said I would not do that, and I was given
130 the choice of either doing it or leaving, and so I'm
131 not sure how — it was — it was a very mutually
132 agreeable endeavor. Unpleasant, however.
133 Q: Okay. You say in your report that you while
134 you were at Fujisawa in-licensed four major drugs. Was
135 it four or two? Your CV says two, that's why I'm
136 asking you.
137 A: Oh, well, it's a question of what's major in
138 responding to that. I would —
139 Q: Well, your report says four major, right, so —
140 A: Yes, it does, and I don't recall what my CV
141 says. I actually in-licensed a few more than four, and

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142 when I — you know, when I said that, I — I'm not sure
143 what I was thinking of in terms of what "major" is. I
144 can tell you what they — you know, what they were and
145 we can decide together what is major and what is not.
146 Q: Sure. No, your CV says two major, your report
147 says four major, and I — you know —
148 A: Sure. The drugs were — one was a drug called
149 N-monomethyl-arginine, which I perceive as a very
150 major compound, at least it looked that way at the
151 time —
152 MR. SILBER: You may want to spell these as you
153 go along.
154 THE WITNESS: Oh, do I have to?
155 BY MS. SHORES:
156 Q: We can probably take care of that after.
157 A: Okay. One was Imuran, which was a drug that we
158 got from Burroughs-Wellcome. Another was epidural
159 clonidine, and — let's see, the — I'm trying to think
160 which one I would have considered the fourth major,
161 because there were a number of other ones. I would say
162 the adenosine cardioplegia was probably what I was
163 referring to.
164 Q: Let's start with the N-monomethyl-arginine.
165 A: We might make it easier on ourselves if we
166 refer to it as NMA.

167 Q: NMA, that's fine. I'll probably screw that up,
168 too.
169 What drug — what did that treat?
170 A: This was a very exciting compound. It — it
171 had the potential to ameliorate the — in its simplest
172 sense the side effects of a group of drugs that are
173 used principally in cancer therapy called the
174 interleukins, IL-2 being the principal member of that
175 group, and as a class, these interleukins tend to cause
176 very significant febrile reactions and adverse
177 reactions that make the drugs difficult to use, and the
178 co-administration of NMA seemed to abrogate those side
179 effects and looked to have a very exciting short-term
180 use.
181 The more exciting medium-term and longer-term
182 potentials of NMA lay in their ability to obviate the
183 tissue damage that is associated with heart attacks and
184 with strokes, and this is what the real upside for this
185 drug was and what had me particularly excited.
186 Q: Did it treat cholesterol?
187 A: I don't think that was one of the — one of the
188 potential uses for it.
189 Q: Okay. Did any of these drugs that you
190 in-licensed when you were at Fujisawa treat
191 cholesterol?

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192 A: No, none of those four. There was a drug,
193 actually a statin, that was discovered at Fujisawa
194 Limited in Japan, and I was involved with the
195 out-licensing of that drug, but that's not one of the
196 ones that I included in the four.
197 Q: Okay. Did any of the ones you included in the
198 four involve sustained-release technology?
199 A: The reason I'm hesitating is that we later
200 examined some sustained-release formulations of these
201 — of these compounds after they had been in-licensed,
202 and I don't believe that they were in the
203 sustained-release form when we first in-licensed them.
204 The other area of hesitation was that one of
205 these drugs, which I don't think I listed a moment ago,
206 was a drug called amBisome, which was a liposomal
207 formulation of a — of an anti-fungal agent called
208 amphotericin B, and liposomal formulations can be
209 viewed as a sustained-release mechanism.
210 Q: All right. With respect to all of these drugs
211 that you in-licensed when you were at Fujisawa, were
212 they being licensed for sale in North America?
213 A: Yes.
214 Q: Okay.
215 A: Well, some were for a broader territory than
216 North America. They all were for North America.

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1) Q: Well, did the licenses that — the in-licenses
2) that you were involved with, did you evaluate them for
3) sale outside of North America?
4) A: No, my responsibility was not to — not to
5) consider territories outside of North America, but
6) licensing in my experience is always done as a team.
7) It's not, you know, a one-man show. And when we would
8) consider licensing a compound, we would always consult
9) with our Japanese colleagues and with our European
10) colleagues. Fujisawa had three principal subsidiaries.
11) One was mine, North America; the second was in Europe
12) headquartered in Munich; and the third, of course, was
13) Japan.
14) We would always, you know, talk with each other
15) and share our information with each other, and our
16) market was such, that is, the North American market was
17) such that we were able to license a compound simply for
18) the North American market, regardless of whether it was
19) going to be sold in Japan or Europe.
20) The converse was generally not true, that it
21) would have been unusual for a product to have been
22) licensed for the EU, for Europe, without some interests
23) having been expressed either by Japan or us. In our
24) company, because we were a Japanese — had a Japanese
25) parent, certainly Fujisawa Limited would consider

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1) in-licensing a compound only for Japan, but that was
2) somewhat unusual because it's a Japanese company.
3) Q: Did you personally have any responsibility for
4) sales of pharmaceutical products outside North America
5) when you were at Fujisawa?
6) A: No.
7) Q: How about at Abbott, any responsibility for
8) sales of pharmaceutical products outside of —
9) A: When I was at Abbott, I — you know, I had — I
10) did not have the sales or marketing organization under
11) my aegis. I — you know, the R&D organization for
12) which I did have responsibility —
13) Q: Sure.
14) A: — was worldwide.
15) Q: Sure.
16) A: We were the only one.
17) Q: Okay, but you didn't have any experience in
18) selling pharmaceutical products outside of North
19) America.
20) A: I — I —
21) Q: Personally.
22) A: — when I was at Abbott, I had —
23) Q: No sales responsibility at all.
24) A: — no personal responsibility in sales and
25) marketing, period.

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1) Q: But let me just add Abbott and Fujisawa, in
2) either of those jobs, did you have any sales
3) responsibility for products outside of North America?
4) A: I had no sales responsibility at either Abbott
5) or Fujisawa outside of North America.
6) Q: You say in your report that you — within this
7) I guess now we're saying it's a 14-month period of time
8) that you were at Fujisawa, that you filed an NDA for
9) Prograf. Is that correct?
10) A: Yes, the flagship of Fujisawa was a drug that
11) at that time we referred to as FK-506, which was an
12) immunosuppressant drug, and the first indication that
13) we saw it was the use of FK-506, Prograf, in liver
14) transplantation, and that NDA was filed.
15) Q: What stage was that product in in terms of
16) clinical testing when you first started at Fujisawa?
17) A: The reason, again, that I'm hesitating in
18) answering that is that before I became president of the
19) company, I had had a long association with Fujisawa and
20) with LyphoMed, its predecessor before that, and so I
21) really had been involved with FK-506 from the time it
22) was in the laboratory, before it entered clinical
23) trials.
24) Q: I see.
25) A: I don't recall exactly where it was in the

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1) continuum of clinical trials when I joined the company.
2) I think that when I arrived at the company we were
3) finishing up our three pivotal trials. We had done a
4) pivotal trial in Europe and we had done two in this
5) country, and I believe we were finishing up those data
6) because the data were all crunched under my aegis.
7) Q: But you filed the NDA before you left or were
8) asked to leave?
9) A: I believe so, yes. It was either filed before
10) I left or it was completed, it was written before I
11) left, and may not have been sent to the — you know,
12) sent to the FDA, you know, before I left. I just don't
13) recall that.
14) Q: And your recollection is you left in May?
15) A: I believe so, yes.
16) (Levy Deposition Exhibit Number 5, Lexis-Nexis
17) Trade & Government Memos, 9/13/93, was marked for
18) identification.)
19) BY MS. SHORES:
20) Q: I'd like to show you what's being marked as
21) Exhibit 5 to your deposition.
22) A: This says September 1st, if I'm reading it —
23) or the week of September 1st, and that doesn't surprise
24) me. As I said, I wasn't sure whether it was filed
25) while I was still there or the writing and so on was

11) completed. I know I reviewed the completed NDA and,
12) you know, it -- it probably went through other levels
13) of review and so on before it was finally shipped off
14) to the FDA. I mean, according to this, it wasn't filed
15) when I was there, and I don't dispute it.
16) Q: Okay. Can you explain why it took four months
17) if it were finished when you left before it was filed?
18) A: There was a lot of review. There may have been
19) some additional data that were -- that were accrued.
20) There may have been some questions that were raised by
21) -- by the Japanese. There may have been some questions
22) that were raised by the FDA. There are so many reasons
23) for not wanting to file the NDA.
24) We also had, if I remember correctly,
25) considerable discussion about whether we should do
26) what's called a rolling NDA filing or not. With a
27) rolling NDA filing, one submits part of the -- a part
28) of the data and gets the review going and then submits
29) the rest later. That has certain perils, and I just
30) don't remember what strategy was followed.
31) Q: Okay. Prograf wasn't a sustained-release
32) formulation, was it?
33) A: No.
34) Q: Okay. And it didn't involve applying any sort
35) of a new drug delivery technology to it, to a known

11) certainly the major component of our R&D budget. What
12) I -- the part of the picture that -- to which I was not
13) privy is how much was spent in Japan, and I knew what
14) was in my budget, but I wasn't the only budget, nor did
15) I have any review or access to what the Europeans were
16) spending.
17) Q: And do you know what the sales for Prograf were
18) after you left?
19) A: Only indirectly, from, you know, from
20) conversations I've had with my former colleagues and
21) friends who are still there.
22) Q: And how much is it getting in sales?
23) A: Prograf is doing quite well in recent years,
24) and its sales are approaching a billion dollars.
25) Q: And that's annual?
26) A: Yes.
27) Q: Your CV I think indicates that you filed three
28) NDAs when you were at Fujisawa. What were the other
29) two?
30) A: One was for adenosine use in -- what did we
31) call it -- Adenoscan, and the second was for epidural
32) clonidine.
33) Q: And did either of those involve
34) sustained-release technology?
35) A: No, they did not.

11) compound, did it?
12) A: It did in a sense, because the solubility of
13) the product was somewhat of a problem, and it required
14) some difficult formulation. It was not a
15) sustained-release formulation, but the oral form of the
16) product did require more than just routine formulation
17) work.
18) Q: How much did Fujisawa invest in the development
19) of Prograf?
20) A: I would only be guessing at that number at this
21) point. I don't know what the total investment of
22) Fujisawa was.
23) Q: Can you give me a range?
24) A: As long as I'm not held in any way -- in any
25) way to the accuracy of this, because it would be a
26) little more than a guess.
27) Q: Well, is it --
28) MR. SILBER: Objection, calls for speculation.
29) BY MS. SHORES:
30) Q: -- is it more than \$50 million?
31) A: I believe that Fujisawa spent more than \$50
32) million.
33) Q: More than \$100 million?
34) A: I just don't recall now. I mean, I'd rather
35) not, you know, engage in idle guessing. It was

11) Q: Did either of those involve treatment of
12) hypercholesterolemia?
13) A: No, they did not.
14) Q: Aside from your 14-month tenure at Fujisawa,
15) how long has it been since you were an executive at a
16) pharmaceutical company?
17) A: I have not been an executive at a
18) pharmaceutical company, per se, since 1993.
19) Q: All right. So, the only -- well, I'm asking
20) you, how long -- if you put Fujisawa to one side, how
21) long has it been since you've worked at a
22) pharmaceutical company as an employee?
23) A: As an employee?
24) Q: Yep.
25) A: I've not been an employer of a pharmaceutical
26) company since 1993.
27) Q: Putting that aside, how long before that? I'm
28) going backwards in time.
29) MR. SILBER: What was the last pharmaceutical
30) job before Fujisawa?
31) THE WITNESS: I've only had two jobs in the
32) pharmaceutical industry. One was at Abbott, and the
33) other was at Fujisawa.
34) BY MS. SHORES:
35) Q: And how long were you at Abbott?

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(1) A: Three and — three and a half, three and a
(2) third years.
(3) Q: Okay. You say in your report that when you
(4) were at Abbott, you led the transformation of a
(5) moribund research program. What do you mean by
(6) "moribund"?
(7) A: Abbott's — Abbott was a great company, and its
(8) R&D had been very unproductive, and Abbott had managed
(9) through superb marketing and sales and in-licensing to
(10) thrive as a company, but the pharmaceutical research
(11) component of the company had not discovered a single
(12) compound that made it to the marketplace in 22 years.
(13) Likewise, the research organization had become — well,
(14) unproductive certainly but demoralized and ill thought
(15) of within the company community because of its
(16) nonproductivity. That's what I mean by "moribund."
(17) Q: Okay. What drugs did you discover when you
(18) were at Abbott?
(19) A: One is called terazosin, that's the generic
(20) name, it's known as Hytrin, H Y T R I N, was one. The
(21) second was a renin inhibitor. It was an
(22) antihypertensive, and I don't recall what they named
(23) it, because I left before they named it. It had a
(24) number when I was there. Biaxin, which is one of their
(25) very big sellers now, it's an antibiotic.

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(1) Let's see, there was a — what we called a five
(2) lipoygenase inhibitor, which was a new class of
(3) anti-inflammatory drug. There was a quinoline
(4) antibiotic, a first cousin of the very famous drug now
(5) Cipro or ciprofloxacin, and this drug was actually —
(6) after I left was approved and was subsequently
(7) withdrawn from the market due to a series of deaths
(8) that had surprised the company. They hadn't had the
(9) clues to that during the clinical trials, and the drug
(10) was approved and subsequently withdrawn.
(11) Let's see, did I say Ritonavir?
(12) Q: No.
(13) A: Well, Ritonavir was the HIV protease inhibitor
(14) that was discovered when I was there. Then we had a
(15) joint venture which persists with Takeda, which was
(16) called TAP, Takeda-Abbott Pharmaceuticals, and there
(17) were — we conducted the clinical research on several
(18) of those compounds, although those compounds were not
(19) discovered at Abbott, they were discovered at Takeda,
(20) but were developed by Abbott North America.
(21) Q: And all of these drugs you just mentioned were
(22) discovered when you were at Abbott?
(23) A: Yes. Well, the — the three or four Takeda
(24) drugs were not discovered at Abbott. They were
(25) discovered by Takeda's research, and they were

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(1) discovered, and I don't know when Takeda discovered
(2) them.
(3) Q: Okay, but the others were discovered when you
(4) were at Abbott?
(5) A: Yes, and there were some others. There was
(6) another form of — we had a — an anti-epilepsy drug,
(7) an anticonvulsant that was called Depakent when I
(8) arrived, and we discovered a more effective dosage form
(9) of that called Depakote. I mean, it had a — it
(10) actually had a sustained-release element to it.
(11) Q: I'm not going to belabor all of these given the
(12) shortness of time, but let's take Biaxin. When was
(13) that approved?
(14) A: Biaxin was approved I believe in about 198 —
(15) probably about 1986.
(16) Q: So, 1991 would be wrong?
(17) A: I thought it was approved before that.
(18) Q: What about Ritonavir?
(19) A: Ritonavir was approved in the late eighties, I
(20) believe.
(21) Q: Not in 1996?
(22) A: I don't think so.
(23) Q: What about — what about Hytrin?
(24) A: Well, Hytrin had two levels of approval.
(25) Q: And what —

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(1) A: It was approved as an antihypertensive in about
(2) 1984, I think —
(3) Q: 1987 doesn't sound right?
(4) A: Oh, it was well before 1987. And it was — it
(5) was — I believe it was — it was not long after I had
(6) left the company when it was actually approved. And
(7) then the exciting approval came several years later, I
(8) don't recall whether it was the late eighties or early
(9) nineties, but that was the indication for its use in
(10) benign prostatic hypertrophy, BPH.
(11) Q: Were any of these drugs approved for sale
(12) outside of the United States when you were at Abbott?
(13) A: I don't think any of those drugs were approved
(14) when I was at Abbott anywhere. I was only at Abbott
(15) for a little over three years, and we discovered them
(16) during that period, but the — the clinical trials were
(17) completed and the NDAs filed after I left.
(18) Q: Okay. And you don't recall any European
(19) regulatory filings for any of those drugs while you
(20) were at Abbott?
(21) A: Not for any of those. We had a variety of
(22) European filings that were done during my period there,
(23) but they were on in-license candidates and different
(24) dosage forms and this kind of stuff.
(25) Q: Were you involved in the in-licensing of any

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1) of those?
2) A: Yes. I was -- I was very fortunate at Abbott.
3) I have a lot of gratitude for my period there. The --
4) I think the company was gratified to see some vitality
5) in its research organization, and I was given credit
6) for it, and as a consequence of that, I was given
7) exposure to other elements of the company that really
8) were not under my aegis, because I think that they
9) perceived me as a person who might be able to go beyond
10) running R&D.

11) One of the most enjoyable interactions was with
12) a guy named Frank Barnes, who was the VP of licensing
13) and business development, and prior to him, although
14) the man unfortunately passed away shortly after I
15) arrived at the company, was a guy named Frank Irving,
16) who was Frank Barnes' predecessor. So, Frank liked me,
17) and, in fact, he and I have been good friends until he
18) passed away a couple years ago, and he just decided he
19) was going to show me -- show me the ropes, if you will.

20) He sort of took me under his wing in the
21) licensing arena, and then there was also a practical
22) element to it, because all of the licensing
23) opportunities, once they got past Frank, had as their
24) first stop my shop, and so Frank wanted input from me
25) and from various people with more specialized expertise

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1) in R&D to assist him in the evaluation of in-licensing
2) candidates.

3) Q: Are you familiar with the acronym HRD?

4) A: No, I'm not.

5) Q: As it -- let me just give you a hand, as it
6) relates to European regulatory filings?

7) A: I'm just drawing a blank on that acronym.

8) Q: Okay. When you were at Abbott, were you
9) involved in the applications for approvals of these
10) licensed products in European territories?

11) A: Would you ask me that again, please?

12) Q: Sure. While you were at Abbott, were you
13) involved in the applications for regulatory approval of
14) any of these in-licensed products in any territory in
15) Europe?

16) A: "Involved" is a very broad word. I didn't have
17) responsibility for it, but because David Ordieb, who
18) was the president of Abbott International, also thought
19) well of me, he had me sit on the international R&D
20) committee that was chaired by a guy named Hubert
21) Loncin, and so I was involved. I had no responsibility
22) for it, but Dave just wanted my input.

23) Q: Okay, but did you ever take an NDA that had
24) been filed in the United States and transform that into
25) something that was filed in any territory in Europe?

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1) A: Did I ever do it personally?
2) Q: Yes.
3) A: No.
4) Q: In your report, you say you became the CEO of
5) CoreTechs Corporation in 1984.
6) A: Yes, that's correct.
7) Q: Who was the CEO before that?
8) A: I founded the company.
9) Q: Oh. And who were the officers of that company?
10) A: In 1984? I was the only officer.
11) Q: Who are the officers now?
12) A: Now there are two other officers.
13) Q: And who are they?
14) A: Excuse me, one is a fellow named Eric Coles,
15) and the other is a woman named Gail Green.
16) Q: And what is the business address of CoreTechs?
17) A: 1391 Concord Drive is the address that I use.
18) Q: That's the same as your home address?
19) A: Yes, it is.
20) Q: How many employees does CoreTechs have?
21) A: Right now, CoreTechs has nine employees.
22) Q: Does your wife hold a position in that company?
23) A: No, she does not.
24) Q: Did she ever?
25) A: No.

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1) Q: Was she never the secretary of CoreTechs
2) Corporation?
3) A: Oh, it's -- it's possible that in the initial,
4) you know, corporate filings when I -- when I founded
5) the corporation, I listed her as secretary. She's
6) never had any active function in the company.

7) Q: I think it says in your report that you became
8) the CEO and chairman of CoreTechs in 1993. I take it
9) that's when you left Fujisawa?

10) A: Yes.

11) Q: And was there a chairman before that?

12) A: No. CoreTechs grew a bit, you know, from the
13) time I founded it, and it actually was -- I think it
14) probably hit its largest number of people before I went
15) to Fujisawa, and it was another one of the reasons for
16) my leaving. CoreTechs was needing some -- needing me
17) back, if you will, and I just assumed the additional
18) title of chairman now that there were more people
19) running around.

20) Q: Do these nine employees work out of your home
21) as well?

22) A: Out of my home?

23) Q: Yeah.

24) A: No. We had and still have offices that -- the
25) way we generally work is that each of the people work

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1 out of the home, and then we have some shared office
2 space that — where we gather for joint meetings. None
3 of our homes — none of our wives would want us having
4 joint meetings in our homes.

5 Q: Well, do you rent that office space or lease it
6 or just borrow it from somebody or —

7 A: No, we rent it.

8 Q: So, where is the office space that you rent?

9 A: That's in Conway Farms in Lake Forest, which is
10 an office complex. Some of the clerical people are
11 there.

12 Q: Okay. You say in your report that CoreTechs
13 implements a unique paradigm of technology transfer.
14 What is that a reference to?

15 A: What we do, what the bulk of the business is,
16 is to provide to early stage companies or to inventors
17 what I perceive as the element that is not applied or
18 is not provided by the venture capital community; that
19 is, operating business experience and support.
20 Typically when an inventor or an early stage company
21 emerges, he needs some funding, but he also needs just
22 some guidance in getting his technology over the
23 developmental hurdles, and we've been able to come in
24 and provide that.

25 The way CoreTechs is set up, it has individuals

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1 with analogous experience to mine but in different
2 areas of science. So, each of us has an advanced
3 degree, and each of us — you know, Ph.D. or — in our
4 respective fields, and each of us has been CEO,
5 president type, you know, in our respective industries.
6 So, we refer to ourselves as senior switch-hitters in
7 that we understand the R&D side and we understand the
8 business side and have worked in both those arenas and
9 are able to help develop early stage technologies for
10 companies.

11 Q: Is part of the —

12 A: That's somewhat unique, because almost all of
13 the — virtually all of the other licensing
14 organizations, all the other venture capital
15 organizations, are comprised in the latter case of
16 people whose entire business experience is in banking
17 and finance, and in terms of the licensing people,
18 they're almost all people who have experience with
19 licensing, but they've never really had any operating
20 experience and little, if any, R&D experience.

21 Q: Is part of the licensing advice that you give
22 these startups, I think you said early stage companies
23 or inventors, do you advise them as to the optimal time
24 to seek a licensing partner?

25 A: Yes, that is certainly — in fact, I even

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1 published a paper on that, the only business paper I've
2 ever published, and the answer to that is yes, that's a
3 part of the — that's part of the management of early
4 stage technologies.

5 Q: When is it — I know it's hard to generalize,
6 but is it fair to say that it is more optimal from the
7 standpoint of the inventor or the startup company to
8 license technology or a product later in the
9 development stage than earlier?

10 A: My working hypothesis in this arena and the
11 paradigm that we follow and that I certainly believe in
12 is that for each technology, there are what I've
13 referred to as key value-adding information or data,
14 and the ideal time to license is after the generation
15 of those key data. My perception of valuation or the
16 growth evaluation of an early stage technology is a
17 sigmoidal curve, where during the early stage of a
18 product's development, when one is learning a lot more
19 in the laboratory, say, or learning a lot more
20 information, where the actual knowledge about the
21 product may be going up linearly, the valuation stays
22 pretty flat, because when it's a research project, it's
23 just not valued very highly.

24 Then when one generates some fairly simple —
25 often very simple value-adding information, the

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1 increase in valuation goes up logarithmically or
2 geometrically. Then it flattens again. And so with a
3 pharmaceutical, from a licensing perspective, the
4 greatest increment in value occurs in my opinion either
5 just before the launch of clinical trials or just after
6 one has approved some early clinical trial data.

7 For instance, the value of a pharmaceutical
8 product that has had formal toxicology done in dogs and
9 rats, say, the sort of toxicology that needs to be done
10 to file an IND, has a value considerably higher than it
11 did prior to that, assuming it passes that toxicology.

12 Q: Sure.

13 A: Or when one has done just a — just put it in
14 man, done some phase I studies or maybe even some
15 anecdotal phase II-A type studies, it's been in man and
16 it's performed in man, even in just a few patients, the
17 value — the perceived value of this technology rises
18 considerably.

19 It flattens out thereafter until you get to —
20 almost until you get to the point of its being an
21 approved product, and — at least that's the paradigm
22 under which we operate.

23 MR. SILBER: Laura, when you get to a sensible
24 breaking point, we have been going for a while.

25 MS. SHORES: Sure, sure, let me just finish up

(1) on this.

(2) BY MS. SHORES:

(3) Q: So, if I understand your curve correctly, a
(4) product is worth almost the same right before it gets
(5) approved as it is after it gets approved, or it doesn't
(6) increase in value dramatically from —

(7) A: Well, after it's approved, it's a different
(8) game altogether.

(9) Q: Okay, I misheard you then.

(10) A: When a product has been — you know, has
(11) secured regulatory approval in a major market, it's
(12) real, and one can then start doing some realistic
(13) financial analyses on the product, and it is — it now
(14) is looked at as a product asset of the company. It's
(15) no longer a research project.

(16) Q: Is it fair to say that a product is more
(17) valuable at the phase III stage than at phase II,
(18) assuming that the —

(19) A: Well, "more" is the operative word there.
(20) There are — a product that is in phase III has a
(21) little bit more value than a product that is in phase
(22) II, but I don't think that the differential is as
(23) great, for instance, as that that I cited before, where
(24) a product has never been in man and now has been in
(25) man. That's where the big jump occurs.

(1) Q: Okay.
(2) This is probably a good time for a break.

(3) MR. SILBER: Okay.

(4) (A brief recess was taken.)

(5) BY MS. SHORES:

(6) Q: Dr. Levy, of CoreTech's nine employees
(7) currently, how many are clerical employees?

(8) A: Three of them are, you know, purely clerical,
(9) and two do a lot of — they're more than clerical
(10) people. They do some of our I — you know, our
(11) information technology type stuff as well as doing some
(12) — some level of clerical stuff.

(13) Q: Well, let me ask it this way: How many are
(14) principals?

(15) A: I'm the only principal, and the way we — well,
(16) let me leave it at that and then you can ask other
(17) things if you like. I'm the only principal.

(18) Q: Okay, that's fine. I'll just leave it at that.

(19) A: Right now. Previously, we had more than that,
(20) and I think we probably very shortly will have a couple
(21) more. The reason it's somewhat anomalous now is that I
(22) had a pretty severe back problem earlier this year and,
(23) you know, at that time — you know, I'm the — I'm the
(24) principal rainmaker, and I wasn't making much rain.

(25) Q: Got you.

(1) A: Okay.

(2) Q: I understand that.

(3) Did you serve in the military?

(4) A: I hate for this to go on the record, but I'm
(5) affectionately referred to by my old friends at the
(6) Bethesda Naval Medical Center as a member of the Yellow
(7) Berets, because I was unfortunate enough to go to the
(8) National Institutes of Health as part of the Public
(9) Health Service back there in the Vietnam Era, and so
(10) that counted as military service, and I am an official
(11) veteran of the Vietnam Conflict, but I am embarrassed
(12) to say that my contributions were confined to Bethesda,
(13) Maryland.

(14) Q: Okay. Switching topics again, when did you
(15) form an opinion that the FDA would not have approved
(16) Niacor-SR?

(17) A: I can't say exactly what time, you know, in my
(18) course of reviewing this product that I came to that
(19) conclusion. I would say the conclusion crystallized
(20) and presented itself more clearly to me when I wrote
(21) the report.

(22) Q: But as of the time that you wrote the report,
(23) you had formed that opinion?

(24) A: I'm sorry, please say that again.

(25) Q: As of the time you submitted your expert report

(1) in August 2001, you had formed the opinion that the FDA
(2) would not approve Niacor-SR?

(3) A: When I wrote the report, I — at the time I
(4) wrote the report, I thought it was highly unlikely that
(5) the FDA would have approved this product with all the
(6) deficiencies that I perceived.

(7) Q: Okay. Is there — on the issue of, again, my
(8) favorite issue, hepatotoxicity, is there a percentage
(9) — I mean, I don't care whether you want to use 1.5
(10) times the upper limit of normal or 3.0 times it,
(11) whatever it is, but is there a percentage of patients
(12) who have liver enzyme elevations to whatever degree you
(13) think is clinically significant, is there a level at
(14) which the FDA would approve it or would not approve it?
(15) I mean, you can answer it any way you wish.

(16) A: I don't think anybody, certainly including
(17) myself, has enough personal experience with different
(18) products going through the FDA, and there are people
(19) who have spent their entire lives in R&D and have never
(20) seen an approved NDA, even people that have been in the
(21) industry for a long time and have stayed at one company
(22) for long periods have themselves seen relatively few
(23) approved NDAs. So, I don't think that I can speak for
(24) what the FDA would do.

(25) Q: Okay.

11 A: I mean, the FDA can speak for itself.
12 My opinion and my impression and my experience
13 is that the FDA reviews each drug or at least each
14 group of drugs differently, with different standards,
15 all the time looking very carefully at one parameter,
16 and that's the risk-benefit, and there is little
17 question in my mind that a new class of therapy for a
18 grave disease that had a very high incidence of liver
19 enzyme elevations would get approved, and contrarily, a
20 drug that had little import to the medical community
21 and had even minimal hepatotoxicity associated with it
22 would likely not be approved.

23 Q: Sure. Well, let's just confine the question
24 then to — that's fair — to lipid-lowering drugs. Is
25 there a level at which you think they would —

26 A: Well, once again, there are — you know, as you
27 asked and I responded earlier, there are at least four
28 classes of drugs that are involved with lowering
29 lipids, and one of them, the statins, dominates this
30 marketplace, and the others are minor players.

31 If a new class of drug were to emerge that was
32 neither a nicotinic acid, a bile acid sequestrant, a
33 fibrate or a statin and seemed to offer some
34 significant improvement in the management of
35 hyperlipidemic conditions, I think that the threshold

1 of toxicity that would be acceptable would be higher
2 than simply another addition — another statin or
3 another fibrate or another niacin.

4 Q: How about a sustained-release niacin product,
5 is there a level of hepatotoxicity that you think the
6 FDA would find acceptable?

7 A: Well, you're asking me to speculate on what the
8 FDA would or wouldn't do.

9 Q: That's right.

10 A: I think that a sustained-release niacin product
11 would have to meet extremely high standards of safety,
12 because the risk-benefit analysis is such, the
13 chronicity of therapy that would be requisite to this
14 drug is such that there would be little reason for the
15 FDA to approve a drug that had an even measurable
16 probability of doing harm.

17 Q: So, do you think the FDA would approve a
18 sustained-release niacin that showed that — that the
19 data showed caused patients in the clinical trials to
20 have successive indications of elevated liver enzymes
21 at three time the upper limit of normal, that it would
22 approve a product that had 3 percent of such patients
23 showing that, or is that not —

24 A: The only thing we know is that, to my
25 knowledge, the only sustained-release nicotinic acid

1 product that has been approved is Niaspan.

2 Q: Right.

3 A: And Niaspan had a considerably less than 1
4 percent incidence of enzyme elevations, and beyond
5 that, we're speculating.

6 Q: So, you can't say beyond that what the FDA
7 would or wouldn't do?

8 A: I can say in my opinion that, to use the number
9 that you cited, 3 percent, would be too high for me if
10 I were reviewing the product at the FDA.

11 Q: Would 2 percent be too high?

12 A: I would not be comfortable with 2 percent
13 either.

14 Q: When were you retained by the FTC in this
15 matter?

16 A: I believe it was about May of this year.

17 Q: So, May of 2001?

18 A: Yes.

19 Q: Have you done any other work for the FTC on any
20 other project?

21 A: No, I have not.

22 Q: I think I read in some New York Times article
23 that you were a consultant to the Government, and the
24 article was published in 2000. What other consulting
25 have you done for the Government?

1 A: The only other consulting I've done for the
2 Government is for the Internal Revenue Service.

3 Q: Nothing involving pharmaceuticals?

4 A: I would appreciate being very — very careful
5 with what I tell you about what I do for them, because
6 I know that they are very sensitive. So, I — the
7 answer to your question is yes, it involves
8 pharmaceuticals. I would not even mention the
9 companies that are involved.

10 Q: Well, there's a protective order —

11 A: I understand that.

12 Q: — issued in this case.

13 A: I still will not respond to that.

14 Q: So, you won't tell me what companies are
15 involved in that investigation?

16 A: I absolutely will not tell you anything about
17 the IRS's business, because I'm well aware of the fact
18 that it is their perception that — in fact, they are
19 very strict about this. Even within their own
20 organization, one group does not know the companies
21 that the other group is working on, and I have been
22 very clearly told that it is a violation of one
23 taxpayer's rights for a competitive taxpayer to even
24 know that they're under investigation by the IRS. So,
25 I don't — regardless of any protective order, I don't

101 think it would be appropriate for me to disclose that.
102 Q: Okay. Are the subjects of the investigation,
103 if you will, are they branded pharmaceutical companies
104 or —

105 A: Some have been branded pharmaceutical
106 companies; some have been generic pharmaceutical
107 companies. I can tell you — I don't mind telling you
108 this, that the only arena in which I have been asked to
109 voice opinions deals specifically with the application
110 of their research and development tax credit.

111 Q: Can you tell me if Schering is —

112 A: I'm not going to —

113 Q: — involved in this investigation?

114 A: — even — I won't respond to any of those
115 kinds of questions for the reasons I just said.

116 Q: What group within the IRS are you consulting
117 for?

118 A: I don't know what — I don't — I don't know
119 how they're organized.

120 Q: Okay.

121 A: So, I really can't respond to that either.

122 Q: You say in your report that the \$60 million
123 noncontingent payment can't reasonably be considered to
124 have been a licensing fee for Niacor-SR and the other
125 products in the agreement, and you also say that the

126 fee was grossly excessive for the value received. Do
127 you remember statements like that?

128 A: Let me look at my own report, if I may.

129 Q: Okay, you should look at — I'm not trying to
130 trick you, I promise, but look at page 3.

131 A: Oh, here we go. You're referring to the first
132 couple of pages of it?

133 Q: Yeah, page 3 is where my notes say this was.

134 A: I'm sorry, would you ask me the question again?

135 Q: Yeah, my question was — I was just trying to
136 orient you. I think you say here that the \$60 million
137 noncontingent payment could not reasonably have been
138 considered to have been a license fee for Niacor-SR and
139 the five other products that were involved.

140 A: I absolutely feel that —

141 Q: Okay.

142 A: — the \$60 million payment was grossly and
143 inconceivably a license fee for this product.

144 Q: Okay. Are you saying that Niacor and the other
145 products — and I know everybody understands that
146 Niacor is the main product here — that they were not
147 worth \$60 million as an objective matter, or are you
148 going further and saying you don't believe that
149 Schering thought that they were worth that much?

150 A: There are three elements to my opinion in that

101 matter. The first of these deals with the construct of
102 the agreement itself, that a payment of \$60 million,
103 noncontingent payment of \$60 million for this product,
104 is so far beyond anything that I have experienced or
105 know about, and at that time I believe was the — by
106 far the largest noncontingent cash payment made for any
107 in-licensed pharmaceutical, at least I know of none
108 that were as large.

109 The second is that the due diligence conduct
110 that was carried out in preparation for this — this —
111 the execution of this agreement was so abysmally
112 inadequate that it defies description.

113 And thirdly, after the deal was done, for a
114 product for which Schering-Plough made the largest
115 noncontingent payment of which I am aware and had in
116 the course of this planned a very aggressive
117 development program that was I believe to call for the
118 approval of this drug in the European Union a mere 18
119 months after this license was executed, that fact
120 notwithstanding, the licensee and licensor did almost
121 nothing to execute the development of this compound.

122 This behavior was so out of the norm for
123 anything I had ever experienced, I had ever heard of,
124 and I could ever conceive of occurring that the picture
125 to me seemed utterly and totally inexplicably

101 ridiculous.

102 Q: So —

103 A: I don't know how much more strongly I can state
104 that.

105 Q: No, I think I understand the strength of your
106 conviction here, but my question is, I mean, it sounds
107 like that you're saying that you believe that Schering,
108 in paying the \$60 million, was doing something other
109 than just acquiring the rights to these products based
110 on the lack of follow-up and the lack of due diligence.
111 It sounds like that that's what you believe.

112 A: I'm aware but have not been asked to voice any
113 opinion on the fact that the agreement or the letter
114 agreement had two parts to it, and one part dealt with
115 an issue that I have not been asked to opine on and
116 will not. The other part deals with the punitive
117 license for these products.

118 What I will testify to as strongly as I just
119 did, that there is no way in hell that that \$60 million
120 was a license fee.

121 Q: Okay.

122 A: Schering is far too intelligent a company, with
123 far too much experience, to have given a \$60 million
124 noncontingent fee for this product without some other
125 consideration well beyond the products that allegedly

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(1) were licensed.

(2) Q: Okay. And you don't see that consideration
(3) being offered by the licensed products, so you think
(4) there was some other consideration at work?

(5) A: I do not see that consideration being anywhere
(6) near provided by the licensed products, and so either
(7) Schering was in a very charitable mood or it got
(8) something else for it.

(9) Q: Okay. What qualifications, if any, do you have
(10) as an expert to opine on what Schering's motivations
(11) were?

(12) A: I'm not sure I understand that question.

(13) Q: I'm asking you what qualifications -- as an
(14) expert what qualifications you have to testify about
(15) what Schering's motivation was in paying the \$60
(16) million.

(17) A: Well, I have 20 years experience in the
(18) pharmaceutical industry and have seen -- either been
(19) part of, have seen, read about, experienced in one way
(20) or another many, many deals. I have a pretty good idea
(21) of what deals look like in our industry.

(22) I also, as I said a moment ago, have
(23) considerable respect for Schering-Plough as a company.
(24) I have had one incidence directly where I was seeking
(25) Schering-Plough as an in-licensing participant and

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(1) experienced firsthand the type of due diligence and
(2) behavior that they carried out in that instance and
(3) have never heard anyone describe Schering-Plough as a
(4) slipshod, mindless player in the pharmaceutical
(5) industry.

(6) So, if I can take my 20 years experience and
(7) say that I've never seen a deal that even comes close
(8) to looking like this, number one, and number two, if my
(9) experience and understanding in the industry is correct
(10) in that Schering-Plough is a normal, you know,
(11) experienced and capable company, then I think it's
(12) reasonable to conclude that Schering either was in a
(13) very charitable mood towards Upsher-Smith or got
(14) something else for it.

(15) Q: Okay. In forming that opinion, did you talk to
(16) any of the Schering people involved?

(17) A: I have not spoken with anybody from Schering
(18) about this matter.

(19) Q: Okay. So, you're concluding that Schering was
(20) either in a charitable mood, as you put it, or was
(21) getting something other than the licensed products out
(22) of the deal, you're concluding that without ever
(23) speaking to anybody at Schering?

(24) A: I am making the conclusion that -- I should add
(25) a third possibility to that, which I don't personally

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(1) believe. One is that they were in a charitable mood;
(2) the second is they got something else for it; or the
(3) third is they're just flaming idiots, and as I said
(4) before, I don't believe that, but that certainly has to
(5) be looked at as one of the possibilities for this kind
(6) of behavior.

(7) I don't think -- I think I was provided enough
(8) information to draw that conclusion simply because I
(9) was provided, as far as I know, all the information
(10) that the person who made that decision had before him
(11) when he made it.

(12) Q: Okay. Do you believe that you're qualified to
(13) give an expert opinion on how much the Niacor-SR
(14) license was worth?

(15) A: "Worth" is an interesting word, and I think you
(16) would have to qualify that. I think I am quite
(17) qualified to make the statements that I made about my
(18) perception of this payment and this deal in general.

(19) Q: I think you said there was no way in hell that
(20) the \$60 million was a license fee. I take it it's your
(21) expert opinion that it wasn't worth \$60 million. Is
(22) that correct?

(23) A: As I said, the operative word is "worth."

(24) Q: Well, do you think it was worth \$60 million
(25) based on the information that Schering had at the time?

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(1) A: The operative word is "worth." I don't think
(2) that I or anybody else would have made a noncontingent
(3) payment of \$60 million for this license.

(4) Q: Okay. Do you think you or anybody else would
(5) have made a \$50 million noncontingent payment for this
(6) license?

(7) A: Let me cut to the quick on that. I don't think
(8) anybody else would have made even a \$5 million
(9) noncontingent payment on this product.

(10) Q: How about \$4 million?

(11) A: I wouldn't have made any noncontingent payment
(12) for this product.

(13) Q: And what is that based -- why not?

(14) A: Because I wouldn't have done the deal that way.
(15) I would have done the deal with all the payments
(16) contingent upon approval, successful approval of the
(17) product.

(18) Q: Okay. Well, how much would you have paid --
(19) let's assume you could put it all in contingent
(20) milestone payments. How much would you or anybody else
(21) have paid?

(22) A: I think the --

(23) MR. CURRAN: Objection, vague. Are we talking
(24) about just Niacor-SR?

(25) MS. SHORES: Yeah, Niacor-SR.

11) THE WITNESS: I think the irony of that
12) question is that the contingent payments that were part
13) of this deal, without my having to invent something and
14) speculate, I think one can look at the contingent
15) payments that were built in this deal, which totaled
16) \$10 million upon the approval of Niacor-SR in various
17) jurisdictions, \$2 million for approval in Japan and \$1
18) million for approval in each of the major countries of
19) the EU, is about what the — the typical payments, and
20) that would be about what I and probably any other
21) person interested in licensing this compound would have
22) paid.

23) So, I'm making the assumption in answering that
24) that, number one, the due diligence that I found
25) inadequate was repaired. In other words, that adequate
26) due diligence was done and that I came to the
27) conclusion that I wanted to license the product. After
28) I came to that conclusion, which I'm creating my own
29) hypothetical for now, if I may, after I had come to
30) that conclusion, having done the additional due
31) diligence that I would have required, then the deal
32) that I would have constructed would have had nothing up
33) front or very little up front, and the \$10 million
34) payments upon approval in the various jurisdictions
35) that are actually in this agreement, with the

1) associated royalty rates of 10 to 15 percent based on
2) annual sales that again are in this agreement.

3) So, to me, this agreement looks — assuming one
4) wants the product at all, which is to me a great
5) assumption, but I'll give you that assumption, assuming
6) one wants this product at all, this agreement looks
7) reasonable, ordinary, typical, normal, except for the
8) fact that it's got this ridiculous \$60 million balloon
9) stuck on the front of it, which is totally aberrant in
10) every way, shape and form.

11) BY MS. SHORES:

12) Q: Okay. Is there an — and I think you've said
13) that you would have had no money up front. Is it —
14) had there been \$10 million up front, with the rest of
15) the terms being what they were, would that have been a
16) reasonable license fee?

17) A: No.

18) Q: No.

19) A: The up-front payments, in my experience, are
20) driven by the — if you will, the competition for the
21) product. I mean, the licensee always wants to pay
22) nothing up front. He wants to give nothing
23) noncontingently. The licensor always wants to get as
24) much as he can get up front. And when the up-front
25) payments appear at all or certainly appear at any

1) substantive level, it's because there's fairly intense
2) competition for the product; that is, there may be
3) five, six, seven, eight, nine — who knows, two dozen
4) other major pharmaceutical companies equally able to
5) license and market — develop and market the product
6) who want it, and then it becomes an auction.

7) Q: Okay.

8) A: You know, and so then, you know, if Merck
9) offers \$2 million and I want the product and I'm from
10) Lilly, I better offer \$3 million up front, and that's
11) how it gets up there.

12) In this instance, there was no such
13) competition. There was no such auction going on. The
14) company had tried for six months to find anybody to
15) take it, and nobody did. And so now you have one
16) company coming in and — and, you know, the up-front
17) payment may be just to be a nice guy, I mean sort of in
18) this — usually licensing people are nice people and
19) collegial, they might have just made the deal look good
20) by putting a million dollars up front. That's it.

21) Q: Okay. So, in your experience — or your
22) opinion is that no one could have — that absent
23) competition from other bidders, no one would have paid
24) more than, what, a million dollars up front?

25) A: I wouldn't have paid more than a million

1) dollars up front.

2) Q: Well, I'm asking you what you think is
3) reasonable. I mean, I think that's what your testimony
4) has been.

5) A: I hope I'm a reasonable person, and if I
6) wouldn't pay more than a million dollars up front, I
7) think anybody who would be willing to pay more than a
8) million dollars up front was being — I can't say
9) unreasonable, but was being irrational.

10) Q: Okay. In forming your opinion that there's no
11) way in hell the \$60 million was a licensing fee for the
12) products, did you — you didn't do any liver biopsies
13) of patients in the clinical trials, did you?

14) A: I did no liver biopsies in any of the patients
15) in clinical trials.

16) Q: And did you consult with any research
17) department? I mean, do you have a research department
18) at CoreTechs?

19) A: Yes, we have a research department at
20) CoreTechs, but it was not called upon to investigate
21) this issue.

22) Q: So, did you consult with anybody in any R&D
23) division of any company anywhere?

24) A: No, I didn't think it was appropriate for me to
25) share any of this kind of information with someone

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01 else.

02 Q: Did you consult any animal toxicology data?

03 A: There were no animal toxicology data to which I
04 was privy.

05 Q: All right. Did you seek the input of anybody
06 with any experience in marketing pharmaceuticals in
07 Europe?

08 A: I can abbreviate this line of questioning and
09 say that I consulted with no one else about anything
10 related to my expert opinion in this entire matter.

11 Q: So, you felt qualified to render an opinion
12 that there was no way in hell the \$60 million was a
13 licensing fee by yourself?

14 A: I took the position that I would review the
15 information that was available to the ultimate
16 licensee, that is, to Schering-Plough, at the time it
17 made that decision and essentially tried to afford
18 myself all the opportunities, no more, no less, than
19 they apparently had themselves. That is, I didn't go
20 beyond the data or attempt to go beyond the data that
21 were presented by the licensor —

22 Q: Well, actually, I think you relied on a number
23 of internal Upsher-Smith documents that Schering wasn't
24 privy to at the time, didn't you?

25 A: I think that —

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01 Q: Project meeting minutes and stuff like that?

02 A: Yes, the information such as that that you just
03 — that you just mentioned, the product — I mean the
04 project team meeting minutes impacted my decision on
05 what the parties did after the agreement was signed.

06 Q: Have you seen the expert report of Jim Furniss?

07 A: I don't recall which expert he was. Could you
08 refresh my memory?

09 Q: Yeah, he was a Schering expert who opined on
10 the issue of what price Niacor could have gotten in
11 Europe?

12 A: Yeah, I do recall that report.

13 Q: Who do you think is more qualified to give an
14 expert opinion on that subject, you or Mr. Furniss?

15 A: I don't think that I'm qualified to make a
16 qualitative judgment. I can say that I can only speak
17 to my own expertise, I can't speak to his. I don't
18 know him. I've only read his report. I think I am
19 qualified as an expert, and that's all I really can
20 testify to.

21 Q: On the issue of pricing in Europe, you think
22 you're qualified as an expert in that?

23 A: I think that I have enough experience in the
24 pharmaceutical industry to make the comments that I
25 made in my report, and that's — I would stand with

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01 that.

02 Q: And if somebody were asking you who — to
03 recommend an expert on the issue of pricing of
04 pharmaceuticals in Europe and the choices were you and
05 Mr. Furniss, who would you recommend to them?

06 A: I don't know Mr. Furniss at all —

07 Q: Well, you've read his report, right?

08 A: I've read what was a very brief report, I
09 believe.

10 Q: Did you read his qualifications and his
11 background?

12 A: I read his qualifications.

13 Q: And my question is whether you would recommend
14 to some person you or Mr. Furniss.

15 A: I think that I can only speak to the fact that
16 I would not be at all uncomfortable recommending
17 myself, and that's really all I can speak to.

18 Q: You said in your report that inexpensive,
19 over-the-counter niacin was available in several
20 European countries. Can you identify any such
21 products?

22 A: Could I identify any such what?

23 Q: You say that over-the-counter niacin was
24 available in many countries in Europe. Can you
25 identify what products you're talking about?

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01 A: What the names of the products are?

02 Q: Yeah.

03 A: I can't name the names of the products that are
04 available.

05 Q: Okay. Do you know whether that niacin is
06 combined with other chemicals, whatever is available in
07 these European countries that you're talking about?

08 A: I believe that niacin is available both in
09 combination and not, but I don't know the names of the
10 products with which niacin is associated in the EU.

11 Q: What is the basis for your opinion that
12 over-the-counter niacin is available not combined with
13 any other product in the EU?

14 A: In the course of reading various of the
15 depositions of parties in this matter, that issue was
16 mentioned and discussed, and that's the basis upon
17 which I made that statement.

18 Q: So, it's just based solely on the deposition
19 testimony that you've read in this case?

20 A: That's correct.

21 Q: Okay. Did you review the prosecution files on
22 any of the patents that are involved in the
23 sustained-release niacin products?

24 A: That's an interesting question, because I —
25 that's the one area where I did try to gather more

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101 information, because the patent history as presented in
102 the documentation provided to Audibert was rather
103 scant, and so I did conduct a number of patent searches
104 trying to look -- not so much at the -- I mean, I
105 obviously wasn't trying to look at the file wrapper in
106 those kind of situations, but I was trying to see if I
107 could get any information on enlarging my understanding
108 of the patent position and found nothing else that was
109 substantive other than what had been provided.

110 Q: As I add up your experience working for major
111 pharmaceutical companies, at least as an employee, I
112 get about, I don't know, four and a half years. Is
113 that about right? If you add Abbott and Fujisawa.

114 A: If you're asking for the period in which I was
115 an employee of a pharmaceutical company?

116 Q: Yes.

117 A: That is about right.

118 Q: Do you know how long Mr. Audibert has been an
119 employee of a pharmaceutical company?

120 A: I don't recall precisely how long he was
121 employed. I believe it was about 20 years or more.

122 Q: You take issue with Mr. Audibert's assumption
123 that Niacor-SR would have been the only approved
124 sustained-release niacin product in the EU until 2002.
125 Do you recall that?

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101 A: Yes, I recall that.

102 Q: And my recollection is you took issue with that
103 assumption on the ground that Kos' Niaspan product
104 could have been approved before then.

105 MR. SILBER: Objection, misstates his
106 testimony.

107 MS. SHORES: He hasn't testified to that at
108 all.

109 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure I understand your
110 question. What I would respond to that general area of
111 questioning is that as I understand it, Mr. Audibert
112 made the assumption that Niacor-SR would be the only
113 sustained-release niacin product in the EU up to the
114 year 2002. What I knew was that the Kos product was
115 approved in the summer of 1997 --

BY MS. SHORES:

116 Q: Where?

117 A: -- in the U.S. and would make either of two
118 assumptions: Either the product would not sell in this
119 country and would fail in this country, in which case
120 it would not -- no one would seek to market it anywhere
121 else most likely; or were it to succeed even modestly
122 in this country and were there to be a perceived market
123 for a sustained-release niacin in the EU, then Kos or a
124 Kos licensee would have seen fit to take it into the EU

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101 and could do so well before the year 2002.

102 So, the bottom line of this is that if
103 Niacor-SR was going to be approved in the EU, then
104 Niaspan could be approved in the EU at least as quickly
105 and certainly before the year 2002. If, on the other
106 hand, Niacor-SR were to fail and were not to be
107 approved in the EU, then the whole issue becomes moot
108 because of Audibert's assumption of its being the only
109 one prior to the year 2002 is not operative, because
110 there isn't any.

111 Q: Is Kos' Niaspan on the market in any European
112 country today?

113 A: Not to my knowledge.

114 Q: So, Mr. Audibert was right about that, at
115 least.

116 A: No, Mr. Audibert made the assumption that
117 Niacor-SR would be the only product approved prior to
118 the year 2002, and he's totally incorrect about that
119 since Niacor-SR is not approved in the EU.

120 Q: Yeah, maybe you didn't hear what my question
121 was. My question was whether he was right in assuming
122 that Niaspan would not be on the market in Europe in
123 2002.

124 A: I can't say. It's not 2002 yet.

125 Q: How about -- do you think it's going to be on

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101 the market in 2002?

102 A: I have no idea what Kos' plans are. In fact,
103 one of the bits of information that I had asked for and
104 hoped to have prior to trial is exactly that, you know,
105 what the status of Kos' efforts are in bringing the
106 product into the European Union.

107 Q: Okay. Are you familiar with a statin in
108 development called Questor?

109 A: No, I'm not.

110 Q: Okay.

111 Let me just take five minutes and finish up my
112 allotted time for the moment.

113 (A brief recess was taken.)

BY MS. SHORES:

114 Q: Mr. Audibert made some assumptions about what
115 market share he could obtain in Europe. Do you recall
116 those?

117 A: Yes, I do.

118 Q: Do you think those were reasonable or
119 unreasonable, assuming the product had been approved or
120 would have been approved?

121 A: Assuming that the product would have been
122 approved, if I remember correctly -- and please correct
123 me if I'm wrong -- he assumed that he would get 1.5
124 percent of the total market for hypercholesterolemic

1) drugs, and I thought while that was a small number, was
2) an exceedingly aggressive number and well beyond what I
3) thought was a reasonable projection for a couple of
4) reasons.

5) First of all, his assumptions were based on the
6) worldwide market with the exception of North America,
7) but his assumptions in reality only dealt with the
8) European Union, which represents, you know, roughly
9) half of the international market, of the non-U.S. —
10) non-North American market. So, he was excluding a big
11) chunk of the world in — particularly in Japan and the
12) Far East, because Schering doesn't have a strong
13) presence there. So, that roughly meant that he was
14) going to have to get about a 2 percent market share in
15) the EU, ballpark calculation.

16) Recognizing that the niacin products have a
17) minuscule fraction of the market, I believe it is well
18) — way less than 1 percent, I think it was even less
19) than 0. — than 0.5 percent, he would have to greatly
20) expand the market for the niacin class of compounds and
21) then get all of it, and so I thought that this was far
22) too aggressive an assumption, even though when one
23) throws out a small number like 1 and a half percent, on
24) the surface it can look modest.

25) Q: So, you don't think Schering could have

1) achieved that?

2) A: Well, if we go with a hypothetical, you know,
3) the assumptions that —

4) Q: Yeah.

5) A: — I think you're meaning.

6) Q: Right.

7) A: That the drug was approved, the drug was
8) approved in the time frame and with the indications
9) that Mr. Audibert projected, which, as I've said
10) before, I don't believe would have occurred, but even
11) if one assumes that, I still don't think that the
12) product would have achieved 1 and a half percent of the
13) non-North American worldwide market for hyperlipidemic
14) agents.

15) Q: Are you currently involved in any lawsuits?

16) A: Yes, I am.

17) Q: And what sort of lawsuits are you involved in?

18) A: Well, some are the Internal Revenue Service
19) matters that I don't want to speak you on.

20) Q: Okay.

21) A: And the other is a lawsuit that I hope is
22) dismissed on December 4th, which involves a libel suit
23) that was brought against me as a defendant by a local
24) football coach.

25) Q: Under our agreement or Schering's agreement

1) with our co-respondent, Upsher-Smith, we have divided
2) up our allotted, seven hours, into three-and-a-half-
3) hour segments. I think mine is approaching the end. I
4) reserve the right to resume in the event that Mr.
5) Curran on behalf of Upsher doesn't use all of his
6) allotted time.

7) Thank you very much.

8) A: Thank you.

9) MR. CURRAN: Should we take a lunch break now?

10) MR. SILBER: Yeah, that probably makes sense.

11) (Whereupon, at 12:15 p.m., a lunch recess was
12) taken.)

AFTERNOON SESSION

(12:55 p.m.)

EXAMINATION

BY MR. CURRAN:

1) Q: Good afternoon, Dr. Levy. I'm Christopher
2) Curran of the firm White & Case representing
3) Upsher-Smith.

4) Sir, you graduated from Yale University in
5) 1963?

6) A: Yes, sir.

7) Q: Did your course of study relate to the
8) valuation of pharmaceutical drugs?

9) A: At Yale?

10) Q: Yes.

11) A: No, sir.

12) Q: And then in 1967, you received your M.D. degree
13) from Columbia University College of Physicians and
14) Surgeons, correct?

15) A: Yes, sir.

16) Q: In studying and attaining your M.D. degree, did
17) your studies focus on the valuation of pharmaceuticals?

18) A: I think obtaining an M.D. degree and the
19) various basic science and clinical courses that I had
20) to take certainly related to the use and valuation of
21) pharmaceuticals.

[1] Q: The financial valuation of pharmaceuticals?
 [2] A: To a very limited extent, because we had some
 [3] courses in medical economics that related to the
 [4] economic role of various elements of the health care
 [5] system as it relates to the total health care cost.
 [6] Q: It's not your position that anyone with an M.D.
 [7] degree has expertise in valuing pharmaceuticals, is it?
 [8] A: I would -- I would say that everyone with an
 [9] M.D. degree has more knowledge relevant to the
 [10] evaluation of a pharmaceutical than does the typical
 [11] layperson without such training. If you're -- if
 [12] you're asking whether the M.D. degree is sufficient to
 [13] render a person able to make a full valuation of a
 [14] pharmaceutical, then I would say most likely not.
 [15] Q: Let's talk about you personally. You referred
 [16] to a specific course you took at Columbia. What was
 [17] that course again?
 [18] A: I don't recall the title of the course.
 [19] Q: But it had -- you called it medical economics,
 [20] is that what you said?
 [21] A: We had courses in the -- in the area of medical
 [22] economics.
 [23] Q: As part of that course, did you analyze the
 [24] financial valuation of pharmaceutical price --
 [25] pharmaceutical products to be licensed in and out?

[1] A: Now you're asking me, you know, an array of
 [2] different questions. These were general courses meant
 [3] to give physicians an understanding of the costs and
 [4] economic participation of each of the elements of
 [5] health care in the overall care of a patient. They
 [6] were not meant to teach us how to in-license or
 [7] out-license drugs.
 [8] Q: Or how to value drugs for purposes of
 [9] in-licensing or out-licensing, correct?
 [10] A: Well, I would not agree to that, because the
 [11] term "value" is a very broad-based term, and certainly
 [12] a physician in the course of his training and
 [13] experience as a physician probably develops the most
 [14] important information requisite to valuing a drug; that
 [15] is, the clinical utility of a drug, which is by far the
 [16] most important element contributing to the value of the
 [17] drug.
 [18] Q: The financial value?
 [19] A: Any value.
 [20] Q: Okay. Did you study comps in med school?
 [21] A: Would you define "comps"?
 [22] Q: Yes, comparables.
 [23] A: I don't know what you mean by "comparables."
 [24] Q: Okay. Sir, then you went to the National
 [25] Institutes of Health, correct?

[1] A: No, that's not correct. I did an internship.
 [2] Q: Where did you do your internship?
 [3] A: I did part of it at the University of Colorado
 [4] Medical Center and part of it at the Massachusetts
 [5] General Hospital.
 [6] Q: Why didn't you list that in your report?
 [7] A: There were a lot of things that I didn't list
 [8] in my report, sir. I just didn't think that was
 [9] something that I wanted -- that I needed to list in
 [10] terms of, you know, where I did my internship.
 [11] Q: Now, at the National Institutes of Health, you
 [12] did research in virology and immunology, correct?
 [13] A: Yes, that's correct.
 [14] Q: And you published the world's first paper on
 [15] the mammalian gene therapy, correct?
 [16] A: That is correct, yes.
 [17] Q: Has anyone published one since?
 [18] A: I think there's been a fair number published
 [19] since then.
 [20] Q: Did your work at NIH deal with the financial
 [21] valuation of pharmaceuticals for purposes of
 [22] in-licensing or out-licensing?
 [23] A: The reason I'm hesitating in answering your
 [24] question is that I think that any of the experience
 [25] that one gets as a health care professional, as a

[1] person doing research on one of the medically oriented
 [2] sciences, basic sciences or clinical sciences, all
 [3] contributes to one's understanding and appreciation for
 [4] the value of different therapies.
 [5] Q: Okay, that's why you were hesitating?
 [6] A: The reason I was hesitating was I was trying to
 [7] formulate my answer, sir.
 [8] Q: Now, you went to NIH -- did you say before to
 [9] avoid serving in Vietnam?
 [10] MR. SILBER: Misstates his testimony.
 [11] MR. CURRAN: It's a question.
 [12] THE WITNESS: I wouldn't dignify that question
 [13] with an answer. The answer to that is no. The answer
 [14] -- I went to the NIH because I was fortunate enough to
 [15] have the opportunity to serve my country doing medical
 [16] research at our -- at the National Institutes of Health
 [17] in Bethesda, Maryland and was one of the people
 [18] selected out of 19,000 applications -- applicants.
 [19] BY MR. CURRAN:
 [20] Q: So, you applied for that position at NIH?
 [21] A: I applied for that position and got it.
 [22] Q: So, you weren't forced to go to NIH, were you?
 [23] A: I was not forced to go to NIH, that's correct.
 [24] Q: You elected to apply.
 [25] A: That's correct.

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[1] Q: Okay. And you got in, and you elected to go.
[2] A: That's correct.
[3] Q: Sir, in your time at Duke, did you specialize
[4] in valuing pharmaceutical products for purposes of
[5] in-licensing and/or out-licensing?
[6] A: I did not specialize in any of the aspects of
[7] commercialization of pharmaceuticals, but once again,
[8] my experience at Duke both as a researcher in the basic
[9] sciences as well as the clinical sciences and my caring
[10] for patients and learning about the needs of various
[11] patient populations for different kinds of treatments
[12] certainly developed, again, a considerable and
[13] enormously valuable perspective on the valuation of any
[14] mode of therapy, most particularly pharmaceuticals.
[15] Q: So, now, at the time you left Duke in 1981,
[16] were you an expert in the valuation of pharmaceutical
[17] products for in-licensing and out-licensing?
[18] A: I would not characterize myself in 1981 as an
[19] expert on the in-licensing or out-licensing of
[20] pharmaceuticals.
[21] Q: Do you think anybody would characterize you at
[22] that time as having been an expert in that field?
[23] A: I can't speak to what other people would
[24] perceive me as.
[25] Q: I'm sorry, what was the last —

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[1] A: I can't speculate about what perceptions others
[2] might have had about me as anything other than — on
[3] any subject, and I think I could only speculate as to
[4] what I would perceive myself to be. It would not have
[5] been unreasonable because of the nature of the research
[6] that I did and the exposure that I had for someone to
[7] have perceived me as having expertise in this arena.
[8] Q: Well, I'm not saying having expertise in this
[9] arena. I said, were you an expert in the financial
[10] valuation of pharmaceuticals for in-licensing and
[11] out-licensing?
[12] MR. SILBER: Asked and answered.
[13] THE WITNESS: I don't believe that's what you
[14] said, number one, and number two, as I tried to testify
[15] before, each of the bodies of experience that I got
[16] along the way, up, to and including my period at Duke
[17] ending in 1981, contributed greatly to my expertise in
[18] the valuation of pharmaceutical products.
[19] You asked me whether when I left Duke in 1981 I
[20] would consider myself to be an expert on the
[21] in-licensing and out-licensing of pharmaceuticals. You
[22] did not say anything about financial in your
[23] questioning. I said I myself would not have considered
[24] myself an expert.
[25] You then asked me whether others might have

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[1] considered me so, and I said it's possible that they
[2] might have, but I can't speak to how others might or
[3] might not have perceived me.
[4] BY MR. CURRAN:
[5] Q: Okay, are you done with that answer?
[6] A: When I'm quiet, I think I'm done.
[7] Q: Okay. At the time you left Duke, were you an
[8] expert in the financial valuation of pharmaceuticals
[9] for purposes of in-licensing and out-licensing?
[10] A: When I left Duke, I knew very little about the
[11] general area of finance.
[12] Q: Does that mean you did not — you were not an
[13] expert at that time?
[14] A: My answer speaks for itself.
[15] Q: Are you declining to answer that question?
[16] A: I'm not declining. I think I've already
[17] answered it.
[18] Q: Sir, after Duke, you went to Abbott
[19] Laboratories, correct?
[20] A: That's correct.
[21] Q: And you were the vice president of
[22] pharmaceutical research, correct?
[23] A: That's correct.
[24] Q: What were your responsibilities in that
[25] position?

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[1] A: I had the responsibility for all the
[2] pharmaceutical research and development of
[3] pharmaceutical products at Abbott Laboratories.
[4] Q: In the entire company?
[5] A: The entire company.
[6] Q: You were responsible for the whole R&D
[7] department?
[8] A: I didn't say for the whole R&D department. I
[9] said for pharmaceuticals only.
[10] Q: For pharmaceuticals.
[11] A: Yes.
[12] Q: Okay. Were you responsible for the R&D
[13] department as far as pharmaceuticals were concerned?
[14] A: Yes, I was.
[15] Q: So, everybody else in that area, R&D for
[16] pharmaceuticals, was reporting to you. Is that
[17] correct?
[18] A: Yes. Yes, all the people in research dealing
[19] with pharmaceuticals reported to me. As I indicated
[20] earlier, there were in some of the foreign
[21] jurisdictions country managers who had reporting to
[22] them various people involved with clinical research,
[23] and those people were not under my regis. They
[24] reported directly to the country manager in charge of
[25] the country involved, and they usually had — not

(1) always, but they usually had a dotted line to me.

(2) Q: And when you got to Abbott Laboratories, their
(3) research program was moribund, correct?

(4) A: In my opinion, Abbott's pharmaceutical research
(5) was moribund.

(6) Q: And you turned that around?

(7) A: It's my perception that I did turn that around,
(8) yes.

(9) Q: And you take credit for Hytrin, Bixtin,
(10) Ritonavir and other drugs that came out of Abbott
(11) during that time frame, correct?

(12) MR. SILBER: Objection, misstates his report.

(13) THE WITNESS: I don't take credit for those,
(14) for any of those drugs. You know, as the leader, I set
(15) the tone of the organization, I recruited key people
(16) into the organization, I fought for respectability of
(17) the organization within a company that was referred to
(18) then as purely market driven, with R&Ds having little
(19) input into the decision making, and spent a lot of my
(20) time trying to change that perception.

(21) I spent a lot of my time building relationships
(22) between the R&D world within the company and the
(23) various commercial components of the company in order
(24) to both gain some respectability for us and to gain the
(25) credibility requisite to the funding needed to effect a

(1) turnaround in the company. I think it would be
(2) insulting to the people who worked in the R&D areas for
(3) me to take credit for their discoveries.

(4) I think that where my credit is most due is in
(5) creating a milieu in which fine research could occur
(6) and convincing management to help fund the creation of
(7) that milieu where fine research could occur.

(8) BY MR. CURRAN:

(9) Q: Did you start the programs that led to several
(10) marketed drugs, including Hytrin, Blaxin and Ritonavir?

(11) A: Again, "start the programs"? The way we worked
(12) was — I can tell you my modus operandi was to solicit
(13) from the entire R&D staff ideas in a variety of areas.
(14) We then set up within the company what was a model that
(15) I had learned in academia in terms of peer review. We
(16) actually even called them study sections, where we had
(17) an array of scientists both within and without the
(18) company to examine the vitality of the various ideas
(19) that were put forth, and out of that peer-reviewed
(20) process emerged some projects, some of which led to
(21) those various compounds. I had the final approval
(22) within R&D as to whether those projects would be
(23) recommended to top management for funding.

(24) Q: Were you uncomfortable with my terminology when
(25) I asked if you started the programs that led to those

(1) marketed drugs?

(2) A: Yes, because I don't feel comfortable taking
(3) credit for other people's work. I didn't start those
(4) programs. Those programs in a fair sense were
(5) initiated by various people who were under my aegis.
(6) You know, for instance, the renin program was — if I
(7) were to name a person who started it, it was Jake
(8) Plattner. The Ritonavir program, if I named a person
(9) who started it, it was Jonathan Green. The Hytrin
(10) program, if I named a person who started it, it was
(11) Jaroslav Kincl, and so on. If I wanted to name the
(12) person who started the Blaxin program, it was Prabha
(13) Fernandes.

(14) So, it would be unfair of me and totally
(15) inaccurate of me to say that I started those programs.
(16) I supported those programs, and I created the milieu
(17) that enabled those programs to be done, and at best, I
(18) created a milieu and brought in people into that milieu
(19) that could generate those kinds of concepts and ideas
(20) and projects and implement them.

(21) Q: In your judgment, did you succeed in helping
(22) Abbott's reputation and credibility?

(23) A: I'm very proud of that. I think that — well,
(24) what some of the people who were at Abbott and are
(25) still at Abbott would say is that the period during

(1) which I headed R&D were the golden years of Abbott's
(2) research. That is not my term; that's theirs. We had
(3) something very special during that period, and
(4) virtually everything — everything — that Abbott is
(5) selling today was initiated during that period.

(6) Q: You referred earlier to a product coming out of
(7) Abbott that was a first cousin of Cipro.

(8) A: Yes.

(9) Q: Which product was that?

(10) A: You know, I've forgotten the brand name that it
(11) carried. It was a floxacillin, because it was a member of
(12) the quinolone antibiotic series. I just have forgotten
(13) the name of the drug, because that name was actually
(14) applied after I left the company. The product was
(15) approved under the aegis of a man named Andre Pernet,
(16) and that would have been — oh, I would say in the late
(17) eighties or — more — perhaps even the early nineties
(18) when that drug was finally approved.

(19) Q: But was that drug developed while you were at
(20) Abbott?

(21) A: It was discovered when I was at Abbott, and the
(22) preclinical development was begun; that is, some of the
(23) formulation and toxicology studies. But as I'm sure
(24) you're aware, the path that a new compound travels in
(25) the pharmaceutical industry is a rather long one and

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11 lengthy one, and the discovery projects that led to the
12 emergence of those compounds or that compound in
13 particular was begun under my aegis. The actual
14 development in terms of the bulk of the clinical trials
15 and so on were done after I left.

16 Q: Now, that's the drug that you also testified
17 earlier was subsequently withdrawn from the market?

18 A: Yes, it was.

19 Q: And you also referred to people dying on
20 account of that drug?

21 A: I don't think I said on account of that drug.
22 What happened, as far as I understand it — and I am —
23 my knowledge of this is what's in the public domain. I
24 have no, you know, no privileged knowledge of what
25 happened. As I understand it, there were a number of
26 deaths associated with administration of that drug
27 post-approval and that the drug was voluntarily
28 withdrawn by Abbott.

29 Q: So, there were deaths associated with that
30 drug.

31 A: Yes, sir.

32 Q: And this was a drug that had been approved by
33 the FDA?

34 A: Yes, sir.

35 Q: How does that happen, that a drug gets approved

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1 by the FDA and it turns out that it is associated with
2 deaths?

3 A: Well, again, as I'm sure you're well aware in
4 the position that you have as counsel to a
5 pharmaceutical company, you are well aware of the fact
6 that drug discovery, drug development and drug
7 marketing is a business fraught with considerable risk.
8 Drugs fail at various stages, including post-approval.

9 Clinical trials represent a relatively select
10 population of patients, even large clinical trials, a
11 very small population compared to the population at
12 large, and the clinical trials are done on patients
13 that may or may not represent the full spectrum of
14 genetic diversity in the patient community at large.

15 For instance, this morning we heard — I was
16 asked questions about some of the exclusion criteria
17 that were applied to the Niacor-SR trials, and so
18 patients were excluded from the studies that happened
19 to have slightly elevated hepatic enzymes. Once the
20 drug is approved, there's no proscription against
21 physicians using drugs in various and sundry ways,
22 including off-labeling, and it's conceivable that a
23 hepatotoxic drug could have been used in a patient
24 population that already had mild hepatotoxicity and
25 that the drug would exacerbate that and even cause

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1 death. So, an analogous thing could have happened with
2 this quinoline antibiotic or with other drugs that had
3 been withdrawn post-approval.

4 Q: Now, this antibiotic developed at Abbott, was
5 its problem — was its safety problem hepatotoxicity?

6 A: Sir, I don't recall what the nature of the
7 toxicities of that drug were. I just have no
8 recollection of that at all.

9 Q: But it turned out that that drug was toxic to
10 humans?

11 A: It killed humans, yes, sir, or it was
12 associated with the death of humans and was purported
13 to have caused those deaths.

14 Q: Purported by whom?

15 A: I don't recall that, sir. I mean, I think
16 that, as you know, whenever a serious adverse event
17 occurs when a patient is taking a drug, that becomes a
18 reportable event, and those events are reported to the
19 regulatory agencies involved as well as to the company
20 that sponsors the drug, and I don't know all the
21 circumstances with that.

22 What I believe I remember — and I'm really
23 digging deep into my memory on a matter that was not of
24 particular importance or focus to me — I believe that
25 there were deaths that were reported to Abbott and also

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1 to the FDA and that Abbott, in anticipation of the
2 FDA's withdrawing the drug, voluntarily withdrew the
3 drug. I believe that's what happened, but I don't know
4 that for certain.

5 Q: Now, Abbott you said discovered the drug,
6 correct? Is that what you said?

7 A: That's correct.

8 Q: Yeah, and then conducted years of clinical
9 trials on the drug, correct?

10 A: I — the trials were conducted after I left the
11 company. I can only presume that there were years of
12 trials.

13 Q: Well, on what basis do you presume that?

14 A: Because it usually takes years to conduct
15 clinical trials on a drug to gain approval by the FDA.

16 Q: Have you ever done any digging into the
17 allegations that this antibiotic product was associated
18 with killing people?

19 A: I have done no investigations into it. I did
20 talk with two very prominent people in the discovery
21 and development of that drug, Andre Pernet himself and
22 Prabha Fernandes, both of who remain, you know, good
23 friends of mine, and Andre was pretty distraught over
24 it, because it had been he who championed that
25 particular analog, as opposed to one or two that

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(1) virtually everybody else in the organization thought
(2) had a better profile but was about a year behind, and
(3) Andre was quite anxious to get this drug approved for a
(4) variety of reasons, some of them personal and some of
(5) them corporate, and felt very guilty about that,
(6) because it wound up essentially killing the whole
(7) program, because the later compounds had a better
(8) preclinical safety profile and probably would not have
(9) had the problems that that drug had. We'll never know
(10) that, because they were not taken further into
(11) development.

(12) So, your question was whether I did any
(13) investigation on it. Investigation would imply —
(14) would to me imply more than I did, but I certainly —
(15) Andre actually called me, because he was upset, and I
(16) was his boss, and he wanted to talk. And Prabha has
(17) been a very good friend of mine, you know, since we
(18) were both at Abbott. I hired her at Abbott, and she
(19) has remained a friend since then, and she's talked a
(20) bit about it, but I wouldn't constitute — that in my
(21) mind would not constitute an investigation.

(22) Q: Weren't you kind of curious to get to the
(23) bottom of the issue?

(24) A: I would have to say that as a scientist, I'm
(25) always curious about unforeseen events like that. I

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(1) recognized that it was not my place to attempt to get
(2) confidential information out of Abbott to which I was
(3) not privy, nor was I so bored with the other elements
(4) going on in my life that I wanted to make a project out
(5) of finding out what went wrong with that drug.

(6) So, your question was, was I curious? Yes, I'm
(7) curious. I'm still curious as to exactly what
(8) happened. Would I likely have found out anything more
(9) than what's in the — what's made public were I to have
(10) given in to that curiosity? Probably not, because I

(11) think that all the information that was available to
(12) anyone, even under, you know, confidential conditions,
(13) was certainly made available to the FDA and to any
(14) other body that wanted to investigate it, and I don't
(15) think they have any clear answers. One rarely gets
(16) clear answers as to why idiosyncratic effects occur.

(17) Q: So, you never asked Abbott to provide you with
(18) information relating to this matter?

(19) A: I thought there was no — I had no right to ask
(20) Abbott for information on that matter.

(21) Q: So, you didn't.

(22) A: I did not.

(23) Q: What was Andre Pernet's position at Abbott?

(24) A: He was vice president of pharmaceutical
(25) research, and he followed — well, there were two other

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(1) vice presidents of pharmaceutical research between me
(2) and him, and he was — so, he was — Norm Weiner
(3) followed me, Fred Murad followed him, and Andre
(4) followed Fred Murad.

(5) Q: But now while you were at Abbott and while you
(6) were vice president of pharmaceutical research, Andre
(7) Pernet reported to you, correct?

(8) A: Yes, sir.

(9) Q: What was his position then when he was
(10) reporting to you?

(11) A: He was referred to as the area head of
(12) antibiotic research.

(13) Q: And you say he was distraught about the fact
(14) that this antibiotic purportedly killed people,
(15) correct?

(16) MR. SILBER: Objection, misstates his
(17) testimony.

(18) THE WITNESS: I don't recall what I said
(19) before. What I will say now in response to that is
(20) Andre sought me out, called me up when this happened,
(21) told me about it, and cried, and he came over to my
(22) house, we had dinner together, and I think just as a
(23) student-mentor almost kind of relationship, he and I
(24) talked through the — through the issue, and so I think
(25) he — you know, when a man calls up his mentor and

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(1) cries, I suspect that means he's a bit distraught.

(2) BY MR. CURRAN:

(3) Q: Were you distraught?

(4) A: I wouldn't characterize my reaction as
(5) distraught. I mean, I didn't cry. I didn't feel any
(6) guilt over the issue whatsoever. I had no role in it.
(7) I think that any human being is distraught over the
(8) loss of another human being, and so to that extent I'm
(9) sure I was sad. "Distraught" is probably too strong a
(10) word for what I felt.

(11) Q: So, now, this was a drug discovered at Abbott
(12) while you were in charge of all pharmaceutical R&D,
(13) correct?

(14) A: That's not correct. I initiated the program in
(15) quinoline antibiotics. At that time, there was a class
(16) of drugs, the lead compound of which was a drug called
(17) norfloxacin, that's made by Merck, and this had a very
(18) exciting spectrum, and we initiated a project to try to
(19) find other members of this class that would have
(20) certain advantages relative to norfloxacin.

(21) We formulated a chemical team, we had some
(22) chemical — chemistry objectives and some pharmacology
(23) and microbiological objectives, but by the time I left
(24) the company, that specific lead compound had been
(25) synthesized but was in the process of being evaluated

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(1) in all the clinical — not clinical, preclinical
(2) testing, and so it hadn't emerged yet as a product
(3) candidate.
(4) Q: But the compound had been discovered, correct?
(5) A: The compound had been discovered.
(6) Q: And while you were at Abbott, correct?
(7) A: Yes.
(8) Q: And Andre Pernet was a subordinate of yours —
(9) there, correct?
(10) A: Yes, sir.
(11) Q: And he was the principal champion of this drug,
(12) correct?
(13) A: That is correct.
(14) Q: And when it ended up killing people or
(15) purportedly killing people, he was distraught about it,
(16) correct?
(17) A: Yes, sir.
(18) Q: Sir, were there any other drugs developed or
(19) discovered during your stint at Abbott that purportedly
(20) killed people?
(21) A: I can't think of any drugs that were discovered
(22) when I was at Abbott — in fact, I can't think of any
(23) drugs that have even been made by Abbott in any way
(24) other than this one drug that has been associated with
(25) an unusual frequency of death. I'm sure that almost

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(1) every drug is associated with death in some way or
(2) other, but not to any noticeable or measurable extent.
(3) Q: Well, this drug was pulled from the market
(4) because —
(5) A: Yes.
(6) Q: — it was associated with the death of people,
(7) correct?
(8) A: Yes. Every drug — it's a cliché, but every
(9) drug has side effects, and if used in enough people,
(10) virtually every drug, including the most benign drugs,
(11) aspirin and Tylenol and these types of drugs, you know,
(12) have been and will be associated with serious adverse
(13) events. If a drug is used in millions and millions of
(14) people, even if a minuscule fraction of those people
(15) have an idiosyncratic reaction, an unusual reaction to
(16) the drug, it will be seen, but this doesn't imply that
(17) there's anything inherently wrong with the drug.
(18) The quinolone antibiotic that we were speaking
(19) of earlier went beyond this and caused serious adverse
(20) effects in a far more than acceptable number of
(21) patients, and it had to be withdrawn. I can't think of
(22) any other drug that I was involved with at Abbott — in
(23) fact, I can't think of any other drug at Abbott,
(24) period, that has had to be withdrawn for safety
(25) reasons.

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(1) Q: Sir, you were the director of antibiotics at
(2) Abbott, correct?
(3) A: When I first arrived, this lasted for maybe
(4) three weeks, I was the — my actual title was director
(5) of biological research, but most of Abbott's biological
(6) research was antibiotics, so I never really knew what
(7) my title was. It didn't last very long, because they
(8) told me I was going to be a vice president, they just
(9) had to get it approved. So, I was director of
(10) antibiotics or director of biological research or some
(11) director of something for a brief period, then I was
(12) made a vice president.
(13) Q: Sir, what business is CoreTechs Corporation in?
(14) A: CoreTechs does two things. What it spends most
(15) of its time on and derives most of its revenue from is
(16) the development of early stage companies, and the other
(17) part of the revenue of the company involves consulting
(18) assignments such as the one I'm involved with now, but
(19) usually not in support of litigation, but rather,
(20) consulting assignments for typically the investment
(21) community looking to evaluate various opportunities.
(22) Q: Well, you said early stage businesses, is half
(23) of — is half of CoreTechs' business —
(24) A: Oh, far more than half.
(25) Q: More than half.

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(1) A: Most of our revenue comes from the value of the
(2) equity that we get when we build — when we build a
(3) business.
(4) Q: Now, in what industries?
(5) A: The — because I'm the principal rainmaker,
(6) most of the business now is in the health care arena.
(7) What we were a couple of years ago and really until I
(8) started having problems with my back dealt with
(9) principally three areas. One was health care, one was
(10) material science, that is, all different forms of new
(11) materials, and then the third was in the communications
(12) — you know, IT, as it's commonly thought of. That's
(13) the smallest part of our business, but Gail Green is a
(14) computer scientist and has that part of our business,
(15) and we hope to grow that a little bit, but that's been
(16) a relatively minor part now.
(17) I would say that approximately, oh, 75 percent
(18) or even more is in the health care arena, and about,
(19) oh, 15 percent in the material science arena, and 10 or
(20) so in the IT.
(21) Q: Now, what do you do for these early stage
(22) companies?
(23) A: About anything that needs to be done. We —
(24) the typical modus operandi — it isn't always done this
(25) way — we always do it for equity. We are never paid.

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(1) We don't -- we are not consultants to them. We don't
(2) charge them by the hour or the day or -- it's always
(3) done for a piece of the business, and almost always one
(4) of us will go on the board of directors, and we'll just
(5) help the principals in the company do whatever has to
(6) be done.

(7) I mean, sometimes it involves helping them
(8) raise money. Sometimes it involves helping them design
(9) and implement various research and/or development
(10) programs. Sometimes it helps -- it involves helping
(11) them find, recruit personnel. Just anything -- we are
(12) really functioning as officers of the company, sort of
(13) part-time officers of the company during this nascent
(14) period for the company, although we are not officially
(15) officers of the company.

(16) But our role is as a director, not as a company
(17) officer. We're really -- we refer to ourselves as
(18) working directors. I mean, that's sort of the cliché,
(19) again.

(20) Q: Yeah. And is that because you're consulting
(21) the company as you serve on the board of directors? Is
(22) that why you call it working directors?

(23) A: I'm sorry, I don't understand your question.

(24) Q: Typically a representative of CoreTechs serves
(25) on the board of directors of the client company. Is

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(1) that correct?

(2) A: That's correct.

(3) Q: And in addition to serving as a director, the
(4) CoreTechs representative advises and consults with the
(5) officers of the company, correct?

(6) A: Well, where I'm not comfortable with the way
(7) you're expressing it is you're saying in addition to
(8) being a director. I think that a director of an early
(9) stage company often is involved in a more active
(10) participation in the company's activities than is the
(11) -- say the director of General Motors, and so I think
(12) that a directorship in most early stage companies
(13) involves either some form of operating assistance
(14) and/or financial assistance.

(15) Many times directors in these early stage
(16) companies did provide significant financing, so they've
(17) been asked -- asked for and received a board seat.
(18) Most of the time these individuals provide as their
(19) principal contribution financing, and as a lesser
(20) contribution, operating guidance.

(21) In our instance, we have almost our entire
(22) contribution as operating assistance, and sometimes,
(23) but not always and certainly not an obligate aspect of
(24) our participation, some financing. So, we're sort of
(25) the flip side of a venture capitalist, if you will. A

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(1) venture capitalist might be 90 percent money and 10
(2) percent operating help. We might be more 10 percent
(3) financing and 90 percent operating help.

(4) Q: And now where does CoreTechs get the money to
(5) finance these startup companies?

(6) A: In two ways. We have internally generated
(7) funds that we keep, retain, and put in in short-term
(8) instruments, so it's fairly liquid, so that we can, if
(9) we so elect, provide some financing to the company.
(10) And secondly and much more prominently, we have a
(11) level of credibility with professional investors and
(12) can help the company build a relationship and get
(13) funding from these professional investors.

(14) When we do that, and we're very strict about
(15) this, because I don't feel comfortable with some of the
(16) other operations of other types of entities, we never
(17) take a commission on the money. So, if I help a
(18) company raise money, for instance, all the money goes
(19) to the company. We don't make any money, you know, as
(20) a broker for money. We pretty strictly want to stay
(21) away from being perceived as or operating in any way as
(22) a broker.

(23) Q: Do you ever help your clients value their
(24) companies?

(25) A: Oh, yes, all the time.

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(1) Q: How do you do that?

(2) A: In various ways. It depends on the company,
(3) depends on the technology, depends on the nature of the
(4) business, and there is no -- and I think, again, one of
(5) the things that we take some pride in, it's sort of an
(6) obsession with me, is I don't like fixed formula being
(7) applied to all situations. I think that every company
(8) is different, and the thought process that should be
(9) brought to every opportunity is different.

(10) So, we'll -- the valuation of any research
(11) project or any early stage company is a -- is something
(12) that I think has to be customized to the individual
(13) activity at hand.

(14) Q: Do you ever do quantitative analysis in valuing
(15) these entities?

(16) A: I would appreciate your defining what you mean
(17) by "quantitative analysis."

(18) Q: Number crunching.

(19) A: I guess I'd ask you to define -- I mean, number
(20) crunching, do we use an adding machine? Yes, I mean,
(21) I'd ask you to define what you mean by "number
(22) crunching."

(23) Q: Do you ever do a net present value calculation
(24) on anticipated revenue streams of these startup
(25) companies?

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(1) A: That's a — that's a calculation that is often
(2) used and I personally find of limited value for most
(3) situations.
(4) Q: When you say it's often used, what do you mean
(5) by that?
(6) A: It's just a very standard parameter that, you
(7) know, people doing financial analyses like to see.
(8) It's something that — it's just — sort of like the
(9) SGOT/SGPT that we were talking about earlier. It's
(10) just one of many parameters that can be applied, but I
(11) think it has little precision and little utility until
(12) there is an actual marketable product in hand and real
(13) market research can be conducted and real valid and
(14) viable financial projections can be developed and
(15) meaningful NPV analyses or projections can be made.
(16) I think when one doesn't have a product in
(17) hand, the market research supporting the sales
(18) projections on the product are very tenuous, and the
(19) NPV calculation really is dependent upon two groups of
(20) numbers, you know, one are the sales projections, you
(21) know, for the product, and the second is the discount
(22) rate, and then you just plug it into the formula.
(23) Well, you know, I think you're well aware of
(24) the term GI/GO, garbage in/garbage out. Well, if you
(25) plug garbage into an NPV formula, you'll get garbage

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(1) out.
(2) Q: Do you ever conduct NPV analyses for these
(3) companies that you're advising?
(4) A: I think I testified a moment ago that, yes, we
(5) often do, particularly when the product — when the
(6) company has a product in hand. You know, for instance,
(7) one of our companies has a food product. This product
(8) exists, it's got no regulatory hurdles. We were able
(9) to conduct some formal market research with this
(10) product, focus groups, and we were able to — since
(11) there were analogous products out there that sold for
(12) certain prices and in certain markets, we were able to
(13) build some financial projections that would have an
(14) accuracy of, you know, plus or minus 90 percent, which
(15) is pretty good for market research.
(16) And then the NPV calculations have some
(17) possible meaning, not much, at least to me not much,
(18) because one is still fraught with the fact that all NPV
(19) calculations are based on two very uncertain variables.
(20) When you're projecting sales in the future, and as much
(21) as you may try, not too many people can see too far
(22) past a year, and usually these projections go out five
(23) years or even ten years. And then secondly, one has to
(24) somewhat arbitrarily choose a discount rate, and if I
(25) want to make the numbers look good, I'll choose a low

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(1) discount rate. If I want to make the numbers look bad,
(2) I'll choose a high discount rate. The fact is that no
(3) one knows what that discount rate should be.
(4) All of these situations are far riskier than
(5) T-bills, and if T-bills are — you know, now they're a
(6) little bit lower, but T-bills typically have been 7-8
(7) percent, but what multiple of a T-bill is the risk of
(8) this new product or this new venture or this new
(9) whatever? That's your discount rate. It's almost
(10) infinite.
(11) You know, when you have a new product that's
(12) never been on the market before, even if you have the
(13) product in hand — never mind all the vagaries of the
(14) preapproval process, where it's even more ridiculous —
(15) but even when you have a product in your hand, you
(16) don't really know what that product's going to do. So,
(17) you're going to have to pull a discount rate out and
(18) plug it into your formula.
(19) I don't think that's a very precise exercise
(20) and wouldn't put a lot of weight on whatever the
(21) numbers came out in that.
(22) Q: I'm sorry, so, did you or did you not do an NPV
(23) valuation on this food product you referred to?
(24) A: We did do an NPV calculation on the food
(25) product.

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(1) Q: And what's the food product?
(2) A: It's called the Lox Box, and it's a device that
(3) takes a piece of raw salmon and converts it into lox in
(4) two days in the refrigerator.
(5) Q: What was the analogous product that you looked
(6) at for market projections?
(7) A: There was no analogous product, but lox is
(8) bought and sold, and so we knew what people — we knew
(9) that nobody was going to pay — you know, lox cost, you
(10) know, \$20, \$25 a pound if you buy it in the
(11) delicatessen. So, certainly we knew that the upper
(12) limit that somebody was going to pay to produce his own
(13) lox was a fraction of that. Then you just sort of work
(14) down from there.
(15) Q: And you ended up with market projections that
(16) you were confident in. Is that right?
(17) A: I didn't say that, sir. I said —
(18) Q: That's a question. It's a question.
(19) A: I'll say it again — well, as I said —
(20) Q: Can you answer the question?
(21) A: I'll be happy to answer the question once I
(22) understand it, sir.
(23) Q: Okay, go ahead. Go ahead.
(24) A: As I understand your question, you're asking
(25) me, you know, how much I relied on those numbers, and

101 as I've said repeatedly, I think that making financial
102 projections about the sales of any product,
103 particularly when that product is a new product, as
104 ours was, for instance, are fraught with great peril
105 and should be looked at with little confidence. You do
106 the best you can.

107 In market research, in general, it's a very
108 imprecise world. I mean, those of us who were in
109 laboratory research often have been known to make snide
110 remarks about the use of the term "research" when
111 applied to the phrase "market research," because it
112 just doesn't — there's so much more subjectivity
113 involved with it.

114 Q: Have you ever worked in a market research
115 position?

116 A: I have not worked in a market research
117 position.

118 Q: So, on this food product, this Lox Box, you did
119 an NPV calculation, but you had little confidence in
120 the outcome. Is that right?

121 A: One does many things in developing the
122 financial analysis of a business. Something that's
123 very, very easy to do is an NPV calculation. When we
124 were — when we were trying to estimate for ourselves
125 what sort of needs this program, this project, this

101 company would have, we tried to figure out what might
102 the sales be, and we did that as best we could, but we
103 realized that this was going to be a very imprecise
104 exercise, and just because an exercise is imprecise,
105 it's sometimes, often, better than doing nothing. So,
106 we do what we can do.

107 Q: What other analytical tools did you use to
108 value this Lox Box product?

109 A: Well, to value it, we were building this
110 company with the idea that it ultimately could be
111 acquired by another larger food company or by some
112 private individual interested in taking over a company
113 like this, and so the main thing that we looked at was
114 what sort of selling price we needed for the Lox Box to
115 have it be profitable on a per unit basis.

116 We knew what the components of the device could
117 cost, and we had an idea from several focus groups that
118 we ran what the public would potentially pay for this
119 product. So, we knew what we could sell it for.

120 We then built from that number of what we
121 thought we could pay for the production of the product,
122 in other words, what our cost of goods could be. We
123 then had plenty of information on what margins were
124 required by the various retail companies that sell
125 these types of products. For instance, Bloomingdale's

101 and Nordstrom's and, you know, Marshall Fields and
102 Crate & Barrel and William Sonoma. We knew what margin
103 requirements they had, and that ranged from about 53-54
104 percent to 62 percent.

105 So, knowing what the public would pay for it,
106 knowing what margins we had to give our own customers
107 our retailers, we then could back up and figure out
108 what we could spend to build the product, and then from
109 that, we could figure out how much we could earn on a
110 per-unit basis. What really we were interested in is
111 what the potential earnings could be of this — you
112 know, of this product, and hence, of the company.

113 Then from that, recognizing that people
114 typically will pay between 8 and 20 times earnings for
115 an enterprise, we had a ballpark figure of what we
116 thought, if this product were to be successful, we
117 could sell the company for. That's really the exercise
118 we went through.

119 The net present value calculation we did
120 because it's so easy to do. It's, you know, entering a
121 couple of numbers in an Excel program, and you get a
122 number out. We didn't really — I — if you were to
123 ask me now what the NPV calculation was, I couldn't
124 tell you. I could tell you to the penny, you know, the
125 COG, the cost of goods, I could tell you the units, I

101 could tell you, you know, where it sold, how many it
102 sold, those are the numbers that are important to us.

103 Q: On the Lox Box you're talking about?

104 A: Yeah.

105 Q: What's the COG?

106 A: I said I could tell you. I don't have to tell
107 you these kinds of numbers, because it's a closely held
108 company, and I don't really want to share my
109 proprietary information with you. I don't think that
110 has any bearing on, you know, on this case.

111 MR. CURRAN: Mr. Silber, can you instruct the
112 witness to answer the question?

113 MR. SILBER: He's given you his answer.

114 MR. CURRAN: And that's fine by you?

115 MR. SILBER: Um-hum.

BY MR. CURRAN:

117 Q: So, you won't tell me, huh?

118 A: I — sir, I'm happy to tell you things that are
119 not proprietary information or even if they are
120 proprietary information if in my best and honest
121 judgment they have bearing on this case. I think for
122 me to tell you something just because you're wanting to
123 know is not of particular importance to me. I don't
124 think your knowing what it costs us to make the Lox Box
125 is any of your business or has any bearing on your

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101 business or your client's business.
102 Q: Okay. Now, in valuing this Lox Box thing, you
103 still had to project sales volume, correct, to value
104 the product or the company?
105 A: We had to — we had to speculate about how many
106 units could be sold depending on various scenarios, and
107 by far the most imprecise number was that one. I mean,
108 we really didn't focus on it very much, because we
109 realized that the — well, I can tell you this. I
110 don't — I mean, this is germane to the sort of things
111 you're asking me.
112 The range of annual units sold went from about
113 9000 up to 2 million. That's the enormity of the
114 range, and this was a well-defined product that
115 existed, and so you have this enormous range. It all
116 depended — for instance, we knew that if QVC took it
117 and, you know, Home Shopping Network took it and pushed
118 it and liked it, it would quadruple our sales. We knew
119 that if Oprah Winfrey said two words about it, it would
120 quintuple our sales. We knew that if William Sonoma
121 took it, it would make a three-fold difference in our
122 sales, because these are such enormous players in this
123 marketplace.
124 So, any speculation — we hoped that they all
125 took it. We hoped that they all took it and we would

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126 get our 2 million units, but we also realized that even
127 if they didn't and we sold a mere 10,000 units, we were
128 prepared for the downside, that even at that low end of
129 the sales, the company would still be profitable, and
130 albeit small, it still could be of interest to somebody
131 interested in running a company, you know, that's got,
132 you know, a half million dollars a year in sales and
133 it's got, you know, X percentage going to the bottom
134 line.
135 Q: Well, what's the name of this company that —
136 that has this Lox Box?
137 A: It's Colecraft Corporation, and the name has
138 actually been changed to The Perfecur Corporation, P E
139 R F E C U R. That's the DBA. I believe the — well, I
140 know the company has been filed as Colecraft.
141 Q: How do you spell that?
142 A: C O L E S C R A F T.
143 Q: Where did that name come from?
144 A: One of my colleagues and long-time friends is
145 Eric Coles, the man I mentioned before, and Eric's
146 mother passed away shortly before we formed this
147 company — oh, I'm sorry, no, she was dying when we
148 formed this company, and Eric thought it would be nice
149 to name a company sort of after her, she having formed
150 another sort of invention-based, technology-based

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151 company in the sewing area that never got off the
152 ground, and she had named that company Colecraft, and
153 so we named this company Colecraft just for her.
154 Q: Are you a co-inventor of this Lox Box?
155 A: Yes, I am.
156 Q: Do you have it patented?
157 A: Yes, I do. Well, patents have been applied
158 for. We haven't had any issue yet.
159 Q: Where did you apply for patents?
160 A: U.S.
161 Q: Anywhere else?
162 A: No, sir.
163 Q: You don't have any patent protection in Europe?
164 A: No, we don't. Don't get any ideas now.
165 Q: What I don't understand is how can you have
166 such a big range, from 9000 to 2 million units, in your
167 sales projections.
168 A: We went through a number of scenarios. In this
169 particular instance, the entire company was funded
170 internally. So, we wanted to see how bad this could
171 be, and we looked at a variety of scenarios, and in the
172 retail marketplace — we did a lot of market research,
173 because the product was in hand. We could show it to
174 people.
175 We realized that the sales of this product were

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176 dependent upon a number of unknown variables, some of
177 which I mentioned to you before, and we didn't know
178 whether we would be successful with, you know, with
179 those various venues that I spoke of.
180 Q: Have you tried to sell any equity in this Lox
181 Box company?
182 A: No, we — that's not our business. The only
183 time equity is given in our business is if we elect to
184 take outside investors, and we rarely are faced with
185 that opportunity, because most of the time when we are
186 involved with early stage companies it's that we are a
187 minority shareholder, you know, we're coming into
188 somebody else's company and helping him or her build
189 that company, and we get a minority equity position in
190 it. So, we're not in a position to sell our equity or
191 sell the company's equity.
192 In a few instances, of which this is one, we
193 were the founders and inventors that drove the company,
194 in which case we could sell equity, but we just elect
195 not to do that.
196 Q: All right, let's put aside Lox Box for a
197 minute. Just more generally, how do you — what
198 analytical tools do you use to value a startup entity
199 that doesn't have any products currently on the market?
200 A: Most of the time, when we get involved with a

11 — in fact, almost all the time when we get involved
12 with an early stage company, we don't present to
13 ourselves or to potential investors any valuation
14 numbers. That may sound strange to you, and I realize
15 it's somewhat unusual in this industry, but as I have
16 indicated a few times today, I'm one of the principal
17 rainmakers or maybe the principal rainmaker in the
18 company, and I try to be careful about the
19 representations that I would make to, you know, to a
20 potential investor.

21 Whatever number I were to conjure up using NPV
22 or any other mechanism would be GI/GO, and I just
23 choose not to do it. So, for instance, we had one — a
24 company we've done relatively recently that's an
25 antiviral, and, you know, I've raised about \$5 million
26 for this company without uttering one element of, you
27 know, of rationale, numerical rationale for the
28 valuation.

29 We arbitrarily decided what the pre-money
30 valuation of the company would be, and this was based
31 not on any NPV calculation but more on what similar
32 types of companies have been valued at in recent years
33 and really what we — what we thought was a fair
34 valuation to investors.

35 The financial projections, sales projections, I

36 mean, as I say, I've raised \$5 million for the company
37 without a single sales projection. I mean, one could
38 — this particular company, I can tell you this part of
39 it, has a very novel therapy — a potentially very
40 novel therapy for hepatitis C. That's a very bad
41 disease. There is no therapy for hepatitis C. I'm
42 sure Rich could tell you that.

43 It also has another element to the company
44 where one of the technologies dealt with the
45 propagation of hepatitis C, something else, again,
46 which is very difficult to do, and we asked for certain
47 pre-money valuation, and all the investors that we
48 would deal with are fairly sophisticated people, and
49 they could see that if company were to succeed, it's a
50 — you know, it's going to have a market capitalization
51 in excess of \$500 million, maybe a billion. If it
52 doesn't succeed, it's got a value of zero.

53 So, the number is somewhere between zero and a
54 billion dollars or more. What am I going to do, tell
55 them it's a hundred thousand or \$100 million or \$150
56 million or \$200 million? It's all nonsense.

57 I mean, you look at it — I mean, these kinds
58 of decisions, at least in this sense, are experience
59 and rationality based. You know, if one has a
60 treatment for hepatitis C, a disease that is — that

61 affects millions of people and for which there is now
62 only an inadequate therapy, some of it put out by
63 Schering-Plough I might add, we're in pretty good
64 stead, and that's all we had to do.

65 MR. SILBER: Chris, if you get to a breaking
66 point, we've been going for about —

67 MR. CURRAN: I'm sorry, if we —

68 MR. SILBER: If we get to a sensible breaking
69 point, we have been going for a little while.

70 MR. CURRAN: Okay, sure.

71 BY MR. CURRAN:

72 Q: So, is it a fact, then, that often in
73 situations where you're dealing with a startup company
74 with uncertain revenue streams, you don't use financial
75 analytical tools, but you instead use judgment?

76 A: I don't think that's what I said, but let me
77 try to clarify. I find classical financial analyses —
78 let's just be more specific, net present value
79 calculations — to be very unhelpful in almost every
80 situation, and particularly in a situation where the
81 product itself is not on the market or is not yet
82 marketable.

83 Even in the most generous of situations, that
84 is the example I used, the Lox Box, which had no
85 regulatory hurdles to deal with, it had merely a

86 marketing and sales effort and some luck to drive or
87 not drive the business, even there, as I said to you,
88 the numerical — the financial projections were — had
89 an enormous range, and whatever NPV calculation we
90 would do would vary enormously based on whether we
91 choose a, you know, 10,000 units sold or 2 million
92 sold. So, what good is that? I mean, I'm not going to
93 plan based on that.

94 So, one does it simply because every once in a
95 while somebody may ask for it, so there it is, and —
96 or we may look at it. Who knows? I mean, it's so easy
97 to do. It's a mindless calculation to do with, you
98 know, with a good old Excel program. So, all we had to
99 do was plug in, you know, numbers ranging from, you
100 know, sales of 10,000 of them to sales of 2 million of
101 them, and, you know, we might put in different discount
102 rates and get out a bunch of numbers, which to me meant
103 nothing, because I knew what went into those numbers.
104 I think the more you know what goes into them, the less
105 confidence you have in them, at least for me.

106 Q: Has anybody ever asked you to do a net present
107 value calculation?

108 MR. SILBER: Anybody ever?

109 MR. CURRAN: Yeah, ever.

110 THE WITNESS: Actually, I don't think I have

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(1) ever been asked by anybody to do one, I have always
(2) been on the asking side rather than the askee side, and
(3) I have performed them many times just because I'm
(4) curious. I mean, just do it. Why not? As I said,
(5) it's so easy to do it.

(6) I have asked some of those people that, you
(7) know, you asked me about earlier, you know, to -- you
(8) know, to prepare a table with NPVs with various
(9) scenarios. That's the only way I've ever dealt with
(10) them. I've never myself found it useful to choose a
(11) single NPV and look at it and say, that's gospel. I
(12) always present it as a matrix, regardless, whether I --
(13) and most of them I don't even do it, but if I do do it,
(14) I present it as a matrix with different discount rates
(15) and different sales numbers.

BY MR. CURRAN:

(16) Q: In what situations have you asked others to
(17) prepare an NPV analysis?

(18) A: When there was a product in hand, an approved
(19) product in hand, and we were able to -- either able or
(20) willing to conduct the requisite market research so
(21) that we could generate some numbers with which we had
(22) some comfort, then I have often asked for those
(23) numbers.

(24) For instance, in this antiviral project that I

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(1) mentioned to you a moment ago, it didn't even dawn on
(2) me to carry out an NPV analysis, because it -- you just
(3) have a look at it and say, you know, here's -- we
(4) either have or we don't have a treatment for hepatitis
(5) C. Does it really matter whether it is a \$100 million
(6) drug or a \$3 billion drug at this stage of the game?
(7) I'll take either of them. They'll both be successful.

(8) One is just a lot more successful than the other.

(9) But I'm not so wealthy that I would scoff at a
(10) \$100 million drug. It certainly wasn't going to be
(11) less than that. I didn't need some, you know, some NPV
(12) to tell me that, and most people wouldn't.

(13) MR. CURRAN: Do you want to take a short break?

(14) MR. SILBER: Yeah, sure.

(15) MR. CURRAN: Well, no, not yeah, sure. I mean,
(16) if you don't want --

(17) MR. SILBER: Yes, I would like to take a break,
(18) that's fine.

(19) MR. CURRAN: Okay.

(20) (A brief recess was taken.)

BY MR. CURRAN:

(1) Q: Sir, niacin or nicotinic acid has been shown to
(2) reduce levels of total cholesterol, correct?

(3) A: Niacin has been shown to reduce levels of total
(4) cholesterol, yes.

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(1) Q: And sir, niacin has been shown to reduce levels
(2) of low-density lipoproteins, correct?

(3) A: Yes.

(4) Q: Those are LDLs, right?

(5) A: Yes.

(6) Q: And sir, niacin has been shown to reduce levels
(7) of triglycerides, correct?

(8) A: Yes.

(9) Q: And sir, niacin has been shown to reduce levels
(10) of Lp(a) lipoprotein, correct?

(11) A: I'm less familiar with those data, but I think
(12) that's correct.

(13) Q: And sir, niacin has been shown to increase
(14) levels of high-density lipoprotein cholesterol,
(15) correct?

(16) A: Yes.

(17) Q: Those are HDLs, correct?

(18) A: Yes.

(19) Q: So, sir, niacin affects all cholesterol lipids
(20) in the proper direction, correct?

(21) A: I don't want to be pedantic in responding to
(22) that, but to be scientifically accurate, the answer is
(23) I don't know, because as we seem to learn more and more
(24) about these lipid profiles, we learn that there are
(25) some good and bad HDLs, and so your question I think

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(1) said that it affects all the elements of the lipid
(2) profile in the proper direction, and I can't say that
(3) that is absolutely correct, because I don't know. I'm
(4) not sure anybody knows, but I know I don't know.

(5) Q: Sir, under current thinking within the field,
(6) niacin moves all the lipids in the right direction,
(7) correct?

(8) A: I would repeat what I just said. I think that
(9) there has been an accumulation of literature in recent
(10) years that have looked for subpopulations even within
(11) the LDL and the HDL. I don't know -- but I don't know
(12) of any in the triglyceride compartment, and I really
(13) don't know if anybody has looked at what niacin does to
(14) each of these sub-subpopulations. I just don't know
(15) the answer to that. I suspect there are people that do
(16) know the answer to that, but I'm not one of them.

(17) Q: Sir, the effects that niacin has on blood
(18) lipids have been shown to reduce the incidence of
(19) coronary artery disease, correct?

(20) A: I think I would have to answer that in the same
(21) way I answered your previous couple of questions in
(22) that I don't think that one is completely accurate in
(23) saying that the effects of niacin, the known effects of
(24) niacin, on the various sub and subpopulations of lipids
(25) is fully consistent with that distribution of lipids

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(1) that has been associated with a decrease in coronary
(2) artery disease. As I said before, I think that one has
(3) to speculate about information that I don't believe is
(4) — exists, or if it does exist, it certainly is not
(5) known by me.

(6) Q: Sir, a reduction in levels of total cholesterol
(7) has been shown to reduce the incidence of coronary
(8) artery disease, correct?

(9) A: A reduction in the level of total cholesterol
(10) has been associated with a reduced incidence in one
(11) aspect of cardiovascular disease.

(12) Q: Sir, I'd like to have you refer to your report.
(13) Do you have that there in front of you?

(14) A: Yes, sir.

(15) Q: I'd like to refer your attention to the bottom
(16) of page 4. I'm going to read two sentences to you, and
(17) then I'm going to ask you if what I read is accurate or
(18) not. The two sentences begin at the bottom of page 4.

(19) "Niacin (also known as nicotinic acid) is a
(20) chemical substance, best known as a vitamin, which, in
(21) high oral doses, has been shown to reduce levels of
(22) total cholesterol, low-density lipoprotein (LDL)
(23) cholesterol, triglycerides and Lp(a) lipoprotein and to
(24) increase levels of high-density lipoprotein (HDL)
(25) cholesterol in the blood. Such effects on blood lipids

(1) be modifications of that.

(2) Q: So, these two sentences as written are not
(3) accurate. Is that correct?

(4) A: That's not what I'm saying.

(5) Q: Well, what are you saying? This is your
(6) report, right?

(7) A: Well, sir, maybe if you gave some —

(8) MR. SILBER: He has already answered your
(9) question, Chris.

BY MR. CURRAN:

(10) Q: No, let me withdraw that question.

(11) This is your report, right?

(12) A: Yes, sir.

(13) Q: You wrote it, right?

(14) A: Yes, sir.

(15) Q: Were you trying to be accurate when you wrote
(16) it?

(17) A: Yes, I was, sir.

(18) Q: Have you gotten smarter since you wrote it?

(19) A: I hope so, sir.

(20) Q: Do you now disagree with those two sentences as
(21) I just read them from your report?

(22) A: I don't disagree with them.

(23) Q: Do you agree with them?

(24) A: Sir, you're asking me — this was a relatively

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(1) have been shown to reduce the incidence of coronary
(2) artery disease."

(3) A: I see that.

(4) Q: Are those sentences accurate or inaccurate?

(5) A: I think that in trying to answer your question
(6) accurately, I have to say that that statement is
(7) accurate within the common knowledge of people in the
(8) medical and probably in the pharmaceutical world, but
(9) must be qualified by the fact that there may be
(10) differences from that opinion based on these sub and
(11) sub-subpopulations that I alluded to earlier, and this
(12) information is constantly accruing.

(13) It wasn't too long ago that we assumed that
(14) there was cholesterol, period, total cholesterol, and
(15) if it was high, it was bad, and if it was low, it was
(16) good. Then we learned about low density and high
(17) density, and we had to modify that opinion. We've
(18) learned about lev-forms and dextro-forms of different
(19) — of these types of compounds that may or may not have
(20) different effects in the cardiovascular physiology.

(21) So, I mean, I'm testifying under oath, and I
(22) don't want to say that I know that the lipid profile
(23) changes that are found here are absolutely and forever
(24) more going to hold true as being associated with a
(25) reduction in cardiovascular disease, because there may

(1) brief report. It was not a treatise on
(2) hypercholesterolemia and the treatment thereof. So, in
(3) a brief section devoted to what niacin has been shown
(4) to do and not, I took the — an accurate but
(5) broad-brush approach.

(6) You are now focusing on that very narrow
(7) segment of this report, two mere sentences, and as in
(8) many generalization statements, when one looks at it
(9) more specifically, there are exceptions, and now we're
(10) talking about the exceptions, and I'm trying to be
(11) accurate and say that there may be exceptions to this
(12) statement.

(13) Now, were I to have focused on all of those
(14) potential exceptions in this report, I would have
(15) written pages on one narrow segment of it. I chose not
(16) to do that. I believe what I wrote is accurate with
(17) the qualification that I've tried to give you that
(18) there may be exceptions to that and the information may
(19) change.

(20) Q: All right, let's talk about your report
(21) generally. Is it generally accurate, subject to the
(22) details and certain exceptions?

(23) A: I feel that my report is quite accurate and
(24) represents my opinions as accurately as I could express
(25) them.

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1 Q: So, you couldn't have done a better job on
2 those two sentences?
3 A: That's not what I said. What I said was that
4 if I had chosen to take, rather than two lines, 20
5 pages, I could have cited the various publications, the
6 various theories, the various lipid electrophoretic
7 profiles, the various different disease states within
8 the cardiovascular realm, the different genetic
9 abnormalities, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera, and
10 written a treatise on this. That wasn't what my charge
11 was. It did not call for that.

12 What I wrote there is generally quite accurate
13 and I think would be consistent with the general
14 opinions of any expert in this field, but I think if
15 such an expert, including myself, were quizzed as
16 specifically on those two sentences as you have done,
17 he would feel it germane to say that there may be
18 exceptions to those two sentences. It doesn't make
19 those sentences inaccurate; it simply qualifies them.

20 Q: Just to be clear, I'm not quizzing you or
21 asking you specifics or whatever. I'm asking if the
22 two sentences you wrote that I read are accurate or
23 not.

24 MR. SILBER: That question has been asked and
25 answered.

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BY MR. CURRAN:

1 Q: Do you agree with that?

2 A: Yes.

3 Q: You wrote those sentences, correct?

4 A: Yes, I did.

5 MR. SILBER: That question has been asked and
6 answered.

BY MR. CURRAN:

7 Q: Did you copy them from some other book or
8 resource you had?

9 A: I won't dignify that with an answer.

10 Q: Please, go ahead, dignify it.

11 A: I won't dignify that with an answer.

12 Q: Are you refusing to answer that question?

13 A: I'll respond when you have another question to
14 ask me.

15 Q: Why did you choose to write the following
16 sentence: "Such effects on blood lipids have been
17 shown to reduce the incidence of coronary artery
18 disease"?

19 A: Because it is a generally accurate statement,
20 and it introduces — the purpose of this segment of my
21 report was to introduce — recognizing that this report
22 was not being written for the scientific community,
23 this report was being written for the lay community,

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1 for the legal community, perhaps for a judge who may or
2 may not be, you know, particularly informed in this
3 area, and I was trying to fairly represent the general
4 and generally accepted perspective of niacin and its
5 effects on blood lipids and their consequent effects on
6 cardiovascular disease, and I think I've done that
7 here.

8 This entire interchange has been because you
9 have somewhere along the way tried to get me to say
10 that this represents all the effects and all the things
11 done by niacin to blood lipids have all good effects on
12 coronary vascular disease, and I said there may be
13 exceptions to that, and we have been going around in
14 circles ever since.

15 Q: Sir, is it generally accepted in the scientific
16 community that the effects of niacin on blood lipids
17 reduce the incidence of coronary artery disease?

18 A: I can't say what's generally accepted. As I
19 said, the state of knowledge about blood lipids and
20 coronary vascular disease is in a state of flux. It's
21 been in a state of flux for 20 years or more — more
22 than 20 years. It was — we were — it was in a state
23 of flux when I was in medical school and did some early
24 laboratory studies in this area. So, it changes as we
25 learn more, and I really can't speak to what the

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1 current state of knowledge is in this area.

2 I think maybe you ought to consult a guy like
3 Joe Goldstein who might be able to give you more
4 up-to-date information about that.

5 Q: Who is Joe Goldstein?

6 A: He's a Nobel Laureate in this area.

7 Q: Why can't you say what's generally accepted in
8 the scientific community in this area?

9 A: I'm trying to answer your questions honestly
10 and effectively and accurately, and regardless of
11 whether you like my answer, my answer is an honest
12 answer, and if you want me to say something other than
13 that, I'm not comfortable doing it. I don't know — I
14 only know what I think. I can't speak for what the
15 rest of the universe thinks, and I don't know what
16 they're reading, I don't know what they're thinking
17 today, and you're asking me this question today.

18 Q: Yeah, and I'm not talking about the rest of the
19 universe. I'm talking about the scientific community
20 that focuses on cholesterol fighting.

21 A: That's what I'm trying to say to you. I don't
22 represent the scientific community that focuses on
23 cholesterol metabolism. I have never proposed or
24 purported myself to be an expert on cholesterol
25 metabolism. And so I don't want to speak for a

(1) population of people that may or may not share this
(2) opinion.

(3) When I wrote this, I believed it to be and I
(4) still believe it to be generally accurate, and what I'm
(5) trying to say to you is it may be subject to some
(6) exceptions of which I am not aware.

(7) Q: Sir, in your opinion, is niacin efficacious in
(8) improving the blood lipid profile?

(9) A: There are a couple of operative phrases in your
(10) question, "effective" and "blood lipid profile," and
(11) all I can say is niacin has some effects in some
(12) patients sometimes that have generally been assumed to
(13) be advantageous vis-a-vis cardiovascular disease.

(14) Q: What's your opinion?

(15) A: I just gave you my opinion.

(16) MR. CURRAN: Can you read back his last answer?

(17) (The record was read as follows.)

(18) "ANSWER: There are a couple of operative
(19) phrases in your question, 'effective' and 'blood lipid
(20) profile,' and all I can say is niacin has some effects
(21) in some patients sometimes that have generally been
(22) assumed to be advantageous vis-a-vis cardiovascular
(23) disease."

(24) BY MR. CURRAN:

(25) Q: I guess I was thrown off by your use of the

(1) passive voice, but the statement in the answer she just
(2) read, do you adopt that as your opinion?

(3) MR. SILBER: He just stated it.

(4) THE WITNESS: I'm comfortable with what I just
(5) said.

(6) BY MR. CURRAN:

(7) Q: As your own opinion?

(8) A: As my own opinion.

(9) Q: So, are you qualifying your statement in your
(10) report that niacin is efficacious in improving the
(11) blood lipid profile?

(12) A: If I were to have been asked to write a
(13) detailed analysis of the effects of niacin on blood
(14) lipid profiles, I would have added to this report some
(15) of the exceptions and some of the details and some of
(16) the modern information that have come from things like
(17) isotachopheretic studies and ion exchange studies on
(18) serum lipid profiles that provide a second and third
(19) level of detail. I wasn't asked to do that, nor am I
(20) qualified to do that off the top of my head, and so I
(21) would say that what I wrote is generally accurate, and
(22) I'm comfortable with it and would change nothing about
(23) it.

(24) If I were to be asked to provide more detail or
(25) to focus on these particular two sentences in the

(1) report, I would add more detail to it. I wouldn't
(2) negate any of those statements. I would simply qualify
(3) them further.

(4) Q: Sir, side effects and specifically flushing
(5) have historically kept immediate-release niacin from
(6) becoming a highly successful drug, correct?

(7) A: Flushing has been one of the side effects that
(8) the patient population has found unacceptable and has
(9) limited their consequent use of that drug.

(10) MR. SILBER: Are you testing him on his report
(11) again?

(12) MR. CURRAN: I'm seeing if he agrees with what
(13) he wrote, yeah, and to my disbelief, he disagrees and
(14) qualifies everything.

(15) THE WITNESS: I don't disagree and qualify
(16) everything. I added some potential qualification to
(17) two specific sentences that deal with one scientific
(18) element or scientific paradigm in the report.

(19) BY MR. CURRAN:

(20) Q: Sir, the thesis behind a sustained-release
(21) niacin product is that slow release of the drug into
(22) the bloodstream would reduce or obviate the flushing
(23) reaction, correct?

(24) MR. SILBER: You may refer to your report if
(25) you're trying to find out if he's testing you to see if

(1) you can recall verbatim what you said.

(2) MS. SHORES: Well, I'll object to the obvious
(3) coaching of the witness.

(4) MR. CURRAN: You can try to rehabilitate when
(5) I'm done.

(6) THE WITNESS: Would you mind telling me where
(7) in my report you're reading?

(8) BY MR. CURRAN:

(9) Q: Absolutely. Feel free to look at your report,
(10) your cheat sheet, any other documents you brought with
(11) you in answering any of my questions today, okay?

(12) I refer you to the bottom of page 5, the bottom
(13) paragraph. Do you see where it — there's the
(14) statement, "the thesis being that slow, continuous
(15) release of the drug into the bloodstream would obviate
(16) the flushing reaction"?

(17) A: I see that.

(18) Q: Okay. Do you want me to ask the question
(19) again?

(20) A: Please.

(21) Q: Okay. Sir, the thesis behind a
(22) sustained-release niacin product is that slow,
(23) continuous release of the drug into the bloodstream
(24) would reduce or obviate the flushing reaction, correct?

(25) A: I'm not sure what you're saying when you say

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81 "correct." What are you asking me?
82 Q: I'm asking you if the statement's correct.
83 A: I believe it's correct, and that's why I wrote
84 it.
85 Q: Okay. So, then, the answer to my question is
86 yes, right?
87 A: I just gave you the answer to your question. I
88 believe the statement — I believe that what I wrote
89 there is correct.
90 Q: My question wasn't what you wrote there. My
91 question was as follows: The thesis behind a
92 sustained-release niacin product is that slow,
93 continuous release of the drug into the bloodstream
94 would reduce or obviate the flushing reaction, correct?
95 A: I'm more comfortable, sir, responding to the
96 words that I wrote since these words were considered
97 and were in my opinion accurate expressions of my
98 opinion, and I would say that I would read the entire
99 sentence. "Prior to the development of Niacor-SR,
100 attempts had been made to diminish the side effects of
101 niacin by administering the drug in a sustained-release
102 formulation, the thesis being that slow, continuous
103 release of the drug into the bloodstream would obviate
104 the flushing reaction seen with the standard tablets
105 and capsules that release a large bolus of the drug

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106 with each dose."
107 Q: Yeah, but you see, there's a funny thing about
108 the way this whole procedure works here. I get to ask
109 the questions of my choosing, okay? You don't get to
110 ask yourself the questions. I'm going to ask this
111 question again, and I'd like an answer to it.
112 MR. SILBER: That question has been answered.
113 BY MR. CURRAN:
114 Q: The question is, the thesis behind a
115 sustained-release niacin product is that slow,
116 continuous release of the drug into the bloodstream
117 would reduce or obviate the flushing reaction, correct?
118 A: I can't answer that question without using the
119 terminology that I used before.
120 Q: Sir, the FDA requires the conduct of two
121 pivotal clinical trials in connection with the
122 registration of a new branded pharmaceutical product,
123 correct?
124 A: That's not necessarily correct. They sometimes
125 require less and they sometimes require more.
126 Q: Okay. Sir, I'd like to refer your attention to
127 page 6 of your report. Do you see the section with the
128 heading that's C, Clinical Trial Data on Niacor-SR (All
129 These Data Were Provided by Upsher-Smith to Schering
130 Prior to the Schering-Upsher Agreement).

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131 Do you see that section?
132 A: Yes, I see that section.
133 Q: Okay. Do you see the first sentence there
134 which reads, "The FDA requires, as one of the major
135 elements for the registration in the U.S. of a new,
136 branded (as opposed to generic) pharmaceutical product,
137 the conduct of two so-called 'pivotal' clinical
138 trials?"
139 Do you see that sentence?
140 A: Yes, I do.
141 Q: Is it accurate or not?
142 A: As I read that sentence now, sir, I would
143 revise it slightly to say the FDA almost always
144 requires, et cetera.
145 Q: Okay. Why do you feel it necessary to qualify
146 that sentence in that fashion?
147 A: Once again, as you have kindly pointed out to
148 me, that sentence, while generally accurate, does have
149 some potential exceptions, and in an effort to be fully
150 and accurately responsive to you, I've answered your
151 question as best I can, and I said that were I to write
152 that sentence again today, I would — having been
153 prompted by your fine questioning — add those two
154 qualifying adverbs.
155 Q: What are the exceptions that you've just

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156 thought of today?
157 A: What are the — ah, the FDA, when faced with a
158 drug that it considers vital to the national medical
159 interests, particularly drugs that are in one major
160 category, that is, anti-AIDS drugs, is often willing to
161 consider the use of a single pivotal trial or even less
162 in approving the drug. It likewise will do that with
163 some other categories, cancer, for instance, hepatitis
164 C, for instance, where there is a — where it deems
165 that the public's interest would be well served.
166 I have personal experience with exactly such a
167 situation with a drug called pentamidine, which several
168 years ago was the only treatment for what we call AIDS
169 pneumonia, pneumocystis carinii pneumonia, and
170 pentamidine was the only drug available for that, and
171 the FDA approved an NDA that was a rather abbreviated
172 NDA and actually didn't have any trials that would be
173 considered classical, well-done pivotal trials, but
174 nevertheless, the FDA reviewed those information, those
175 data, and thought that it was in the public's interest
176 to put this drug on the market for use in this grave
177 disease.
178 The FDA has shown a willingness and an ability
179 to do that in other instances, and it would — and it
180 still does. So, I think that were I to write that

(1) sentence again, thinking about that specific point, I
(2) would have qualified it in the manner that I just did.
(3) Q: So, sometimes the FDA doesn't require any
(4) pivotal clinical trials, correct?
(5) A: Sometimes the FDA in its judgment can
(6) abbreviate any of the burdens it chooses to impose upon
(7) the petitioner.
(8) Q: So, the answer to my question is yes?
(9) A: I just gave you the answer to your question.
(10) Q: Sir, at the time of the Schering-Upsher
(11) agreement, Upsher-Smith had finished two clinical
(12) trials that it hoped the FDA would consider as pivotal,
(13) correct?
(14) A: The only information that I have clearly are
(15) summaries of two so-called pivotal trials that Upsher
(16) represented as having been completed. In one instance,
(17) the data had been processed and the final report
(18) supposedly had been written, and I was shown, as was
(19) Mr. Audibert, a summary of the results of those trials
(20) or that trial. The other trial was supposedly finished
(21) in that the last patient had been enrolled and the last
(22) data collected, but the final report had not been
(23) written.
(24) Since I was not privy to any of the — either
(25) the raw data or the — even the final reports of any of

(1) those trials, I can't testify here as to whether Upsher
(2) did or did not complete two trials. All I can say is
(3) they said they did.
(4) Q: Then why did you write in your report that
(5) Upsher-Smith had finished two clinical trials?
(6) A: Why did I write in my report?
(7) Q: Yeah. Why did you write it if you can't say
(8) it?
(9) A: I in writing this report gave Upsher the
(10) benefit of the doubt in that I made the bold assumption
(11) that they weren't totally fabricating their reports
(12) that they sent to Mr. Audibert. I don't — I see no
(13) reason to have assumed that Upsher-Smith would have
(14) provided to Schering fabricated information, and so I
(15) rightly or wrongly chose to accept the conclusions and
(16) the statements that Upsher made.
(17) Q: So, it's an assumption of your opinion in this
(18) matter that Upsher had finished two clinical trials
(19) that it hoped the FDA would consider as pivotal,
(20) correct?
(21) A: Would you rephrase that, please, or restate
(22) that?
(23) Q: I'll restate it.
(24) So, it's an assumption of your opinion —
(25) A: What is an assumption of my opinion?

(1) Q: It's an assumption underlying your opinion —
(2) does that help you? Do you know what an assumption
(3) A: I think so, sir.
(4) Q: When you assume a fact, right?
(5) A: Um-hum.
(6) Q: So, if you have an opinion, you — and if —
(7) you may assume certain facts to be true for purposes of
(8) your opinion?
(9) A: Um-hum.
(10) Q: Does that help?
(11) A: You're helping me wonderfully, sir.
(12) Q: Okay. Do you want me to restate the question
(13) now?
(14) A: You're doing fine. Keep going.
(15) Q: Okay. Are you being like flippant again now?
(16) A: I don't think I'm being flippant. I'm trying
(17) to be honest and responsive to you.
(18) Q: All right. Well, let's try this question
(19) again, then.
(20) Is it an assumption underlying your opinion in
(21) this matter that Upsher-Smith had finished two clinical
(22) trials that it hoped the FDA would consider as pivotal?
(23) A: No. If Upsher had indeed completed those
(24) pivotal trials, then my assumptions regarding those
(25) trials would stand; that is, if the information that
(1) Upsher provided to Mr. Audibert and to Schering-Plough
(2) was accurate, then the assumptions I made about that
(3) information in my opinion would support the opinions
(4) that I proposed. If it had not completed the trials
(5) and if the data that it provided to Schering-Plough
(6) indeed were not accurate or in some way fabricated or
(7) false, my opinion on this matter would be even more
(8) harsh than it is.
(9) Q: Is it your view that your opinion in this
(10) matter is harsh?
(11) A: I would say that that is a function of from
(12) whose perspective one is looking at the matter. The
(13) fundamental issue, as was brought out by your colleague
(14) in some of her questioning, dealt with whether I think
(15) that the \$60 million payment made by Schering-Plough to
(16) your client was a legitimate licensing fee, and I in
(17) the strongest and perhaps harshest possible terms said
(18) it is not. It could not be. It never could have been.
(19) I think that you and your client may perceive that as
(20) harsh.
(21) Q: I asked what your view of your opinion was.
(22) A: I think it's accurate.
(23) Q: Is it harsh?
(24) A: Sometimes accurate things are harsh.
(25) Q: Is this one harsh?

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101 A: I think if I were in your shoes, I would
102 perceive it as harsh. I don't perceive it as harsh.
103 Q: So, you don't perceive it as harsh?
104 A: As I said, whether it's perceived as harsh or
105 not is a question of from which perspective you're
106 looking at it. From my perspective, it's accurate and
107 honest. From your perspective, I presume it's
108 perceived as harsh, but only you can answer that.
109 Q: Now, in this libel suit brought against you,
110 what are you alleged to have said?
111 A: It involves an effort of about 40 parents to
112 have removed the high school football coach, and he
113 alleges that we undermined his credibility with the
114 superintendent of schools.
115 Q: What are you alleged to have said?
116 A: Nothing in specific that I'm alleged to have
117 said.
118 Q: It's a libel suit, right?
119 A: It's a libel suit.
120 Q: And he's not alleging you said anything
121 specific?
122 A: There is a whole litany of elements where I and
123 these various and sundry people have said that he is
124 not respected by his students or by his players and
125 doesn't support the players, doesn't express concern

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126 for players when they're injured, doesn't prepare
127 himself or his assistant coaches for games, has not in
128 any way updated his own coaching skills, does not
129 encourage or even permit physical conditioning in the
130 on or off season, you know, a variety of -- I mean,
131 that's the general line of the things that we are
132 alleged to have said.
133 Q: Do you admit saying those things?
134 A: Sir, I'm not sure that I want to get into any
135 further discussion of a matter that's now being
136 litigated, and I don't know what use or lack thereof
137 can be made of this kind of deposition.
138 What I will say is as I understand -- I've
139 learned more about libel law than I ever wanted to
140 know. He was judged to be a public figure, and the
141 issue now is whether any of these statements had any
142 malicious intent or were knowingly inaccurate, and the
143 answer to that is clearly no, and there is abundant
144 testimony to that effect, that there was neither
145 malicious intent nor was there any, you know, knowingly
146 false statements.
147 Again, as I understand libel law -- and again,
148 I'm really uncomfortable on this ground, and you're not
149 asking me as an expert in this situation -- that in
150 order for matters to be considered libelous, there has

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151 to be an element of objectivity, so that saying that
152 somebody is a lousy coach is a subjective opinion.
153 Saying that this lousy coach beats his wife is
154 something that's establishable in fact. Everything
155 that I said and others said were subjective opinions to
156 which we apparently -- we apparently have a right to
157 voice, and that's as I understand the case.
158 Q: Did you, in fact, criticize this football
159 coach?
160 A: Yes, I did criticize this football coach.
161 Q: Was it harsh criticism?
162 A: I think you'd have to ask him that.
163 Q: I'm asking you.
164 A: I think -- again, I feel -- unless you want to
165 question me on this, I feel -- proud may be too strong
166 a word, but I feel very good about everything I did in
167 this case. If you want to know, I went to him first
168 with the various complaints. I went to him and the
169 athletic director and had a seven-hour meeting with
170 both of them going over all of these matters. I wrote
171 a letter, which I showed to him prior to its being
172 sent, to the superintendent of schools that enunciated
173 each of the concerns that I had, and that's what I did.
174 I think that other than doing nothing, I think
175 I behaved in a manner that is consistent with what a

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176 parent or an interested party should do in this matter
177 and everything related to this matter.
178 Q: Do you consider your criticism of the football
179 coach harsh?
180 A: I would say that "harsh" is not the adjective I
181 would use. I think in all fairness it was painful to
182 him. I did not think that he was a bad person. I
183 think that he was a person who had let a lot of time
184 pass without his updating his skills or knowledge and
185 that this had now caught up with him, and I think it
186 was hurtful to him to have this put before him. I
187 think it was very embarrassing to him in a community
188 where he's lived his whole life to be removed from what
189 is the most prestigious athletic position in our
190 community, even though we're the home of the Chicago
191 Bears. And I think that he was hurt by it, he was
192 emotionally hurt by it. So, I think he would think it
193 was harsh, I don't -- I never meant it to be harsh,
194 and I don't myself think that the way it was handled
195 was harsh.
196 The only other thing I could have done was to
197 do nothing, and the reason I did it was that I have had
198 several sons go through the program, I had a son -- my
199 second youngest son who was elected captain of the
200 team, and he and his two co-captains came to me in

11 tears and said we really can have a good team next
12 year, we win when we do win in spite of Tommy, not
13 because of him. Please, dad, can you do something to
14 help us? And that's when I asked to speak with Tommy.

15 I spoke with the young — with the boys and
16 found out what their criticisms or concerns were. I
17 then related this to Tommy himself and to the athletic
18 director, as I said. So, I don't know what I could
19 have done other than do nothing. So, I don't have any
20 remorse or, you know, concerns about my own behavior.

21 Q: That litigation is still proceeding, correct?

22 A: Yes.

23 Q: Sir, now, you reviewed the clinical trial data
24 that's in the record in this case, correct?

25 A: I reviewed the clinical trial data? No, that's
26 not correct. I never have seen the data. I've only
27 seen the summaries provided by Upsher-Smith.

28 Q: So, if your report says that you reached
29 certain conclusions based on data from these clinical
30 trials, that would be inaccurate?

31 A: No, because once again, I am relying on the
32 fact that the information, including the summary
33 information, that Upsher provided was accurate, and
34 included within that information were some tables and
35 figures containing the summarized results particularly

36 of one of the pivotal trials and to some degree the
37 second pivotal trial, and I made the assumption that
38 those data as summarized were accurate. You asked me
39 whether I had examined the data themselves, and I have
40 to say I did not.

41 Q: Sir, based on the information that you
42 reviewed, you conclude that Niacor-SR had approximately
43 the same efficacy as a cholesterol-lowering drug as do
44 standard immediate-release niacin products, correct?

45 A: I — would you mind pointing out to me where I
46 say that in my report?

47 Q: Well, yeah, I mean, I'll point it out where you
48 say it, but why do you have to look at your report to
49 know what your conclusion is?

50 A: Well, as I said before, sir, I weighed each of
51 the words in this report fairly carefully, and I'm not
52 accustomed to testifying openly and orally like this,
53 and I would rather look at what I wrote and had a
54 chance to consider before responding to your question
55 so I can be more accurate in doing so.

56 Q: So, you need to look at your report while
57 testifying to give an accurate answer. Is that what
58 you're saying?

59 A: I don't think that's what I'm saying at all,
60 and I'm simply saying that it is my desire to testify

61 as accurately as I can on this and any other question
62 you ask me, and I think that the accuracy of my
63 response would be — would benefit from my reviewing
64 what I've already written, and if I choose to make a
65 minor or major modification in it, as I honestly did
66 before for that one sentence about which you quizzed
67 earlier, I'll do it again.

68 Q: Take a look at page 6 of your report. The
69 second full paragraph, there's a first sentence there
70 which I'll read, and then I'll ask you whether it's
71 accurate or not.

72 "Based on the data from these clinical trials,
73 all of which were provided to Schering prior to the
74 execution of the Schering-Upsher Agreement, I would
75 conclude that Niacor-SR had approximately the same
76 efficacy as a cholesterol-lowering drug as do standard
77 (immediate-release) niacin products."

78 A: Um-hum. Ah, I think there's — in focusing on
79 that particular sentence, there is two things that I
80 might add to that. I realize in reading the sentence
81 that it says, "Based on data from these clinical
82 trials, all of which were provided." I didn't
83 interpret it this way, but I realize the grammarian in
84 me is calling attention to the fact that the "all" is
85 an unclear modifier.

86 What I meant in that sentence was that all the
87 data that were provided underlay part of my opinion.
88 What I realize might be interpreted here from this
89 sentence is that all the data on the clinical trials
90 had been provided, and as I said before, that was not
91 the case. So, that's a grammatical qualification.

92 Then secondly, I think that to be more
93 comfortably accurate, I would have to have added a dose
94 qualifier to this, because the approximate equivalent
95 efficacy of Niacor as a cholesterol-lowering drug was
96 at a dose-for-dose level, so that at the 2000-milligram
97 dose of Niacor-SR, I believe the efficacy was similar
98 to a 2000-milligram dose of the immediate-release
99 niacin product. Perhaps I might have been more
100 accurate in stating that fact, I didn't think it was
101 necessary and still don't.

102 But as long as you want to focus on that
103 sentence, I think that I might have found a better
104 grammatical way to use the term "all," and I might have
105 added to it, "at equivalent doses, they have an
106 equivalent efficacy."

107 Q: So, you didn't think this all through when you
108 wrote this report, huh?

109 A: Oh, I thought it through.

110 Q: You did?

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101 A: Yes.
102 Q: How come you didn't write it the way you're
103 comfortable with it?
104 A: Well, I think to any reasonable person it is
105 accurate and consistent with my opinion. When one is
106 looking for inaccuracies or flaws in a somewhat
107 adversarial manner, sometimes one needs to be even more
108 qualifying than I think is necessary for a report such
109 as this.
110 Q: Are you surprised that this report is being
111 used in an adversarial proceeding?
112 A: I'm not terribly familiar with the world of
113 litigation, depositions and the use of reports. I said
114 to counsel when I prepared this report that I wanted to
115 be particularly careful, because I realized it was a
116 legal document, and I'm not accustomed to preparing
117 legal documents. So, I tried to be quite careful in
118 preparing it.
119 I was not experienced in terms of the use of
120 each of the specific words in a proceeding such as
121 this. I just had not been through that.
122 Q: So, you didn't think —
123 A: I would qualify that. I would say, again, that
124 as I'm sure you know, having written documents, briefs
125 and the like, one is never finished. One can make

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126 revision after revision after revision after revision
127 to make each sentence clearer and clearer. An example
128 of that, as Mr. Silber will testify, I'm somewhat of a
129 — at least perceive myself as being somewhat of a
130 grammatical perfectionist, and I'm embarrassed by the
131 hanging "all" there, and I probably would have deferred
132 that in the next version if I had recognized it.
133 So, one is never done. I'm perfectly
134 comfortable with everything in this report. I think
135 one can always make a sentence bigger, clearer, more
136 qualified, but there's nothing inaccurate in that
137 sentence.
138 Q: How would Mr. Silber know whether you're a
139 grammatical stickler?
140 A: Because I told him.
141 Q: Oh, it just came up in conversation, huh?
142 A: Yes, it did.
143 Q: Yeah. Sir, are you aware that Upsher-Smith
144 attempted to find a European licensing partner for
145 Niacor-SR prior to the Schering-Upsher agreement?
146 A: I am aware of efforts of a consultant whose
147 name escapes me at this moment who was hired to — by
148 Upsher-Smith in either late '96 or early '97 to find a
149 European licensee for Niacor-SR, and I am — and I have
150 seen some of the summary reports of his progress in

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151 finding such a licensee.
152 Q: Is David Pettit the name of the consultant?
153 A: I believe that is the name.
154 Q: Is his company the Morton Company?
155 A: I thought it had a different name from that,
156 but it did start with M. I may be mistaken.
157 Q: What's your understanding of what Mr. Pettit
158 did?
159 A: I can only surmise what he did, sir, because
160 there are no — I don't believe that he was deposed,
161 and if he was, I didn't see that deposition, and my
162 only knowledge of what he did comes from the secondhand
163 commentary of other people's depositions or those sort
164 of progress report summaries that were exhibits to
165 somebody's deposition, I don't remember whose. So, I
166 don't know what procedure he went through.
167 People who do this kind of work are —
168 Q: I'm not interested in other people.
169 A: Well, I would only presume that he attempted to
170 contact the in-licensing executives or the licensing
171 executives at various of the companies that he listed
172 and perhaps sent them some preliminary information,
173 perhaps tried to get them to execute a confidential
174 disclosure agreement, and then were they interested in
175 executing it — a confidential disclosure agreement,

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176 had meetings with them and provided them the same sort
177 of information or analogous information as was provided
178 to Mr. Audibert, but I am purely assuming that just
179 knowing how these types of people generally work.
180 Q: So, you don't know yourself what Mr. Pettit
181 did?
182 A: I don't know what he did other than what
183 various executives of Upsher said he did and the
184 documents that I've seen said he did.
185 Q: What documents are you talking about?
186 A: Pardon me, sir?
187 Q: What documents are you talking about?
188 A: I believe there were a few summary documents
189 that were prepared that if I remember correctly — and
190 I believe this is correct, but I'm not certain — I
191 believe these were attachments or exhibits to one of
192 Upsher-Smith's — one of the executives of
193 Upsher-Smith's depositions, and I believe that there
194 were two summaries of the status of his contacts, and
195 it simply listed — each of these simply listed several
196 companies, 40-50 companies, in the European Union with
197 which he had made contact and a brief comment on the
198 status of their interest or lack thereof in the
199 product.
200 Q: What's your understanding as to the status of

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11 Mr. Pettit's efforts as of the date of the
12 Schering-Upsher agreement?
13 A: I don't recall what the dates of those summary
14 documents were. I believe that they quite closely
15 approximated the brief period that Upsher and Schering
16 were interacting regarding this product. I believe
17 that the summary document was dated even May of '97,
18 which would have antedated the agreement with Schering
19 by a month or a little more than a month. I'm not sure
20 that they were dated in May, but I know that it was
21 sometime in the spring of '97.
22 Q: Now, Upsher retained Mr. Pettit in late '96,
23 early '97. Is that your testimony?
24 A: I don't recall exactly. I testified a moment
25 ago that I believe he was retained in late '96 or early
26 '97. My recollection is that he worked on this project
27 for about six months.
28 Q: Have you reached any conclusions as to whether
29 or not Mr. Pettit was successful in his efforts?
30 A: Based on the summary documents that I saw, he
31 — it was listed that very — that most of the
32 companies on his list had expressed no interest in the
33 product, almost all of them; that there were a few, but
34 I don't recall the number, but, you know, two or three
35 or so where the verdict had still not been rendered.

11 whether they hung up the phone on him or whether they
12 reviewed a data package. I don't know whether they
13 signed a confidential disclosure agreement. I just
14 don't know to what extent they had presented — they
15 had expressed any interest at all. That just wasn't
16 provided.
17 Q: Wasn't provided? What do you mean?
18 A: The summary sheet that listed these 40 or 50
19 some odd companies and their response had just a few
20 word summation of the result, and so in terms of
21 whether Mr. Pettit was successful, I would say he was
22 quite successful in having made contact with quite an
23 extensive list of eligible licensees in the European
24 theater, and he didn't miss too many that were
25 potential candidates for a drug like this.
26 And so I think that he was successful in terms
27 of his effort for the company in having served the
28 company well in looking at a large number of companies
29 ranging from medium-sized, even small to medium-sized
30 companies, all the way up to the major players in the
31 European Union, and I think provided a good service in
32 that regard to Upsher-Smith, and I would consider that
33 a successful effort.
34 I think that from Upsher's perspective, a
35 successful effort would have been for one of these 40

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11 where the companies were still considering whether they
12 would consider the product. As far as I could see,
13 with none of these companies on his list was there any
14 serious level of evaluation or negotiation underway.
15 Q: What does that mean, "serious level of
16 negotiation"?
17 A: Where the potential licensee had completed its
18 due diligence on Niacor-SR and had begun — had
19 expressed an interest in licensing the product and had
20 begun negotiations for the terms of that license.
21 Q: But there were companies that were still
22 evaluating Niacor-SR. Is that correct?
23 A: I don't know whether those companies — as I
24 said, most of the companies had expressed no interest,
25 had said they had no interest in the product. There
26 were a few where the company's response was still
27 outstanding, and whether they were still evaluating the
28 product or whether their response had simply not yet
29 made it to the summary list I can't say.
30 Q: Was Mr. Pettit successful in getting any
31 companies to express initial interest in Niacor-SR?
32 A: Well, the operative elements in your question
33 are "successful" and "any interest." The summary
34 sheets that I saw didn't present much detail on what
35 the companies did or didn't do, and so I don't know

11 or 50 companies to have expressed an interest in
12 licensing the product, and that didn't occur.
13 Q: And you base your conclusion as to what
14 occurred or not based on the summary sheet that was
15 provided to you or the summary sheets that were
16 provided to you?
17 A: I base my conclusion about what Mr. Pettit did
18 — is that what you're asking me?
19 Q: Yes.
20 A: My conclusions on what Mr. Pettit did or didn't
21 do come from having read the depositions of several
22 executives from Upsher-Smith and having examined those
23 summary sheets, and that's all the information that I
24 was ever provided on what Mr. Pettit did or didn't do.
25 Q: How many companies contacted by Mr. Pettit
26 signed confidentiality agreements?
27 A: I don't know the answer to that question
28 offhand, and I don't think that that was presented in
29 any tabular fashion as to whether a CDA was signed or
30 not signed for each of them. If I remember correctly
31 — and I'm doing this from a very imprecise memory — I
32 believe that there were a couple of them where there
33 was an annotation that a CDA had been signed, but I'm
34 not even sure about that, and I don't have that
35 document with me or in front of me.

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[1] Q: Would that be something important for you to
[2] know?
[3] A: No, not for responding to your question.
[4] Q: No, I mean, your ultimate conclusion here that
[5] Niacor-SR was not worth anything close to what Schering
[6] paid for, that conclusion, I mean, would Mr. Pettit's
[7] success in identifying a European licensing partner as
[8] an alternative to Schering-Plough be something of
[9] interest to you?
[10] Let me state that differently.
[11] A: I don't understand that question.
[12] Q: Please, look at page 13 of your report.
[13] A: Okay.
[14] Q: Do you see the section on the top half of the
[15] page?
[16] A: Yes, I see that.
[17] Q: Why did you put that section in your report?
[18] A: The heading under which that Section G is
[19] listed is entitled The Licensed Products, and I think
[20] that one of the parameters to which I was made aware in
[21] reviewing these various documents was that effort on
[22] behalf of and interest in these licensed products by
[23] parties other than Schering, and so I thought it was
[24] germane to the discussion to consider that.
[25] I think -- excuse me, I think as I testified

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[1] earlier, as I understand that element of this legal
[2] matter that I've been asked to consider can be
[3] crystallized into my perception of the validity of the
[4] \$60 million noncontingent payment as a licensing fee
[5] for this product, and as I testified earlier, the
[6] licensing fee and particularly the magnitude of the
[7] licensing fee is very largely determined by the
[8] competition from other companies, other potential
[9] licensees, for that product.
[10] So, some commentary on the existence or lack
[11] thereof of that competition is quite germane to this
[12] report, to my conclusions.
[13] Q: I'm sorry, why is it germane to your
[14] conclusions --
[15] A: Why is what germane to my conclusions?
[16] Q: The interest or lack thereof expressed by other
[17] potential licensees of Niacor-SR in Europe.
[18] A: I think, as I just testified, the central
[19] question that I believe lay before me was whether or
[20] not this \$60 million noncontingent payment made by
[21] Schering-Plough to Upsher-Smith could be considered a
[22] legitimate license fee for Niacor-SR. A major element
[23] to such a consideration is whether any other party was
[24] bidding for this license, and if so, how much they were
[25] bidding.

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[1] The fact that, as far as I could gather, Mr.
[2] Pettit was the only party seeking on Upsher's behalf a
[3] European licensee for Niacor-SR and since he had not
[4] identified, to my knowledge, any party who had made an
[5] offer of any sort for this product, I am able to
[6] conclude that there was no bidding competition for this
[7] product, and I think the fact that there was no bidding
[8] competition for this product makes even more absurd the
[9] magnitude of that so-called license fee.
[10] Q: So, your conclusion, your ultimate conclusion
[11] and your opinion rests in part on your understanding as
[12] to the interest of other potential licensees?
[13] A: Would you repeat that, please?
[14] (The record was read as follows:)
[15] "QUESTION: So, your conclusion, your ultimate
[16] conclusion and your opinion rests in part on your
[17] understanding as to the interest of other potential
[18] licensees?"
[19] THE WITNESS: One of the components upon which
[20] my assessment of the veracity of the \$60 million
[21] noncontingent payment as a license fee was based was on
[22] the competition or lack thereof from other companies
[23] for this product.
[24] BY MR. CURRAN:
[25] Q: Are you aware of whether Mr. Pettit or anyone

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[1] from Upsher met with other potential licensees in, say,
[2] the month before the Schering-Upsher agreement?
[3] A: The only thing of which I'm aware are those
[4] bits of information that discussed what Mr. Pettit had
[5] done on behalf of this product and on behalf of your
[6] client, and I've testified earlier that I don't recall
[7] exactly what depositions Mr. Pettit's activities were
[8] discussed in. I believe it was Ms. O'Neill's and
[9] perhaps Mr. Bell's, but I just don't recall that, and
[10] the only other information I have is the summary sheet.
[11] I have been provided no information other than that and
[12] so can't guess what he was doing during the month of
[13] June or whenever it was.
[14] Q: Do you know what the status was of discussions
[15] between Upsher-Smith and Servier as of June 17th, 1997?
[16] A: I have been provided no information on any
[17] details of what the status of interaction with Servier
[18] were or were not. The only information I have been
[19] provided is that to which I relate -- that which I
[20] relayed to you earlier.
[21] Q: Do you know whether or not Servier had
[22] initially expressed an interest in licensing Niacor-SR?
[23] A: Without looking at the list and refreshing my
[24] memory, I don't recall which of the companies on this
[25] list, which I understand here listed 41, were still

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(1) outstanding in their interest or lack thereof in the
(2) product.

(3) Q: Do you know whether or not Servier signed a
(4) confidential disclosure agreement with Upsher?

(5) A: Without re-examining the references to Servier
(6) and those lists that -- which I alluded to a moment
(7) ago, I don't recall off the top of my head what Servier
(8) did or did not do.

(9) Q: Yeah, well, you know, I don't mean to be
(10) playing any memory game here. I mean, I don't care
(11) what company we're talking about, but are you aware of
(12) Upsher meeting with any pharmaceutical company in the
(13) world about the potential licensing of Niacor-SR in
(14) Europe in the month leading up to the Schering-Upsher
(15) agreement?

(16) A: I don't recall -- I don't recall the testimony
(17) or the information that would have suggested that they
(18) did or did not meet with other companies in the month,
(19) you know, prior to their executing this -- this
(20) agreement with Schering. I do not think that either
(21) the deposition testimony or the summary sheets
(22) expressed any serious interest on the part of any of
(23) these companies in this product at that time.

(24) Q: So, you don't know anything about any meetings
(25) that took place between Upsher and any other

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(1) pharmaceutical companies in the month leading up to the
(2) Schering-Upsher agreement?

(3) A: I don't recall what the testimony was in --
(4) about that specific issue from the Upsher executives,
(5) who are the only people who could have commented upon
(6) that issue in deposition since to my knowledge Mr.
(7) Pettit himself was not deposed or at least I didn't see
(8) that deposition. If the meetings occurred, I don't
(9) recall whether they did or didn't, and I don't recall
(10) whether they were alluded to in those depositions. I
(11) don't know whether meetings occurred.

(12) Q: Isn't that --

(13) A: What I would say is that whether meetings
(14) occurred or didn't occur would not have any bearing on
(15) my opinion, because meetings -- different companies
(16) have very different thresholds for holding a meeting.
(17) Some companies have a very high threshold, for
(18) instance, Johnson & Johnson has a very high threshold
(19) for executing a confidential disclosure agreement and
(20) for having meetings. Other companies have a lower
(21) threshold for these kind of initial contacts and are
(22) much more willing to have meetings.

(23) For instance, one of the companies that I do a
(24) lot of work with has a very low threshold for meeting,
(25) but that doesn't mean that they have any serious

(1) interest in the product. It just simply means that
(2) they want to go and look at it, because they want to be
(3) sure that they do or don't have an interest. It
(4) doesn't get serious until offers are put on the table.
(5) Meetings are nice, but you can't take meetings to the
(6) bank, and you certainly can't use them in negotiations
(7) for \$60 million up-front payments.

(8) Q: Sir, on page 13 of your report, you
(9) characterize Mr. Pettit's efforts as unsuccessful,
(10) correct?

(11) A: Again, I'd rather put it in the full context of
(12) the sentence. What I said was that he tried
(13) unsuccessfully for over six months to find a licensee
(14) for the European rights to Niacor-SR. As I testified
(15) earlier, I frankly think that Mr. Pettit was quite
(16) successful in even having brought the number of parties
(17) to even a superficial examination of this product that
(18) he did. That's not as easy as it seems. One has to
(19) make contacts, one has to convince the people that it's
(20) even worth looking at nonexclusive information.

(21) So, he chose a good list of companies, a good
(22) spectrum of companies. He, as far as I can see, made
(23) legitimate contacts with these companies and did his
(24) job well. He didn't invent Niacor-SR, and I'm sure
(25) that he perhaps more than any of us wished that

(1) Niacor-SR had been a better product than it ultimately
(2) turned out to be. It would have made his job a lot
(3) easier.

(4) Q: In the sentence, the first full sentence on
(5) page 13, you state that he tried unsuccessfully for
(6) over six months to find a licensee for the European
(7) rights to Niacor-SR. correct?

(8) A: Um-hum, that's what I wrote.

(9) Q: On what basis do you conclude that his efforts
(10) were unsuccessful?

(11) A: That is a question that I can answer I think
(12) fairly clearly, and I'm almost surprised that I can
(13) answer it so clearly, because that has a definitive end
(14) point. As far as I know, he did not execute a license
(15) for Niacor-SR during that period with anybody, and so
(16) if you're asking me -- if you're defining success as
(17) finding a licensee, he was unsuccessful.

(18) Q: Okay. So, because Upsher signed with Schering,
(19) Mr. Pettit's efforts were unsuccessful. Is that what
(20) you're saying?

(21) A: I am saying that during the six-month period
(22) when he looked -- when Upsher entered the agreement
(23) with Schering, one can only presume that Upsher is an
(24) ethical company and ceased its efforts to find another
(25) licensee, and I will be happy to grant your client that

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17 bit of ethical well-being; that Mr. Pettit's efforts
18 would have stopped when the agreement with Schering was
19 executed. What we know is that up to that point, Mr.
20 Pettit had been unsuccessful.

21 We also know that Schering-Plough, at least we
22 know from the testimony of various executives in this
23 matter, took but — I believe, what, five days from
24 start to finish to make that assessment, and so we can
25 say that up to approximately June 12th or thereabouts,
26 Mr. Pettit had been unsuccessful.

27 Q: Where do you get the six months in that
28 statement?

29 A: As I said, I think that he was hired in
30 December, and he was finished for the reasons I just
31 said in middle of June.

32 Q: When do you think he made his first mailing to
33 potential licensing partners?

34 A: I have no way of knowing that. Usually when
35 people are engaged in these matters, they're pretty
36 prompt and assiduous, and so I would think that very
37 shortly after Mr. Pettit was engaged, he began making
38 phone calls and making contacts on behalf of his
39 client.

40 Q: How would you have gone about attempting to
41 find a licensing partner in Europe for Niacor-SR? If

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42 you had been Mr. Pettit and you were retained in late
43 '96, early '97, what would you have done?

44 A: Again, you know, I am embarrassed that I
45 perhaps have been flippant in a couple of my comments
46 to you, and I want to restrain that element of my
47 personality, if I may.

48 We have a fairly rigorous modus operandi in our
49 little organization in that we try to put in-licensing
50 candidates through a fairly decent level of internal
51 and sometimes even external due diligence before we
52 even take on the project, because we're a small
53 organization, and the only thing that really helps us
54 is that we have a fairly high level of credibility with
55 executives in companies, particularly fairly senior
56 executives in companies.

57 So, before we would take on a project, it has
58 to pass our muster before I would present it to a
59 senior executive in another company, and were I to have
60 seen the data that Mr. Audibert shared with Upsher in
61 — or that, I'm sorry, that Upsher shared with Mr.
62 Audibert, there is little question that I would not
63 have allowed our company to be engaged in marketing
64 this product.

65 MR. SILBER: Chris, if I may — Nelson, I just
66 want to see if you're okay, if you want a break.

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67 THE WITNESS: I'm fine.

68 BY MR. CURRAN:

69 Q: Are you saying that if you were Mr. Pettit, you
70 wouldn't have taken on the assignment from Upsber to
71 find a licensing partner? Is that what you're saying?

72 A: That's correct.

73 Q: So, in your opinion, was it inadvisable for Mr.
74 Pettit to take on this assignment?

75 A: That's not what I said, sir.

76 Q: It's a question. It doesn't matter what you
77 said before.

78 A: It is.

79 Q: I don't care what you said at all today or any
80 other time in your life. It's just a question.

81 Was it inadvisable for Mr. Pettit, in your
82 opinion, to take on this assignment?

83 A: I can't speak for Mr. Pettit. Your questions
84 to me were whether we would have taken it on, and —

85 Q: They wouldn't have come to you.

86 A: I'm sorry? I didn't understand what you said.

87 MR. SILBER: He said they wouldn't come to you.

88 BY MR. CURRAN:

89 Q: Let's assume, okay, that you were working for
90 Mr. Pettit and he had taken on the project, hey, we're
91 going to find a licensing partner for Niacor-SR in

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92 Europe, go do it. What would you have done?

93 A: I would have said to him that I think that
94 presenting this package to senior executives in
95 potential licensees would compromise our credibility
96 and that until we had further information about this
97 product, we should not represent it, because Mr.
98 Pettit — and if you're supposing that I would be his
99 surrogate in some way — represented this product.
100 It's no different from your selling a used car or your
101 selling my old Lox Box.

102 I think that if you're going to be credible in
103 this effort and if you're going to be able to go back
104 to that person to whom you try to sell this to sell
105 another thing, I think you'd want to have some
106 credibility, and I don't think that I could have
107 represented this product with enthusiasm knowing what I
108 know about it.

109 Q: I want you to assume that, again, you work for
110 Mr. Pettit. He says, okay, I hear your comments, you
111 don't want to work, you don't want to do this project,
112 he says, nonetheless, let's go out and do our best.
113 What do you do?

114 A: I would recommend to Mr. Pettit that we go back
115 to our client, Upsher, and discuss with Upsher the
116 potential deficiencies that we see in the data set or

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1) the package that I have and I presume Mr. Pettit had,
2) that information that was provided to Mr. Audibert, and
3) I would ask for some of those data and some of the
4) information that I alluded to in my report as being
5) missing. I would examine that information if Upsher
6) were willing to let me see it and may or may not modify
7) my opinion, but I don't think that I would have been
8) comfortable — in fact, I know I would not have been
9) comfortable calling the sort of people that I know and
10) saying to them, I've got a good in-licensing candidate
11) for you, which is what I'd have to say, with the
12) information that was given to Mr. Audibert.

13) Q: Okay, let me make this a pure hypothetical.

14) A: Um-hum.

15) Q: I want to put you in Mr. Pettit's shoes.

16) Upsher-Smith comes to Mr. Pettit and presents Mr.
17) Pettit with what is a very promising product, and you
18) and/or Mr. Pettit recognize that and believe it to be a
19) promising product for Europe.

20) A: Okay.

21) Q: And you're charged with finding a European
22) licensing partner.

23) A: Okay.

24) Q: What do you do?

25) MR. SILBER: Just to clarify the hypothetical,

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1) you're talking about a hypothetical drug, not
2) Niacor-SR?

3) MR. CURRAN: Yeah, that's right. He refuses to
4) answer the question about Niacor-SR, so we'll use a
5) hypothetical drug.

6) THE WITNESS: I think I answered the question
7) about Niacor-SR.

8) BY MR. CURRAN:

9) Q: Okay, okay, let's just make it some drug that
10) you think has promise.

11) A: As I understand you, some client, be it Upsher
12) or somebody else, came to our organization or Pettit's
13) organization with my being a part of that organization
14) with a drug or a product of any sort and presented us
15) the data that it had on that product. We internally
16) were able to look at that data package and feel that
17) this product did represent a good opportunity for a
18) potential licensee.

19) Is that the hypothetical you're presenting?

20) Q: Yes.

21) A: Then what would I do?

22) Q: Yes.

23) A: I think that the first thing that I would do
24) would be, as I think I indicated before, would be to
25) try to have answered from data that the client had any

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1) remaining questions that I might have, because
2) recognize that I'm going to have to go before
3) executives in the potential licensees and discuss this
4) product, and I'd like to make sure that all the
5) questions that I might anticipate and that are
6) answerable were answered in the information that was
7) provided.

8) With that information, I would revise the
9) information that the client had provided to us, so that
10) I now have a dossier with which I'm comfortable. I
11) would then try to ascertain what companies would be
12) likely viable licensing candidates based on my
13) knowledge of the sorts of drugs that they market, the
14) sorts of sales organizations that they have, the sorts
15) of territories that they serve, the potential of the
16) product, et cetera, so that I would try to hone the
17) list to high probability licensing candidates rather
18) than shotgun it to every company out there, because
19) again, you know, Pettit and I are a small organization,
20) we don't have time to go to 1600 companies. We'd
21) rather narrow it down to a few companies where we think
22) we can be most effective.

23) Then, most likely, I would know somebody fairly
24) senior in that company, and I would contact him or her
25) and tell them about the opportunity I had and ask them

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1) if they were interested. Most likely, most if not all
2) of these companies that were contacted telephonically
3) would say, yeah, send along your package
4) nonconfidentially. They would — I would do so. They
5) would look at this package. I would follow up with
6) them, and the next step would be for them to ask for
7) confidential information.

8) I would then provide them the full dossier that
9) we had, probably, if their interest continued, meet
10) with them to discuss next steps, and most likely those
11) next steps would entail answering questions that had
12) arisen during their due diligence. We would enter into
13) an iterative process where they're asking questions and
14) I'm trying to answer those questions or have those
15) questions answered until we got to the point where they
16) either said, thanks, but no thanks, or said, we're
17) interested, let's start talking deal. What do you
18) want?

19) Then we would enter the next phase, which would
20) be the discussions of the general terms of our
21) potential agreement, and that would cover such things
22) as remuneration for the licensee or licensor, what
23) performance criteria the licensor wants to impose upon
24) the licensee, and territories may or may not emerge. I
25) mean, if you — I think you've narrowed it to the

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71 European Union, and so we might have a company who has
72 only got marketing strength in Italy, and we might be
73 loath to offer them the rest of Europe, or we might
74 have a company that is universally strong, in which
75 case the territory would not be much of an issue, but
76 we would get into discussion of those kinds of issues.

77 We would over the next few weeks negotiate a
78 deal that we were comfortable with or we would not be
79 able to negotiate a deal with which we were
80 comfortable. I mean, I hope I'm responding to your
81 question. That's basically the way I think I would
82 proceed.

83 Q: Have you personally ever done such an
84 assignment?

85 A: Oh, yes.

86 Q: When?

87 A: When in time?

88 Q: Yeah. Yeah, in time.

89 A: Last year or this year and — yeah, I've done
90 it periodically over the course of the last — since
91 1984.

92 Q: Always with CoreTechs?

93 A: Yes, because when I was with either Abbott or
94 Fujisawa — when I was with Abbott, I was a member of
95 the licensing team and didn't have responsibility for

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96 negotiating deals. When I was with Fujisawa, I had
97 business development people who had responsibility for
98 negotiating the deals, and I had sign-off authority on
99 it, but I was not the person going to the table and
100 negotiating the deals.

101 Q: Okay. When's the most recent time that you
102 undertook this type of an assignment, finding a
103 licensing partner in Europe?

104 A: Oh, in Europe?

105 Q: Well, let me back up. Have you personally ever
106 undertaken such an assignment in Europe?

107 A: I've never specifically focused on a licensing
108 assignment in Europe only, because it's been my
109 experience that a product generally has to be
110 acceptable for the U.S. market not before but in
111 addition to being acceptable for the EU, and I realize
112 that's my experience. That is not a universal
113 experience, and there are plenty of people who focus on
114 the European market and have a different experience,
115 but in my case, because I'm U.S.-based and have most of
116 my experience in the U.S., that I would do deals for
117 the U.S. and other territories, not just for the EU.

118 The exception to that has been Japan, but
119 because of my pretty good relationships with a number
120 of people in Japan, I've done deals just for Japan.

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121 Europe, I've done a couple of deals just in the EU, but
122 not for pharmaceutical products.

123 Q: Okay. So, you've never done a licensing —
124 you've never personally done a project in which you
125 were attempting to identify a European licensing
126 partner for a pharmaceutical, correct?

127 A: I'm going back to your question. You asked me
128 — I went through a whole process of what I would do
129 were I to be working for Mr. Perit and the procedures
130 that I would go through, which entailed basically the
131 whole process of getting hired by the client and
132 negotiating the deal. You then asked me whether I had
133 done that process for a pharmaceutical just in the EU,
134 and my answer to that is no.

135 Q: Sir, in your analysis and conclusion in this
136 matter, do you consider the amount of correspondence
137 and communications between Upsher and Schering after
138 they entered into their licensing agreement?

139 A: Do I consider it?

140 Q: Yes.

141 A: I'm not — I don't understand your question.

142 Q: You've reached conclusions in this matter,
143 correct?

144 A: Yes, I have.

145 Q: Are those conclusions based in any way on the

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146 amount of communications or correspondence between
147 Upsher and Schering after their licensing agreement was
148 entered into?

149 A: There are three principal elements upon which
150 my conclusion is based. The first was the deal itself,
151 the agreement, the elements of the agreement, most
152 particularly the \$60 million noncontingent payment and
153 some of the other elements that were missing from this
154 agreement; secondly was the due diligence that
155 antedated the agreement; and the third was the behavior
156 of the parties after the agreement had been executed.

157 Q: Do you want my question read back?

158 A: You're welcome to read back whatever you want.
159 I think I just responded to it.

160 Q: Okay. So, when you say the behavior of the
161 parties after the agreement, are you referring to
162 correspondence and communications between the parties?

163 A: That's one element of the behavior of the
164 parties.

165 Q: Well, do you specifically consider the
166 communications and correspondence between the parties
167 as one element that is relevant to your conclusions and
168 analysis?

169 A: I examined the deposition testimony and those
170 exhibits to which I was privy that related to the

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(1) interactions between the parties, written and
(2) otherwise, as well as the individual activities of the
(3) parties as expressed either in oral testimony or in
(4) minutes of various and sundry meetings and from that
(5) information drew a conclusion as to what the parties
(6) did after the agreement.

(7) Q: Sir, is it your belief that there was almost no
(8) communication regarding Niacor-SR between Schering and
(9) Upsher after their licensing agreement?

(10) A: It is my opinion that very little communication
(11) occurred between them considering that they had entered
(12) into a major deal, a deal that indeed Schering had
(13) valued so highly as to make the highest noncontingent
(14) payment in the history of the pharmaceutical industry.

(15) Q: When you say the \$60 million payment, you're
(16) talking about the \$60 million paid over three years,
(17) correct?

(18) A: \$60 million license fee, which was — to which
(19) they were obligated to pay from day one. They happened
(20) to make the payments over two years.

(21) Q: I'm sorry, they happened to make the payment
(22) over two years, is that what you said?

(23) A: They made a payment, they made a payment upon
(24) signing and I guess a payment at one year and two
(25) years.

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(1) Q: They didn't have to; that was called for under
(2) the licensing agreement, right?

(3) A: Well, yes.

(4) Q: That was as a result of the negotiation,
(5) correct?

(6) A: I would say that this resulted from activities
(7) other than negotiation for a license.

(8) Q: What do you mean by that?

(9) A: As I think, as I've testified many times today,
(10) that there could only be three reasons for Schering's
(11) having made this payment. One, they're blithering
(12) idiots; two, they got some other consideration — now I
(13) can't even remember what the third one would be.

(14) Q: Why don't you think about it.

(15) MR. SILBER: Was that a question or a comment?

(16) MR. CURRAN: That's a question. I'm not
(17) rushing him.

(18) THE WITNESS: I think I testified earlier to
(19) it, but I'll try to recall what I — what I said. I
(20) can't recall exactly what it was, but whatever it was,
(21) it was pejorative, and maybe that's why in my desire
(22) not to be terribly pejorative I can't recall it.

(23) BY MR. CURRAN:

(24) Q: So, by "blithering idiots," that's not
(25) pejorative?

(1) A: That's perhaps pejorative — I said that that
(2) is the only possible reason other than their receiving
(3) some other consideration.

(4) Q: Well, what do you mean by "blithering idiots"?

(5) Do you mean they were negligent, showed bad judgment?

(6) A: I would say — you know, as I testified
(7) earlier, it has always been my perception of
(8) Schering-Plough as being one of the fine companies in
(9) our industry. So, I don't consider it a viable
(10) explanation at all, and in this room where we are want
(11) to consider hypotheticals, I'm offering you the only
(12) hypotheticals that I could conceive of for this kind of
(13) payment having been made, and the hypothetical about
(14) which we're talking, that is, that the Schering-Plough
(15) were a bunch of blithering idiots, is not to me a
(16) viable alternative, because I don't believe that
(17) Schering-Plough is a collection of blithering idiots,
(18) but unless they received some other consideration —
(19) oh, I remember the third one.

(20) They were feeling generous, so in other words,
(21) they wanted to make a gift to Upsher with no
(22) consideration. I suspect that Schering is a very
(23) philanthropic company, but I don't suspect it has that
(24) degree of philanthropic leaning towards another member
(25) of the pharmaceutical community. So, I don't think

(1) that's a viable alternative either, that they were
(2) doing it out of generosity or out of ignorance. So,
(3) that leaves only that they received other consideration
(4) as the viable explanation.

(5) Q: Now, you've read depositions of Schering
(6) personnel in this case, correct?

(7) A: Yes, I have, sir.

(8) Q: And you're aware that it's the position of
(9) those people and Schering itself that the consideration
(10) they paid was, in fact, for Niacor-SR and the other
(11) products in the licensing agreement, correct?

(12) A: I'm aware that some members of Schering's
(13) executive codery have maintained in their testimony
(14) that that \$60 million was a license fee.

(15) Q: Now, do you believe that they're liars?

(16) A: A few moments ago we indulged in the use of the
(17) term "harsh." I think that to the extent that they
(18) maintain that this was a license fee for Niacor-SR,
(19) they are being untruthful.

(20) Q: Now, a moment ago you said that Schering was a
(21) fine company, didn't you?

(22) A: Yes, I did.

(23) Q: And they're a fine company, so you're unwilling
(24) to say that they're blithering idiots. Is that right?

(25) A: I would not like to characterize Schering as a

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81 collection of blithering idiots, yes.
82 Q: So, you're more comfortable characterizing them
83 as untruthful, correct?
84 A: I'm not characterizing the whole company as
85 untruthful, I think that — I don't know what
86 motivated this bit of nefarious behavior. It I believe
87 violates the ethical standard by which I believe
88 Schering is known in the industry. This endeavor
89 involved remarkably few members of Schering's executive
90 community, which is itself unusual, and so if there was
91 dishonesty, then this dishonesty appeared to be
92 confined to a relatively few people, and so it would be
93 unfair to the many thousand employees of Schering to
94 characterize them or their company as dishonest.
95 Q: Now, is it your belief that the projections
96 that Schering personnel made with respect to Niacor-SR
97 were bona fide or alternatively pretextual?
98 A: It was my opinion, as I expressed in my report,
99 that the financial projections made by Audibert — I
100 assume that's to which you're referring?
101 Q: Sure.
102 A: I thought the projections were more ambitious
103 than I would have made and were inconsistent with —
104 were considerably more aggressive than were the
105 projections made by some members of Schering's own

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106 executive codery, as well as at least one expert that
107 has been engaged by the Federal Trade Commission in
108 this matter.
109 Q: So, do you think Mr. Audibert was intentionally
110 over-aggressive in those projections?
111 A: Sir, I — in becoming familiar with this
112 matter, as I testified earlier, I have come to the
113 conclusion that this \$60 million payment was so absurd
114 as to defy belief, and I have tried to imagine how it
115 ever could have been promulgated, and there are various
116 interpretations that would put various parties within
117 the Schering-Plough organization and within the
118 Upsher-Smith organization in a less than honest light.
119 I don't know which scenario is correct, and I
120 don't know whether Mr. Audibert was an unwitting pawn
121 in this matter or was a knowing pawn in this matter or
122 was a principal player in this matter. I don't know
123 from whence the dishonesty arose, but there's
124 dishonesty somewhere.
125 Q: You've reached that conclusion?
126 A: As I said before, there are only three viable
127 explanations in my mind. Two of them are not viable;
128 that is, that Schering is a collection of blithering
129 idiots or that Schering felt some charitable leaning
130 towards Upsher-Smith. That leaves only that they

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131 received other consideration. If they did, indeed,
132 receive other consideration, they have been untruthful
133 in their testimony throughout this matter.
134 Q: Do you believe the licensing agreement itself
135 to be some sort of a sham or coverup?
136 A: A sham or coverup? Would you help me
137 understand what you're meaning by that?
138 Q: Well, you said you've reached the conclusion
139 that there was dishonesty, correct?
140 A: Yes.
141 Q: I just want to know if that licensing agreement
142 dated June 17th, 1997 is a coverup of dishonesty in
143 your opinion.
144 A: I'm not sure what you mean by a "coverup," and
145 I'm asking you to tell me before I can answer that
146 question.
147 Q: Now, do you know who negotiated that licensing
148 agreement?
149 A: It was not entirely clear in the testimony, at
150 least it was not entirely clear to me who actually
151 negotiated the terms of the agreement. There were only
152 a few players, and I'm not sure which of them actually
153 worked out the final terms of that deal with Mr. Troup
154 from Upsher-Smith.
155 Q: Do you know any of the people who participated

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156 in the negotiations?
157 A: I don't really have a clear record of the
158 negotiations. This happened so quickly that to me, at
159 least my recollection of the record, doesn't describe a
160 meeting where the parties sat down and dickered about
161 terms to any great extent. There's no, you know, clear
162 minutes of an ongoing, iterative negotiating process of
163 the type to which I'm familiar. This whole thing
164 happened in four or five days, you know, from signing
165 of CDA to execution of agreement, which was so quick
166 that I'm not sure who negotiated what, and there
167 doesn't seem to be any clear path or clear description
168 of who in the process was the negotiator if there was
169 one.
170 If you ask me to guess, I think that the guy
171 who talked business terms with Upsher-Smith, that is,
172 the person from Schering who discussed business terms
173 was probably Mr. Kapur, but I don't really know that,
174 but because there were so few players that were
175 involved in this whole matter, it leaves either Mr.
176 Kapur or Mr. Lauda, Mr. Audibert, perhaps Mr.
177 Wasserstein, and I think of those four, Mr. Kapur is
178 most likely to have been the person who spoke with Mr.
179 Troup about the terms of the agreement, but I don't
180 know that to be the case. I am purely surmising that.

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111 Q: In your opinion, have all four of the
112 individuals you've just mentioned been untruthful in
113 this matter?

114 A: As I said before, sir, I don't know how this
115 plot emerged and how this process emerged. What I know
116 is it doesn't begin to meet a basic smell test, and
117 where that errancy has its root, I am not able to
118 testify.

119 Q: You haven't attended any depositions in this
120 case, correct?

121 A: I have attended no depositions in this case.

122 Q: You haven't had an opportunity to size up any
123 of the witnesses and so forth, correct? In person.

124 A: I have not met any of the persons who have been
125 deposed in this case. I don't believe I've ever met
126 any of them, and so I have no a priori opinion about
127 them personally. I can read their testimonies and
128 perhaps draw some conclusions about what they did or
129 didn't do, but that's all.

130 Q: What's your source of documents in this case?

131 A: All the documents that I have examined in this
132 case have been provided to me by Mr. Silber of the
133 Federal Trade Commission.

134 MR. CURRAN: Let's take a short break, then we
135 will wrap up.

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136 (A brief recess was taken.)

BY MR. CURRAN:

137 Q: Sir, what are the standards in the European
138 Union for new drug applications on sustained-release
139 products?

140 A: I'm not sure I understand your question, sir.
141 What do you mean by what are the standards?

142 Q: What are the regulatory standards for approval
143 or disapproval of a sustained-release product?

144 A: Again, I'm not sure I — you know, that's such
145 a broad-based question. I think that in general, they
146 want a proof of safety and efficacy. I think that
147 their standards in that regard for the most part are
148 consistent with that that the FDA requires just in
149 terms of looking for safety and efficacy of a product.

150 They have a little bit of an element of
151 economic contribution that our FDA is not supposed to
152 consider in terms of the economic importance of the
153 drug to the medical community, because they have a —
154 many of the companies — many of the countries do have
155 pricing authorities that have to be considered as well
156 as the safety and efficacy of the drug.

157 Q: Do you consider yourself an expert as to the
158 requirements in the European Union for new drug
159 applications on sustained-release pharmaceuticals?

160 A: Oh, I think I am well qualified to comment on
161 that subject, yes, sir.

162 Q: How many new drug applications on
163 sustained-release products have you filed in the
164 European Union?

165 A: As I said before, I believe, I have not had the
166 responsibility specifically to file new drug
167 applications in all reality anywhere. New drug
168 applications are filed by a corporation. The major
169 interfaces with the regulatory authorities are in
170 regulatory affairs. In the two corporate jobs that
171 I've had, regulatory affairs reported to me, but they
172 were not, you know, a — so, I had responsibility for
173 it, but I think your question said, if I understand you
174 correctly, I did it, and it's sort of analogous to the
175 comments that — it's analogous to the comments I
176 offered to you when you were asking about who
177 discovered or whether I had discovered drugs.

178 I don't think that that's — it's not
179 appropriate for me to take credit for filing a — you
180 know, an NDA like that in the European Union. That's
181 not something that I have been asked to do.

182 Q: I'm not so interested in giving or awarding
183 credit. I just want to know if you've had personal and
184 substantial involvement in the filing of an NDA in the

185 European Union on a sustained-release product.

186 A: I'd have to think through the list of all the
187 compounds with which I've been associated over the
188 years, and way back in 1990, we examined — and I
189 actually don't recall whether we filed it in the EU or
190 not, I think we did — a sustained delivery form for a
191 drug called betaseron, I was doing some work with
192 Triton and then subsequently a company called Burtax.
193 I don't really think that is what you're asking in
194 terms of a sustained-release formulation. It was
195 another kind of delivery system.

196 Q: That was an injection, right?

197 A: Yes, betaseron is an injection.

198 Q: No, I'm talking about sustained-release
199 tablets.

200 A: I understand. That's why I'm trying to think
201 — you know, I have not prepared an answer for that.
202 I'm just trying to run through my mind all the
203 compounds with which I've been associated and had some
204 substantial input, and — the application for amBisome,
205 which is a liposomal formulation of amphotericin B that
206 was licensed to Fujisawa was filed in the EU. I had
207 involvement with that, but I think you asked me whether
208 I had substantial involvement, and I'd have to say that
209 my responsibilities, as I said before, were not for the

(1) EU, so I don't want to mislead you or, you know, the
 (2) Court in saying that — I would not characterize that
 (3) as substantial involvement.
 (4) So, I'm not — I would reserve the right to
 (5) answer that question when I have had a chance to think
 (6) more thoroughly about all of the compounds with which
 (7) I've had interaction, and I may come up with one or two
 (8) where I have, but I'm not recalling anything at this
 (9) moment.
 (10) Q: Sir, what type of pharmacokinetic study or data
 (11) would have been required in connection with the filing
 (12) of an NDA in Europe for Niacor-SR?
 (13) A: Off the top of my head, I don't know what
 (14) specific types of pharmacokinetic studies would have
 (15) been required in 1997 for the — you know, for a
 (16) sustained-release formulation in the EU.
 (17) Q: What type of pharmacokinetic study would have
 (18) been required for the filing of an NDA on Niacor-SR in
 (19) the United States?
 (20) A: Multi-dose pharmacokinetic studies looking for
 (21) the stability of the pharmacokinetic parameters upon
 (22) multiple dosing, because one of the concerns that one
 (23) has with a sustained-release formulation is that there
 (24) will be not just tachyphylaxis but temporal differences
 (25) in the pharmacokinetic parameters that are associated

(1) with the administration of the drug, and so since this
 (2) is a chronic dosing product, it is my opinion that the
 (3) FDA would require a multiple dosing pharmacokinetic
 (4) study.
 (5) Q: Is a multi-dose pharmacokinetic study more
 (6) difficult than a single-dose pharmacokinetic study?
 (7) A: I don't think either of them are particularly
 (8) difficult. It's just it's a little bit more work.
 (9) MR. SILBER: I'd like to check on your time. I
 (10) think your time may be up.
 (11) THE REPORTER: Yes, it's up at 4:45.
 (12) THE WITNESS: I would have to go, should have
 (13) gone 15 minutes ago really.
 (14) MR. CURRAN: Well, we certainly don't want to
 (15) interrupt your travel plans, I'm instructed I have no
 (16) further time.
 (17) (Reading and signature not waived.)
 (18) (Whereupon, at 4:45 p.m. the deposition was
 (19) concluded.)
 (20)
 (21)
 (22)
 (23)
 (24)

(1) CERTIFICATION OF REPORTER
 (2) DOCKET/FILE NUMBER: D09297
 (3) CASE TITLE: FTC vs. SCHERING-PLOUGH/UPSHER-SMITH
 (4) DATE: NOVEMBER 20, 2001

(5) I HEREBY CERTIFY that the transcript contained
 (6) herein is a full and accurate transcript of the notes
 (7) taken by me at the hearing on the above cause before
 (8) the FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION to the best of my
 (9) knowledge and belief.

(10) DATED: 11/21/01

(11) SUSANNE BERGLING, RMR

(12) CERTIFICATION OF PROOFREADER

(13) I HEREBY CERTIFY that I proofread the
 (14) transcript for accuracy in spelling, hyphenation,
 (15) punctuation and format.

(16) DIANE QUADE

(1) CERTIFICATE OF DEPONENT

(2) I hereby certify that I have read and examined
 (3) the foregoing transcript, and the same is a true and
 (4) accurate record of the testimony given by me.

(5) Any additions or corrections that I feel are
 (6) necessary, I will attach on a separate sheet of paper
 (7) to the original transcript.

(8) NELSON L. LEVY, Ph.D., M.D.

(9) I hereby certify that the individual
 (10) representing himself/herself to be the above-named
 (11) individual, appeared before me this
 (12) _____ day of _____, 2001, and executed
 (13) the above certificate in my presence.

(14) NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR

(15) MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:

- (1) WITNESS: NELSON L. LEVY, Ph.D., M.D.
- (2) DATE: NOVEMBER 20, 2001
- (3) CASE: FTC vs. SCHERING-PLOUGH/UPSHER-SMITH
- (4) Please note any errors and the corrections thereof on this errata sheet. The rules require a reason for any change or correction. It may be general, such as "To correct stenographic error," or "To clarify the record," or "To conform with the facts."
- (5) **PAGE LINE CORRECTION REASON FOR CHANGE**
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Lawyer's Notes

<p>\$</p> <p>\$1 million \$10 billion \$10 million (2-3) \$100 million (5-7) \$150 million \$2 million (2-2) \$20 \$200 million \$25 \$3 billion \$3 million \$4 million \$5 million (3-3) \$50 million (2-3) \$500 million \$60 million (19-29)</p>	<p>1984 (3-4) 1986 1987 (1-2) 1990 1991 1992 1993 (2-3) 1996 1997 (5-5) 1st (1-2)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7-8 75</p>	<p>accustomed (2-2) acetaminophen (2-3) acetaminophens achieved (1-2) acid (11-15) acid-related acquired acquiring acronym (2-3) action active (3-5) activities (4-4) activity (4-4) actual (5-5) actually (23-25) acute add (7-8) added (3-4) adding addition (3-4) additional (10-16) address (2-4) Adenoscan adenosine (2-2) adequate adhered adjective administering administration (3-4) admit (2-2) adopt advanced advantageous (1-2) advantages (3-4) adverbs adversarial (1-2) adverse (6-7) adversity (1-2) advice advise advises advising AE aegis (7-7) affairs (1-2) affectionately affects (3-3) afford (2-2) AFTERNOON (1-2) again (49-59) against (4-4) age (2-4) agencies agent agents (2-3) aggressive (3-4) ago (12-13) agree (4-5) agreeable agreed agreement (28-49) agreements (2-5)</p>	<p>agrees ah (2-2) ahead (2-3) AIDS albeit alcohol alert (4-5) alerted (2-2) alerting alerts allegations alleged (2-4) allegedly alleges alleging allotted (2-3) allow allowed alluded (11-12) alluding almost (17-18) alone along (5-5) ALT (1-2) alter alternative (4-5) alternatively alternatives although (3-3) altogether (2-2) always (12-18) ambiguous ambisome (2-2) ambitious amellorate America (9-15) American (4-5) among (4-4) amount (3-3) amphoteracln amphotericin analgesic (2-2) analgesics analog analogous (8-10) analyses (4-5) analysis (10-12) analytic (2-3) analytical (3-3) analyze and/or (5-5) Andre (6-10) anecdotal anesthetic animal (4-11) animals (1-2) annotated annotation annotations (5-6) annual (4-4) anomalous answerable</p>
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**United States of America
Federal Trade Commission**

**In the matter of
Schering-Plough Corporation
Upsher-Smith Laboratories, Inc.
and American Home Products Corporation**

Docket No. 9297

Expert Report

by

Nelson L. Levy, Ph.D., M.D.

August 13, 2001

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United States of America
Federal Trade Commission

In the matter of
Schering-Plough Corporation
Upsher-Smith Laboratories, Inc.
and American Home Products Corporation

Docket No. 9297

Expert Report^{1,2} by Nelson L. Levy, Ph.D., M.D.

I. Biography of Dr. Levy

I was graduated *summa cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa in 1963 from Yale University, where I was a Scholar of the House. In 1967, I received my M.D. degree from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. I then went to the National Institutes of Health (N.I.H.), where I did research in virology and immunology and, in 1971, published the world's first paper on mammalian gene therapy, as well as the first review on the relationship between viral infections and endocrine disease. In 1970, I went to Duke University, where I earned a Ph.D. in immunology and also did residency training in neurology. Until 1981, I remained at Duke as a tenured professor of microbiology and immunology. My laboratory did research on cancer immunology, multiple sclerosis and the brain's control of the immune system.

In 1981, I left academia to become the Vice President for Pharmaceutical Research at Abbott Laboratories. I led the transformation of a moribund research program, which had not discovered a drug in over 20 years, into a vibrant, productive body, highly competitive within the industry. At Abbott, I started the programs that have led to several marketed drugs, including Hytrin (for hypertension and benign prostatic hypertrophy), Biaxin (for bacterial infections, including that with the ulcer-causing *Helicobacter pylori*) and Ritonavir (HIV protease inhibitor for AIDS.)

In 1984, I became the Chief Executive Officer of the CoreTechs Corporation, which implements a unique paradigm of technology transfer, starts and helps build science-based companies and provides consulting services to the branded and generic pharmaceutical industries.

¹ I understand that discovery is still on-going and that new information may affect my analyses and necessitate my revising my report to consider and incorporate the new information.

² The rate charged for the review of documents and the preparation of this report was \$350 per hour.

In 1992, I became the President of Fujisawa Pharmaceutical Company, the \$250 million, 1500 employee North American subsidiary of Japan's third-largest pharmaceutical company, where I re-focused and re-vitalized the sales and marketing organizations, in-licensed four major pharmaceuticals and filed an NDA for FK-506 (Prograf), Fujisawa's leading product. In 1993, I returned to CoreTechs, where I am now CEO and Chairman.

I have had broad experience with the conduct, oversight, review and use of clinical trials and their resultant data. This experience derives from multiple perspectives. In academia, I was a principal investigator on trials and thus had the responsibility for the design and implementation of protocols and the interpretation of the results. As a research director, I have had oversight responsibility for the design and conduct of trials and the interpretation and use of the resultant data. As a consultant, board member and chief executive, I have responsibility for oversight of the conduct of clinical trials and for the use of the data from such trials to support registration of pharmaceutical products and to pursue the business interests of the company. My experience also includes in-licensing³ and out-licensing a variety of products and technologies (most of which were in the healthcare arena), where the licensors and licensees have included academia and companies ranging from start-ups to major international corporations.

I am on the Board of Directors of one public and four private companies and on the Scientific Advisory Boards of four other companies, three of which are publicly-traded.

I am married to Louisa Stiles Levy and the father of six sons. I am a coach for various age-group sports, a participant in triathlons and a lover of rhythm and blues music.

³ Four terms related to licensing are introduced in this paragraph and defined as follows:

Licensor: The party that provides the property granted by a license agreement
Licensee: The party that receives the property granted by a license agreement
In-licensing: Activities of a licensee
Out-licensing: Activities of a licensor

II. Introduction and Summary Opinion

The key question to be addressed by this report is whether a certain \$60 million non-contingent payment made by Schering Corporation (hereinafter "Schering") to Upsher-Smith Laboratories, Inc. (hereinafter "Upsher-Smith"), in accordance with an agreement (hereinafter "the Schering-Upsher Agreement"), dated June 17, 1997, can reasonably be considered to have been a licensing fee for Niacor-SR[®] and a few lesser pharmaceutical products.

From the information I have examined, I have drawn the following four conclusions:

- The \$60 million non-contingent payment made by Schering to Upsher-Smith can not reasonably be considered to have been a license fee for Niacor-SR and the five generic products licensed under the Schering-Upsher Agreement. This fee was grossly excessive for the value received and greatly exceeded the non-contingent fees paid in other unrelated transactions by Schering for any other products and technologies, including those with far greater value than that of products received under the Schering-Upsher Agreement.
- The due-diligence process followed by Schering in the evaluation of Niacor-SR was so cursory and inadequate as to fall immeasurably below that that I have ever encountered in the pharmaceutical industry. A single, upper-mid-level employee carried out all, or almost all, the due-diligence in less than five days. He did so without input from R&D, patent counsel, Regulatory Affairs, Manufacturing, Finance or any of the persons with responsibility for actually marketing and selling the product. It is inconceivable to me that any pharmaceutical company would spend anything approaching \$60 million for a drug that had not yet received regulatory approval for marketing without performing due-diligence far in excess of that performed by Schering.
- And Schering missed, or ignored, major flaws in Niacor-SR[®] that should not have been missed by even the cursory due-diligence described above. Most noteworthy were data showing that Niacor-SR may be toxic to the liver, the very type of toxicity that had plagued previous drugs like Niacor-SR.
- After execution of the Schering-Upsher Agreement, neither Upsher-Smith nor Schering gave any indication that they were serious about Schering's development of Niacor-SR in its territories. The timelines that were presented to the Schering Board of Directors for the development and marketing of Niacor-SR

had been very aggressive and would have required the immediate establishment of a multidisciplinary project team to plan and implement the enormous effort necessary to gain regulatory approval, to manufacture and to market a new pharmaceutical. I saw no evidence of anything even approaching such an effort. Likewise, after the execution of the Schering-Upsher Agreement, there was almost no communication regarding Niacor-SR between Schering and Upsher-Smith, a very unusual situation for parties with a supposed mutual interest in the development of a pharmaceutical product.

III. The Licensed Products

A. List of Products Licensed to Schering Corporation under the Schering-Upsher Agreement

For the world, except the U.S., Canada and Mexico:

KLOR CON [®] 8	Extended-release potassium chloride tablets, 8 mEq per tablet
KLOR CON [®] 10	Same, 10 mEq per tablet
KLOR CON [®] M20	Same, 20 mEq per tablet
Pentoxifylline	A generic drug used to improve the blood flow in peripheral arteries, presumably by decreasing the viscosity of the blood
Niacor-SR [®]	See below

For the world, except Canada and Mexico:

PREVALITE [®]	Upsher-Smith's brand of cholestyramine, a generic bile acid sequestrant used to lower cholesterol
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All parties agree that almost all the value of the licensed products, as perceived at the time of the Schering-Upsher Agreement, lay in Niacor-SR. Accordingly, the remainder of this report will consider only Niacor-SR.

B. Niacor-SR[®]

Niacor-SR[®] (hereinafter Niacor-SR) is a sustained-release formulation of niacin, meant for twice-daily administration, that was developed by Upsher-Smith Laboratories. Niacin (also known as nicotinic acid) is a chemical substance, best known as a vitamin, which, in high oral doses, has been shown to reduce levels of total cholesterol, low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol, triglycerides and Lp(a) lipoprotein and to increase

levels of high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol in the blood. Such effects on blood lipids have been shown to reduce the incidence of coronary artery disease. Despite niacin's efficacy in improving the blood lipid profile, the total sales of all niacin products in the world's major pharmaceutical markets represent less than 2% of the sales for cholesterol-lowering pharmaceutical agents. There are two principal reasons for niacin's relatively small market share: 1) niacin's unpleasant side effects and 2) the existence of several alternative, and more acceptable, drugs.

Niacin, when administered in its usual, immediate-release form, causes, in almost all patients, a flushing reaction (a warm to hot feeling in the skin, associated with redness and, often, itching.) This reaction is so unpleasant that most patients who try niacin refuse to continue taking the medication. Niacin also has several other less frequent side effects. One is acanthosis nigricans, a skin rash often seen on the back of the neck or in the armpits; it is not dangerous but can be bothersome. Others include exacerbation of peptic ulcers and gout and worsening of the control of diabetes mellitus.⁴

There are three classes of drugs that generally are preferred over niacin by patients and physicians for the treatment of patients with abnormal blood lipid profiles. Most popular are drugs collectively known as statins, which account for more than 92% of the market and which act by inhibiting an enzyme, HMG-CoA Reductase, that is involved in cholesterol biosynthesis. The two other classes of drugs are the fibrates, which lower triglyceride levels and increase the breakdown of LDL cholesterol, and bile acid sequestrants that act in the gut, where they bind bile acids, prevent their reabsorption from the digestive system and, thereby, cause the liver to use blood cholesterol to synthesize more bile acids, which thus reduces blood cholesterol levels. Both fibrates and bile acid sequestrants do have side effects and are used much less often than the statins.

Prior to the development of Niacor-SR, attempts had been made to diminish the side effects of niacin by administering the drug in a sustained-release formulation, the thesis being that slow, continuous release of the drug into the bloodstream would obviate the flushing reaction seen with the standard tablets and capsules that release a large bolus of the drug with each dose. Unfortunately, such sustained-release niacin preparations induced significant liver toxicities and thus were considered unsafe.

⁴ A.G. Goodman, L.S. Gilman *et al.* (editors). *The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics, Seventh Edition*. Macmillan Publishing Company, New York, pages 834-5.

Niacor-SR was developed by Upsher-Smith Laboratories as a sustained-release formulation of niacin that would be administered twice-daily and would lower LDL cholesterol and raise HDL cholesterol but lack the aforementioned liver toxicity.

C. Clinical Trial Data on Niacor-SR (All These Data Were Provided by Upsher-Smith to Schering Prior to the Schering-Upsher Agreement)

The FDA requires, as one of the major elements for the registration in the U.S. of a new, branded (as opposed to generic) pharmaceutical product, the conduct of two so-called "pivotal" clinical trials. Pivotal trials are well-controlled studies, in a substantial population of patients, that demonstrate convincingly both the safety and efficacy of the pharmaceutical product. At the time of the Schering-Upsher Agreement, Upsher-Smith had finished two clinical trials that it hoped the FDA would consider as pivotal. The results of one of the trials (#920115) had been analyzed and the study report completed; these results were provided to Schering. The other trial (#900221) had been completed, but all the data had not yet been analyzed, and the study report had not yet been completed; nevertheless, data were presented to Schering on some aspects of the efficacy of Niacor-SR and on the withdrawal of patients from this study because of adverse effects and safety concerns.

Based on data from these clinical trials, all of which were provided to Schering prior to the execution of the Schering-Upsher Agreement, I would conclude that Niacor-SR had approximately the same efficacy as a cholesterol-lowering drug as do standard (immediate-release) niacin products. Niacor-SR, however, did not sufficiently obviate the flushing reaction seen with standard niacin products and, most importantly, had a much inferior safety profile (liver and gastrointestinal toxicities).

Upsher-Smith planned to complete the report on study #900221 in June of 1997⁵; i.e., within two weeks after execution of the Schering-Upsher Agreement. The company then planned to complete various other requirements and file the New Drug Application (hereinafter "NDA"), including the study reports on the two pivotal trials, in December, 1997. Schering's stated plan was to use the data in Upsher-Smith's NDA to support applications for registration of Niacor-SR in the European Union (hereinafter "EU") in 1998. While the data from pivotal trials for a U.S. NDA, because of the known high standards of the FDA, are almost always acceptable to the EU regulatory authorities, such authorities likely would have required that additional clinical data be accrued in EU countries. No such studies had been initiated by Upsher-Smith by the time of the Schering-Upsher Agreement (or thereafter), and, I believe, it would have been difficult

⁵ SP16 00079

for Schering to plan, conduct and analyze such studies and make the requisite filings in support of registration in the EU by the end of 1998.⁶

I have reviewed the data, provided by Upsher-Smith to Schering prior to execution of the Schering-Upsher Agreement, from the two aforementioned clinical trials and would offer the following opinion on the results of the two trials:

Clinical Trial #920115⁷

1. This was a double-blind, active control study comparing the effects of Niacor-SR to those of immediate-release niacin. ("Double-blind" refers to a study where neither the patient nor the administering/evaluating personnel know whether test drug or control had been given.) (An "active control" study is one where the effects of the test drug are compared to those of a drug known to be effective; this contrasts to a "placebo-controlled" study, where the effects of the test drug are compared to those of an inactive substance, typically the vehicle in which the test drug is dissolved or suspended.)

Group A (active control) received 2,000 mg/day immediate-release niacin
Group B received 1,000 mg/day Niacor-SR
Group C received 1,500 mg/day Niacor-SR
Group D received 2,000 mg/day Niacor-SR

2. Niacor-SR, at 2,000 mg/day (Group D), was shown to be as efficacious in reducing LDL cholesterol and triglycerides and in elevating HDL cholesterol as 2,000 mg/day of immediate-release niacin (Group A). The lower doses of Niacor-SR were efficacious but less so than immediate-release niacin.

⁶ Projections developed by Schering specified the end of 1998 as the time when filings for regulatory approval of Niacor-SR would be made in the EU.

⁷ SP16 00061-112

3. A number of concerns regarding the safety of Niacor-SR were raised by the study. The following table shows the data leading to such concerns.

	Group A Niacin 2000 mg	Group B Niacor-SR 1000mg	Group C Niacor-SR 1500mg	Group Niacor-SR
	Percentage of Patients Affected			
Had at least one Adverse Event	86	84	80	85
Discontinued from study and/or had to reduce dose of test or control drug	33	32	39	57
Withdrawal from study for safety reasons	17	9	20	32
Flushing (overall incidence)	98	87	81	87
Flushing (severe)	70	62	53	63
Elevation of liver enzyme SGOT (AST) in blood	5	9	12	31
Elevation of liver enzyme SGPT (ALT) in blood	3	6	18	34
Nausea	5	4	4	20

Group A, the control group (immediate-release niacin), and Group D had approximately the same efficacy; so it is most reasonable to compare their toxicities as well; hence, they are bolded. Since Groups B and C were less efficacious than 2,000 mg/day of immediate-release niacin (Group A), the toxicities of Groups B and C should rightfully be compared to lesser doses of immediate-release niacin that, presumably, would have had efficacy similar to that of Groups B and C and less toxicity than Group A.

a. Most significant was the increased incidence of the elevation of liver enzymes in the blood of patients taking Niacor-SR. SGOT and SGPT are enzyme proteins that are released into the bloodstream when liver cells are damaged. Elevation of these enzymes in the blood is generally considered a sign of liver disease or damage. In my opinion, such enzyme elevations in patients taking Niacor-SR would have alerted any person familiar with drug toxicity issues to the strong possibility that Niacor-SR was an hepatotoxic (i.e., toxic to the liver) drug. Such would be particularly true in view of the known hepatotoxicity of previous sustained-release niacin preparations. Such data would have mandated a detailed examination of the effects of Niacor-SR on the liver prior to any consideration of in-licensing the drug. Such detailed examination, in my opinion, would have included, at the least:

- i. Examination of liver biopsies in patients treated with Niacor-SR;
- ii. Examination of the reversibility and persistence of the enzyme elevations; i.e., do the enzyme elevations disappear after the drug is stopped, and do the elevations persist with prolonged administration of the drug;

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iii. Detailed examination of the histopathology⁸ results from animal toxicology studies done prior to the clinical trials.

b. Niacor-SR appears to have an adverse effect profile at least as bad as that of immediate-release niacin. Since it is the adverse effect of niacin that has largely prevented its acceptance by patients and physicians, such results would not bode well for the success of Niacor-SR in the marketplace and, certainly, would have discouraged any potential licensee.

c. The incidence and severity of flushing, while diminished in patients taking Niacor-SR (relative to patients taking immediate-release niacin), was still very high and, in my opinion, still would have prevented most patients from using Niacor-SR. Since reduced flushing was to be the major selling point for Niacor-SR, I think the still-high incidence and severity of flushing, particularly in view of the increase in hepatic and gastrointestinal toxicity of Niacor-SR, would have discouraged any potential licensee.

Clinical Trial #900221⁹

1. This was a double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. Patients who received Niacor-SR (as opposed to patients who received placebo) were given Niacor-SR at the following doses:

Week 1: 500 mg/day
Weeks 2-10: 1,000 mg/day
Weeks 11-19: 2,000 mg/day

As noted above, because the study report had not yet been completed, little information on the results of this study was available to Schering at the time of the Schering-Upsher Agreement. Following is a compilation of that information that was available:

2. Niacor-SR did reduce LDL cholesterol and triglycerides and raise HDL cholesterol.

⁸ Histopathology refers to abnormalities seen during microscopic examination of tissues and organs
⁹ SP16 00074-84

3. No data were available on the incidence of specific adverse effects or toxicities, but two bits of information did not bode well for the safety of Niacor-SR:

a. Only 62% of patients receiving Niacor-SR completed the 19 week study, compared to 81% of those receiving placebo.

b. Over 32% of patients receiving Niacor-SR withdrew from the study specifically because of safety issues, compared to only 8% of patients in the placebo group.

These results, taken together with the results from Study #920115, certainly would have raised serious concerns, in any person familiar with the development and marketing of pharmaceuticals in the U.S. or EU, about the safety and marketability of Niacor-SR.

D. Regulatory Concerns Regarding Niacor-SR

1. **Safety Issues.** These have been discussed in the previous section.

2. **Pharmacokinetics.** Pharmacokinetic studies show how effectively the drug enters and leaves the circulation. Parameters, such as the rate of absorption of the drug from the gut into the bloodstream, the maximum concentration of the drug reached in the bloodstream, the half-life of the drug in the circulation and the total fraction of the drug dose that enters the circulation, are measured. Such studies are always required for an NDA submission but are particularly important for a drug that purports to be a sustained-release formulation. Upsher-Smith had performed preliminary pharmacokinetic studies with a single dose of Niacor-SR but, the FDA demanded that the studies be performed with repeat doses of the drug. As a first step in the performance of such studies, the company had to develop a reliable assay to measure levels of the test drug in the circulation and excreta. It was apparent from minutes of Upsher-Smith's project team meetings¹⁰ that, at the time of the Schering-Upsher Agreement, they had not even accomplished this first step in the performance of the requisite pharmacokinetic studies. Without the generation of consistent and reliable multiple-dose pharmacokinetic data, Upsher-Smith could not win approval of Niacor-SR in the U.S. or other major markets of the world.

¹⁰ USL 12584, USL 12585

E. Upsher-Smith's Patent Position on Niacor-SR Was Weak, Especially in Non-NAFTA Countries

At the time of the Schering-Upsher Agreement, Upsher-Smith had no issued patents, and only one patent application, in the EU. A cross-license agreement between Upsher-Smith and Kos Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Kos), moreover, meant that even the meager patent rights Schering did receive under the Schering-Upsher Agreement were, in effect, non-exclusive.

1. The following was Upsher-Smith's entire patent position on Niacor-SR, as presented to Schering prior to the Schering-Upsher Agreement:¹¹

Evanstad Patent (Evanstad, Malhotra & O'Neill, U.S. patent # 5,126,145)

- a. Composition-of-matter patent for a controlled-release tablet containing a water-soluble medicament.
- b. Issued in the U.S. on 6/30/92.
- c. Issued in Australia and India.
- c. Filed in Japan and Korea, status pending.
- d. **BUT not filed in the EU, Schering's major market for Niacor-SR.**

O'Neill Patent (O'Neill & Evanstad, U.S. patent # 5,268,181)

- a. Method-of-use patent for the suppression of nocturnal cholesterol synthesis with a prolonged-release dosage of niacin.
- b. Issued in the U.S. on 12/7/93.
- c. Filed throughout the EU on 6/29/93, status pending.

2. Upsher-Smith had entered into a patent cross-license agreement¹² with a competitor, Kos Pharmaceuticals, Inc. The licenses granted by the agreement gave to Kos the right to sub-license products made under Upsher-Smith's patents, while Upsher-Smith was not granted the corresponding right regarding

¹¹ SP16 00062-64

¹² USL 11399-11418

Kos's patents.^{13,14} Thus Kos would be able to practice Upsher-Smith's patent (for instance, make a product identical to, or better than, Niacor-SR) and then license the product in any territory to any major pharmaceutical company and thereby create direct competition to Schering. This situation, in effect, rendered as non-exclusive the supposed exclusive license granted to Schering by Upsher-Smith in the Schering-Upsher Agreement.

F. Niacor-SR Faced a Direct Competitor, Niaspan[®] (Kos Pharmaceuticals, Inc.) Which Was Well-ahead in Development and That Had Distinct Performance and Safety Advantages

1. Niaspan is another sustained-release formulation of niacin that was developed by Kos Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Schering knew that Kos had filed the NDA on Niaspan in May, 1996.¹⁵ Upsher-Smith, which, at the time of its Schering-Upsher Agreement with Schering, was projecting filing its NDA on Niacor-SR in December, 1997, thus was at least eighteen months behind Kos. (Niaspan was approved by the FDA in August, 1997.)

2. Niaspan had some clear advantages over Niacor-SR that were apparent at the time of the Schering-Upsher Agreement:

a. Niaspan was a once/day product, while Niacor-SR had to be administered twice/day. A drug given once/day offers much better patient convenience and compliance than does a twice/day drug, a factor that translates into a major advantage in the marketplace.

b. Niaspan did not show the liver enzyme elevations¹⁶ seen with Niacor-SR.

The advantages of Niaspan over Niacor-SR were acknowledged by Ms. Denise Dolan, a Product Manager for Upsher-Smith: "Kos is expected to launch Niaspan, a once-daily, controlled release formulation of niacin in late 1997 with superior cholesterol level results and side effects profile."¹⁷

¹³ USL 11401-2 and USL 11406

¹⁴ Deposition of Daniel Bell, page 63

¹⁵ SPCID2 1A 00109

¹⁶ Elevations in the blood levels of the enzymes, SGOT and SGPT, are strongly suggestive of damage to liver cells.

¹⁷ USL 13190.

G. Unsuccessful Attempts by Upsher-Smith (Prior to the Schering-Upsher Agreement) to Find a European Licensee for Niacor-SR

1. David Pettit, a consultant hired by Upsher-Smith, tried unsuccessfully for over six months to find a licensee for the European rights to Niacor-SR. A contact summary produced by Mr. Pettit listed 41 companies, including **Schering-Plough Limited** (Schering's United Kingdom operation), that had rejected the opportunity to license Niacor-SR.¹⁸

2. Ms. Victoria O'Neill, Upsher-Smith's Vice President of Business Development and Project Management, wrote that the company would have been willing to license Niacor-SR "in exchange for initial or 'up-front' payments (which may be in the form of milestones against pre-agreed criteria) and they would seek royalties on net trade sales if the product is sourced within the EU or built into transfer pricing if the product is manufactured for Upsher-Smith in the USA."¹⁹ This argues that Upsher-Smith would not have required *non-contingent* up-front payments, particularly payments as large as \$60 million, for the rights to Niacor-SR.

H. Summary of My Perception of Niacor-SR Based on Information Readily Available to Schering at the Time of the Schering-Upsher Agreement

1. The drug had clinical efficacy similar to that of immediate-release niacin in lowering LDL cholesterol and triglycerides and raising HDL cholesterol.

2. The drug showed clear evidence of hepatotoxicity that, unless mitigated, would be unacceptable.

3. The drug decreased, but not sufficiently, the flushing caused by immediate-release niacin.

4. Patent protection for the drug, particularly in the EU, was weak or even non-existent.

¹⁸ USL 11507-9

¹⁹ USL 11361. Italics added to emphasize part of the quotation.

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5. The drug faced direct competition from Niaspan, which was at least eighteen months ahead in development and had a better safety profile and superior dosing schedule.

IV. Analysis of Schering's Due-diligence on Niacor-SR

A. Personnel

1. Mr. Raman Kapur was an unusual choice as the internal "champion" and principal negotiator for Niacor-SR. He was the head of Schering's U.S. generic pharmaceutical business, a position that would not typically find him leading the deal for a branded pharmaceutical product to be sold principally in the EU.

2. Mr. James M. Audibert carried out almost all the due-diligence on Niacor-SR. Audibert testified that he could recall no one, other than his boss, Mr. Thomas Lauda, with whom he discussed the project during his assessment of Niacor-SR.²⁰ It is my opinion that Mr. Audibert was quite junior to handle by himself the due-diligence on a project that the company valued so highly as to pay a \$60 million non-contingent licensing fee.

3. It was strange to me that David Poorvin, Ph.D., Schering's Vice President of Worldwide Licensing, did not seem to be involved at all with the licensing of Niacor-SR. Dr. Poorvin is a very experienced licensing executive, who signed most of the other in-licensing agreements for branded pharmaceuticals that were executed at or around the time of the Schering-Upsher Agreement.

B. A Multitude of Routine Efforts Were Missing from Schering's Due-diligence on Niacor-SR

1. Safety assessment by the Schering-Plough Research Institute (SPRI).

a. Mr. Thomas Lauda, Schering's Executive Vice President for Global Marketing, under whom were Audibert and the company's entire licensing effort, said, in discussing the requisite due-diligence on an in-licensing candidate: "In all cases he has to have a safety

²⁰ Deposition of James M. Audibert, pages 31-32

review. The product has to be reviewed by the Institute to agree with its safety."²¹ By "institute" he is referring to SPRI.

There was no evidence that such a safety review was performed by SPRI or any other persons or groups with professional qualifications to review the safety of Niacor-SR. Indeed, it is inconceivable to me that any such review would have missed the hepatotoxicity data and other adverse effects of Niacor-SR described in previous sections of this report.

2. Analysis of pre-clinical (animal) and clinical data on efficacy and safety of the in-licensing candidate by R & D personnel, in addition to the aforementioned safety assessment.

a. Mr. Martin Driscoll, Vice President of Marketing and Sales for Schering's Primary Care Business Unit, said: "Well, importantly one element of due diligence that's essential is if, for example, you're looking to license a product, we want to ensure that the clinical profile is what the other party has stated it is in terms of safety and efficacy. Our research people will evaluate it to determine whether the product is safe and effective under our standards, the standards of the federal government or the various regulatory agencies. That's one element of the due diligence."²²

3. Input from top managers in the EU regarding the market potential of Niacor-SR in their territories.

a. It is almost inconceivable to me that any company would pay \$60 million for the rights to a drug without checking with, and getting the enthusiastic support of, the persons directly responsible for selling it, including:

- i. Mr. H.-J. Kummer, Schering's President of Europe/Canada
- ii. Managers of individual countries in the EU. (Indeed, Niacor-SR had already been rejected by Schering-Plough Limited, Schering's United Kingdom subsidiary.)²³

²¹ Deposition of Thomas Lauda, page 64

²² Deposition of Martin Driscoll, page 44

²³ USL 11509

b. Mr. Jeffrey A. Wasserstein, who, at the time of the Schering-Upsher Agreement, was Schering's Staff Vice President, Corporate Business Development, reporting to the Vice Chairman of the company, and who was involved with the presentation regarding Niacor-SR and the Schering-Upsher Agreement made to Schering's Board of Directors, said in his deposition that he had "no personal knowledge of anyone in international who was or was not interested"²⁴ in Niacor-SR.

4. Input from Regulatory Affairs, particularly those individuals responsible for the EU and Japan, regarding the likelihood, timing, etc. of regulatory approval in the various jurisdictions.

a. For instance, an assessment of what studies would be required in the EU in addition to those conducted for the U.S. NDA filing.

b. Regulatory authorities in many countries of the EU impose pricing restrictions on new pharmaceutical products. The opinions of individuals with expertise on such authorities would be vital to an assessment of the revenue potential of Niacor-SR in the EU. Such was a particularly important issue in view of the presence of very cheap over-the-counter niacin products in several markets of the EU.

c. Examination of the minutes of Upsher-Smith's Niacor-SR project team meetings would have shown to Schering that Upsher-Smith was very likely to encounter difficulties at the FDA regarding the conduct of its pharmacokinetic studies and, probably, its general data management as well.²⁵ Since so much of Schering's regulatory strategy involved leveraging FDA's acceptance of Upsher-Smith's U.S. clinical data in the EU, it would have been important to secure the opinion of individuals with expertise on U.S. regulatory matters regarding the FDA's probable response to Upsher-Smith's data.

5. Intellectual property review.

a. The entire prosecution file on each of the patents and patent applications covered under the prospective license typically would be

²⁴ Deposition of Jeffrey A. Wasserstein, page 59

²⁵ USL 12588, USL 12591, USL 12598

reviewed by patent counsel. It is important to examine the prosecution history of a patent to ascertain the likelihood of the patent's sustaining a challenge.

b. Detailed examination of any interferences that may have been provoked against any of the patent applications.

c. Examination of any pre-existent cross-licenses or other encumbrances involving the patent rights being licensed. Certainly, the aforementioned cross-license agreement with Kos would have greatly influenced the valuation of Upsher-Smith's patent position on Niacor-SR.

6. Input from Manufacturing.

a. A pharmaceutical company typically would have sought an assessment by its manufacturing personnel regarding whether Upsher-Smith would be able to supply product for the EU and Japan, particularly since Upsher-Smith was principally a U.S. company and had almost no non-NAFTA experience.

b. A pharmaceutical company also typically would have assured that alternate manufacturing sites were available and able to manufacture the product in case of a failure, regulatory closure, etc. affecting Upsher-Smith's manufacturing capability.

7. Financial analysis of Niacor-SR. This seems only to have been done by James Audibert, who was perhaps qualified to do a preliminary analysis but did not have the background, nor did he secure the input, to perform the detailed financial analysis requisite to an informed decision regarding a prospective in-licensing opportunity.

C. The Financial Projections in Audibert's Evaluation of Niacor-SR Were Based on At Least Five Spurious Assumptions²⁶

1. He assumed that Niacor-SR would have labeling for co-administration with a statin.²⁷ BUT Upsher-Smith had no clinical trials anywhere testing the efficacy

²⁶ SP16 00040-47

²⁷ SP16 00045

and safety of the co-administration of Niacor-SR with a statin, and there were no plans for Schering to conduct such trials. Such co-administration, therefore, could not have been promoted.

a. This contrasts sharply with Schering's own on-going efforts with ezetimibe, Schering's new cholesterol-lowering drug, which is being tested in clinical trials both as a single agent and in combination with a statin.

2. He assumed that Niacor-SR would be the only sustained-release niacin in the EU until 2002. BUT Kos's Niaspan was about to be approved in the U.S. and could have been approved in the EU well before Niacor-SR.

3. He assumed that Niacor-SR would have a selling price in the EU of 50% of that of Lipitor[®] (the top-selling statin.) Audibert's assumptions, however, did not consider a number of factors that very likely would have led to very low pricing for Niacor-SR in the EU:

a. Very inexpensive over-the-counter niacin was available in several EU countries, a fact that would certainly have influenced the market, as well as the regulatory authorities that set the pricing for pharmaceuticals in many EU countries. Indeed, some countries in the EU set the price at the level of the lowest price charged for the active ingredient in a product, in the case of Niacor-SR, the price of niacin.

b. Niacin is an old drug, and the EU regulatory authorities do not typically give premium pricing to old drugs in new formulations.

c. Inexpensive generic cholestyramine (a bile acid sequestrant) was widely available throughout the EU and was utilized clinically in a manner very similar to the use of niacin and the projected use of Niacor-SR (i.e., as an adjunct to diet and statin therapy.) Accordingly, I believe that generic cholestyramine might have been used by EU regulatory authorities as a pricing comparator for Niacor-SR.

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4. He assumed that Niacor-SR would have minimal side effects. BUT the documents that he reviewed showed clearly that Upsher-Smith's clinical trials had shown:

- a. Elevated liver enzymes;
- b. A high incidence of drop-outs and dose-reductions among subjects taking Niacor-SR;
- c. Flushing in 87% of patients.

5. He neglected to include the 10-15% royalty expense in his calculations and projections of profits from the sale of Niacor-SR.²⁸

D. Audibert's Financial Projections for Niacor-SR Were Significantly Higher Than Those of Other Individuals

1. Audibert projected that Schering's sales of Niacor-SR would be \$45 million in year 1, reach \$114 million by year 3, \$126 million by year 4 and then flatten, resulting in profits of \$345 million in the first 5 years of sales.²⁹ These figures were based on Niacor-SR's capturing 1.5%³⁰ of the non-NAFTA market for cholesterol-lowering agents by year 3. I think the 1.5% market share projected by Audibert was an arbitrary and ambitious figure for two reasons:

a. Sales of niacin products in 1996 represented less than 0.1% of the non-NAFTA sales for cholesterol-lowering agents, with sales of not just the statins, but the fibrates and bile acid sequestrants as well, dwarfing those of niacin products.³¹

b. Japan and the EU comprise the bulk of the non-NAFTA pharmaceutical market. While Audibert did project plans to register Niacor-SR in the EU, he made no mention of Japan. This is consistent with Lauda's statement that Schering derived 80% of its non-U.S. sales from the EU.³² The absence of Niacor-SR sales in Japan, or even the sublicensing of Niacor-SR to a company with a strong presence in Japan,

²⁸ SP16 00035-36

²⁹ *Ibid*

³⁰ SP16 00046-47

³¹ SP16 00447-52

³² Deposition of Thomas C. Lauda, page 102

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would mean that Schering would have to achieve greater than a 2% market share in the EU to approach the 1.5% figure projected by Audibert.

2. Ms. Denise Dolan, a marketing specialist for Upsher-Smith itself, estimated that her company would achieve, in the U.S., Niacor-SR sales of only \$5.7 million in year 1, rising to about \$7.5 million by year 4.³³

3. Mr. James J. Egan, the Director of Licensing for G. D. Searle, evaluated both Niacor-SR and Niaspan and opined that the market for a sustained-release niacin product in the EU would have been \$25-30 million. He also expressed the concerns noted above about low pricing of the product in the EU.³⁴

4. Mr. Martin Driscoll, who had been closely involved in Schering's consideration of Niaspan, said he had projected the total U.S. market for Niaspan at a maximum of \$60-70 million³⁵ (and the EU market is considerably smaller than that of the U.S.)

E. Audibert Maintained That Prior Due-diligence on Kos's Niaspan, Because of Its Similarity to Niacor-SR, Obviated the Need for Much of the Due-diligence That Normally Would have Been Performed on Niacor-SR

1. BUT Driscoll noted, in discussing Schering's interactions with Kos regarding Niaspan: "...we simply didn't get into a substantive due diligence." And he said that the only documents provided by Kos were "summaries of their pivotal clinical trials."³⁶

2. Driscoll had rejected Niaspan, in large part because it caused flushing in 88% of patients during Kos's clinical trials: "First and foremost as I reviewed the clinical information on the product, I felt they had too high a rate of flushing, and I remember - I remember this number, it's just in my memory, that they had an 88 percent incidence of flushing in their pivotal clinical trial."³⁷

³³ USL 13190-7

³⁴ Deposition of James J. Egan, pages 60-61

³⁵ Deposition of Martin Driscoll, page 90

³⁶ Deposition of Martin Driscoll, page 89

³⁷ *Ibid*, page 85

3. The deposition (and associated exhibits) of Mr. Mukesh Patel, Kos's Vice President of Licensing, suggested that Audibert was not a central figure in Schering's discussions with Kos:³⁸

a. Ms. Karin Gast, Senior Director, Business Development, at Schering, led the interactions with Kos.

b. Conference calls on April 9, 1997 and April 25, 1997 included, among the Schering participants, Ms. Gast, Mr. Ray Russo and Ms. Antonia De Moia, but not Audibert.

c. The only mention that I could find of Audibert's involvement in the Kos discussions was the log of a phone call on March 13, 1997 between Gast, Russo and Audibert from Schering and Bell and Heatherman from Kos.³⁹

F. Summary of My Opinion on Schering's Due-diligence Efforts Prior to the Schering-Upsher Agreement

1. The due-diligence effort conducted by Schering did not reach what I would consider even a minimal level for the in-licensing of a pharmaceutical product.

2. There was no apparent reason for the hasty (5 days) and sub-minimal effort, since neither Audibert nor Lauda "recalls that there was any particular urgency to complete the assessment in an unusually short time frame."⁴⁰

V. Analysis of the Schering-Upsher Agreement

A. Description of the Agreement⁴¹

The Schering-Upsher Agreement is a three-page letter, with an eight-page Exhibit A, sent on June 17, 1997 by Mr. Raman Kapur of Schering to Mr. Ian Troup, President of Upsher-Smith, and executed by him on June 19, 1997, though the effective

³⁸ Deposition of Mukesh Patel, Exhibits 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

³⁹ SPCID2 1A 00109-10

⁴⁰ Memorandum of Schering-Plough Corporation to the Federal Trade Commission Concerning File No. 9910256 from Howrey Simon Arnold & White, LLP, March 23, 2001, page 19

⁴¹ USL 03183-93

date is stated as June 17, 1997. The Schering-Upsher Agreement anticipated the subsequent execution of a Detailed Agreement but, nevertheless, was binding upon the parties, contingent only upon the approval of the Schering-Upsher Agreement by the Schering Board of Directors on or about June 24, 1997. The Schering-Upsher Agreement dealt with two disparate issues: 1) settlement of a dispute between Upsher-Smith and Schering concerning Schering's extended-release potassium chloride product, K-Dur, and Upsher-Smith's desire to market a like product; 2) licensing by Upsher-Smith to Schering of six products, most notably Niacor-SR. This report is only directly concerned with the latter issue, and the analysis that follows in this Section deals only with the latter issue.

B. Schering's Stated Rationale for Licensing Niacor-SR Was Ezetimibe

A major theme of Schering's explanation⁴² for its licensing of Niacor-SR involved ezetimibe, a drug being developed by Schering and currently in Phase III clinical trials. Ezetimibe is a new class of drug that inhibits cholesterol absorption and could become one of Schering's major products. Schering has stated that, in order to maximize the sales potential of ezetimibe, it must build a major presence in the cardiovascular drug marketplace. Accordingly, Schering has argued that Niacor-SR would have given it the basis on which to begin the building of such a presence. As proof-principle of this argument, Schering has stated that, because of the failure of Niacor-SR, the company now has been forced to seek an alliance with Merck to co-market ezetimibe.⁴³ I did not find Schering's rationale for the Niacor-SR deal convincing for a number of reasons:

1. The Schering-Merck agreement is only for the U.S.,^{44,45} a territory where Schering never had rights to Niacor-SR; so how could the failure of Niacor-SR have necessitated the Merck agreement?
2. Ezetimibe is now in Phase III clinical trials in the U.S., with approval expected in 2003. Schering projected EU approval of Niacor-SR for late 1998. It does not seem reasonable to me that Schering would have built, around a minimal product like Niacor-SR, a marketing organization capable of handling a

⁴² Memorandum of Schering-Plough Corporation to the Federal Trade Commission Concerning File No. 9910256 from Howrey Simon Arnold & White, LLP, March 23, 2001, page 19

⁴³ *Ibid*, page 20

⁴⁴ Reuters Limited, "Schering-Plough, Merck Forge Pact," *Yahoo.com*, May 23, 2000

⁴⁵ Harris, Gardiner, "Drug Makers Pair Up to Fight Key Patent Losses," *Wall Street Journal*, May 24, 2000, page B1

potential blockbuster like ezetimibe, especially without the U.S. market and with at least five years' hiatus between the drugs.

3. Schering said that it did not do the earlier deal with Kos Pharmaceuticals for Niaspan (a once/day product almost two years ahead of Niacor-SR and for which U.S. rights were available) primarily because Kos demanded that Schering commit to giving Niaspan considerable primary detailing activity (i.e., salespersons would promote Niaspan before other products.) Such contradicts the deposition of Driscoll, who said that he rejected Niaspan largely because of its high incidence of flushing.⁴⁶ Driscoll's opinion notwithstanding, if Schering's rationale for in-licensing a sustained-release niacin product really was to provide a foundation for the building of a sales force for ezetimibe, then Schering would have had no difficulty in providing primary detailing for Niaspan during the prolonged period between the launch of Niaspan and that of ezetimibe. What else would the specialty sales force for ezetimibe have done while waiting for the approval of ezetimibe?

C. Terms of the Schering-Upsher Agreement

1. Licensed products and their respective territories are listed in Section III.A. An exclusive, paid-up, royalty-free license, with the right to grant sublicenses, was granted to Schering for all the products, except Niacor-SR. The license grant for Niacor-SR was also exclusive, with the right to grant sublicenses, but bore the royalty and milestone payment obligations described below.

2. Unconditional, non-refundable fees, totaling \$60 million, were to be paid to Upsher-Smith by Schering as follows:

- a. \$28 million immediately (actually within 48 hours of the date of approval of the Schering-Upsher Agreement by the Schering Board, the "Approval Date");
- b. \$20 million upon the first anniversary of the Approval Date;
- c. \$12 million upon the second anniversary of the approval Date.

⁴⁶ Deposition of Martin Driscoll, page 85

3. Milestone payments upon the first commercial sale of Niacor-SR by Schering or its sublicensee in each of the following countries were to be paid to Upsher-Smith by Schering:

- | | | |
|----|---|--------------|
| a. | United Kingdom | \$1 million; |
| b. | Germany | \$1 million; |
| c. | France | \$1 million; |
| d. | Spain | \$1 million; |
| e. | Italy | \$1 million; |
| f. | Belgium/the Netherlands | \$1 million; |
| g. | Japan | \$2 million; |
| h. | Latin America | \$1 million; |
| i. | Australia, Taiwan, Korea
or South Africa | \$1 million. |

4. Royalties on aggregate net sales of Niacor-SR by Schering and its sublicensees equal to 10% of net sales up to \$50 million and 15% of net sales in excess of \$50 million were to be paid to Upsher-Smith by Schering.

D. Unusual Features of, and Items Missing from, the Schering-Upsher Agreement

I recognize that the Schering-Upsher Agreement anticipated the execution of a Detailed Agreement to supercede the June 17, 1997 agreement, but this Detailed Agreement was never executed. The comments in this section are not meant to enumerate the myriad detailed clauses, definitions and protections that are typically found in a full license agreement and that, presumably, would have been found in the Detailed Agreement. Rather, my comments refer to some major items that, in my opinion, would have been covered in even a brief, but binding, letter agreement that was meant to precede a full license agreement.

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1. \$60 million in non-contingent payments. In my opinion and experience, it is almost unheard of for a pharmaceutical company to make such a large non-contingent cash payment for an unapproved pharmaceutical. Occasionally, such payments are made for a potential "blockbuster" drug that represents a major therapeutic advance and for which the license has been actively sought by several major pharmaceutical companies. Even the very optimistic perceptions voiced by Schering and Upsher-Smith would not put Niacor-SR even close to the "blockbuster" class, and there was no evidence that any company was seriously interested in a license for Niacor-SR, particularly for the non-U.S. market. The fact that the Upsher-Smith:Kos cross-licensing agreement in effect meant that Schering's license for Niacor-SR was non-exclusive made the \$60 million payment even more unreasonable.

2. In my experience, one of the major elements of a license agreement has been the clear assurances by both licensee and licensor that they will diligently carry out the activities necessary to effectively develop and market the licensed product. The licensor almost always demands time-specific milestones, with the ability to revoke the license if the licensee has not been sufficiently assiduous in developing and marketing the licensed product. The licensee, likewise, almost always demands that the licensor explicitly agree to carry out those development and patenting activities upon which the approval and commercial success of the product depends. The Schering-Upsher Agreement had no such assurances from either party. Most glaring of these omissions was the absence of a commitment by Upsher-Smith to pursue with diligence the requirements for the filing of its U.S. NDA for Niacor-SR. Schering's entire strategy for the development of Niacor-SR depended upon its use in the EU of Upsher-Smith's data and U.S. NDA filings.

3. Also in my experience, licensees have always demanded clear warranties by the licensor regarding the licensor's ownership of the products and intellectual property being licensed. The Schering-Upsher Agreement contains no such warranty from Upsher-Smith.

E. Other Agreements Where Schering Was the Licensee

I was provided thirteen agreements executed by Schering with eleven different licensors. I read all these agreements and considered eight of them to have enough similarities to the Schering-Upsher Agreement as to be comparable. I have briefly described in Table 1 the salient features of each of these eight agreements (plus those

of the Schering-Upsher Agreement) with the emphasis on affording a comparison with the Schering-Upsher Agreement. The agreements are listed in the Table in alphabetical order of the licensor.

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Table 1: Comparison of Schering's In-licensing Agreements¹

Licensor	Date of the Agreement	Licensed Product and/or Intellectual Property	Non-contingent Fees	Milestone Payments	Royalties	Territory	Conditions	Payer of Development Costs	Comments
Interogenics, Inc.	02/1/99	Soluble analogs of Probiocin plus a Compound Library	\$2.5 M	\$2M: completion of CART Study \$5M: Start Phase III \$10M: Approval U.S. \$7.5M: sales \$300M \$15M: sales \$600M \$22.5M: sales \$900M \$30M: sales \$1.2B	15% where patent 7.5% no patent BUT Total COGS (incl. royalties) capped at 25%	U.S.	S-P must file IND by 12/31/01 & NDA by 12/31/05	S-P	Drug in late Phase II for treatment and prevention of coronary re-stenosis, a major clinical problem with no effective treatment. Secondary indications for treatment & prevention of atherosclerosis.
lection Dickinson and Company	1/15/99	Use of B-D Pan delivery system with S-P's PEG Intron-A	\$250K	\$100K for prototypes \$200K for validation of mold \$200K at first shipment		U.S.	S-P will purchase inhiurnins at a price set for 12 months, which can be increased according to B-D's COGS	S-P	This agreement provided a single-dose and metered-dose injection system for use with PEG Intron-A, one of S-P's major products.
Millish Biotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	1/1/99	Marimastat and back-up compounds	\$2M \$4M in stock at 2X price	\$6M (total): NDA filing in US or EU for small cell lung CA \$5M: approval for small cell lung CA \$5M: 2 nd approval \$5M: approval for advanced cancer \$5M: approval for colorectal cancer	Where patent: 12% <\$200M sales 15% \$200-400M 18% >\$400M Where no patent: 6, 7.5, 9% If 3 rd -party generic: 3, 3.75, 4.5%	World except U.K. and most of Far East	Many developmental & marketing demands placed on S-P. S-P can terminate if clinical trials suggest drug to be non-approvable.	S-P	Marimastat in Phase III & is the first of a potential breakthrough class of anti-cancer drugs known as matrix metalloproteinase inhibitors. These drugs may inhibit a major mechanism whereby cancers spread. Also potentially useful in many non-cancer diseases.
Santocor, Inc.	1/3/98	Infliximab (Avastin) for Crohn's Disease & Rheumatoid Arthritis	\$24.5M \$6M 12/31/98 BUT \$20M against devel. expenses	\$10M: approval for Crohn's Disease in EU \$20M: approval for rheum. arthritis in EU BUT no milestones if get	Split of "contribution income" (-pre-tax profits w/o devel. expenses): 66% to S-P on sales	World except U.S. & Far East	Many developmental & marketing demands placed on S-P, incl. loss of exclusivity if sales no exceed \$100M by 3 yr	Complex terms, but basically S-P pays nothing in 1998 & 1999	Infliximab is the first of a new class of drugs that block the effects of the inflammatory mediator, TNF-alpha. Inhibition of TNF-alpha is one of the Continued on the Next Page

				"Black Box" warning, re. certain safety issues that impact sales	<\$150M; 60% to S-P on sales >\$150M	World	after approval.	and then paries split costs thereafter	most important recent advances in the treatment of inflammatory disease.
Intron, Inc 029950	Application of Enzon's pegylation technology to S-P's Intron A to create a new drug, PEG-Intron-A	\$150K	\$450K: filing IND \$2.5M: 1 st successful clinical trial \$1M: PLA filing \$2M: PLA approval	If no competitors: 5% <\$200M sales 8% >\$200M sales If there is a competitive interferon then 3% & 6% rate	World	Development plan defined. Enzon has manufacturing rights.	S-P	Intron A is one of Schering's major products. Pegylation is a process that makes the Intron A last longer in the circulation and makes it relatively invisible to the immune system. It has given PEG-Intron-A an advantage over competitive interferon products.	
Amgen 028955	Ribavirin for hepatitis C; plus any improvements	\$23M plus \$7M stock purchase @ market price	\$20M stock purchase at approval in the U.S. \$15M stock purchase at approval in the EU	10% sales <\$80M 16% sales \$80-100M 20% sales >\$100M Certain minimums & royalty reductions	World, except ICN can also sell in EU & Egypt	Many development & marketing demands placed on S-P. Controls on competition with S-P from ICN selling drug for other indications.	S-P, except ICN pays 50% for EU up to \$5M	Ribavirin is the first oral drug effective against hepatitis C. Use of Intron-A against hepatitis C is one of S-P's major products. Ribavirin was thus a perfect fit for S-P, especially for use in combination with Intron-A.	
Neurogen Corp. 024995	D4 antagonists and all Neurogen's other dopamine agonists & antagonists	\$14M plus \$3M for Screening Agreement	\$3M: end Phase II for schizophrenia \$3M: NDA schizophrenia \$3M: approval U.S. \$3M: approval EU \$5.5M total: approval for other indications for D4 antagonists \$11M total: other products if sales >\$300M per year by year 3	8% on sales <\$200M 10% on \$200-500M 12% on >\$500M	World	Many development & marketing demands placed on S-P.	S-P funds 16 scientists at Neurogen and pays for development	Neurogen was one of the leading neuroscience research companies in the world, and S-P got exclusive access to one of Neurogen's most exciting research programs, with the potential to produce major breakthrough drugs for the treatment of psychiatric and neurologic diseases.	
P.P. Scherer Corp. 024999	Application of the Zydex technology to DCL (see comments)	\$350K	\$350K: 1 st NDA or ANDA filed \$250K: foreign NDA or ANDA filed \$450K: U.S. approval \$350K: foreign approval	2-6% depending upon sales levels	World	Scherer had development lines; S-P offered two \$1M incentive payments if lines were exceeded.	S-P	DCL-desorbethoxyforatacine, which is the active metabolite of Schering's major drug, Clonidine. Zydex technology is a fast-dissolving drug delivery system that S-P wanted to apply to DCL to make a better, proprietary Clonidine-like drug.	

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Schering-Plough Laboratories, Inc. 1797	Niacor-SR and five generic drugs	\$28M \$20M in 1 yr \$12M in 2 yr	\$1M each on approval in Germany, France, U.K., Italy, Spain, Benelux, Latin America & Australasia \$2M on approval in Japan	10% on sales <\$50M 15% on sales >\$50M	World except U.S., Canada Mexico	None	S-P in its territories

Abbreviations: K=thousands, M=millions, B=billions; S-P=Schering; PLA=Product License Application (similar to an NDA but for biological drugs); COGS=cost of goods sold

Refers to performance requirements imposed on the licensors and licensees; list, of course, is not extensive and is meant merely to show the agreement's general tenor.

A "Black Box" warning refers to requirement by the FDA and/or other regulatory agencies that the package insert and other written descriptions and promotions of the product have, in clear type contained in a black-bordered box, warnings about specific potential adverse effects, contraindications or other problems concerning the product. A "Black Box" rather unusual, is a significant warning about the product and, almost always, compromises sales of the product.

The five agreements provided by Schering but not included in the Table are:

- Distribution agreement with Centocor, Inc. for Infliximab. The license agreement for Infliximab was included in the Table, and this distribution agreement merely spelled out details of marketing and sales issues to which allusion was made in the Table.
- Stock purchase agreement with ICN Pharmaceuticals, Inc. The license agreement was listed in the Table, and included were the stock purchase provisions.
- Collaboration and license agreement with Pharmacia, Inc. Pharmacia is a company that conducts a specialized form of chemical research useful for the discovery of drugs. This was really a research agreement, under which Schering made no up-front payments but funded 42 scientists at Pharmacia.
- Option agreement with Silicon Microdevices, Inc. This was a research/collaboration agreement, under which Silicon Microdevices and Schering would try to combine their technologies to invent a means of delivering insulin through the skin without using injection. Schering paid a one-time "access fee" of \$40,000.
- Co-promotion agreement by and between Bristol-Myers Squibb Company (BMS) and Schering Sales Management, Inc. This was not a licensing agreement. It was a co-promotion agreement, under which Schering paid BMS for the right to co-market one of BMS's new approved drugs, the broad-spectrum fluoroquinolone antibiotic, Tequin.

F. Summary Comments on the Schering-Upsher Agreement

1. A non-contingent payment of \$60 million was greatly in excess of non-contingent payments made by Schering, and, in my experience, other companies, for pharmaceuticals with much greater sales potential than that of Niacor-SR. Only two of the agreements listed in the table included non-contingent payments amounting to even half of \$60 million. Both of these agreements were for drugs that provided entirely new classes of therapy and that had market potential much in excess of even Audibert's projections for Niacor-SR. The ICN agreement was worldwide, and the licensed product, Ribavirin, was a perfect complement to Intron-A, one of Schering's major products. The licensed product in the Centocor agreement was considered a potential breakthrough in the treatment of Crohn's Disease and rheumatoid arthritis. Moreover, of the \$30.5 million in the Centocor agreement, \$20 million was applied against Schering's portion of development expenses. The British Biotech agreement included only a \$6 million non-contingent payment (of which \$4 million was stock) and granted almost worldwide rights to what could be an enormous breakthrough in the therapy of cancer. The Enzon, Scherer and Becton Dickinson agreements each included non-contingent payments of less than \$1 million but provided to Schering technologies of considerable importance to various of Schering's major marketed products.

2. Most in-licensing agreements for unapproved pharmaceuticals, including all the other agreements listed in Table 1, provide higher payments contingent upon the licensed product's achieving various milestones, most importantly, approval in major markets, than they do non-contingent payments. Such was not the case with the Schering-Upsher Agreement, this fact being particularly odd in view of the myriad factors that any informed party would have recognized as major risks to the approvability and marketability of Niacor-SR.

3. In my opinion, neither party built into the Schering-Upsher Agreement the rudimentary performance and due-diligence provisions that would have been demanded by any party serious about the development and marketing of the licensed product.

VI. Activities of the Parties After the Schering-Upsher Agreement

A. Upsher-Smith's Activities

1. I was provided documents that appeared to be the minutes of Upsher-Smith's Niacor-SR project meetings:

8/14/97: They seemed to be making some progress on the development of assays requisite to the pharmacokinetic studies demanded by the FDA and with which the company had been struggling since early in the year, but questions were raised about the impact of the study delays on the development timeline. Also noted that Niaspan had been approved and indicated a consequent need to revise and update their marketing plans.⁴⁷

10/21/97: Assay development for pharmacokinetic studies still progressing; samples collected. Team has decided to develop an ANDA⁴⁸ strategy and conduct only minimal activity on the NDA strategy while this plan is being developed and evaluated.⁴⁹ **I find it incredible that Upsher-Smith would take such steps without at least conferring with Schering unless they knew that Schering was not very serious about developing Niacor-SR.**

11/13/97: No mention of pharmacokinetic studies. Repeated plan to develop an ANDA strategy. The ANDA (generic) product now seems to have been given a name, Niacin ER.⁵⁰

1/15/98: Niacor-SR project has been put on hold.⁵¹

There are considerable inconsistencies in the record regarding when Upsher-Smith actually terminated its efforts to develop Niacor-SR as an

⁴⁷ USL 12583

⁴⁸ ANDA = Abbreviated New Drug Application. An ANDA is an application made to the FDA for the approval of a generic drug and is based on the concept that the generic drug is equivalent to a marketed drug that is no longer covered by patents. In this case, Upsher-Smith intended to maintain that Niacor-SR was a generic version of Kos' Niaspan. Unlike an NDA, an ANDA does not require clinical trials demonstrating the safety and efficacy of the drug and, accordingly, is a much simpler filing. But an ANDA would be of no use to Schering's effort to register Niacor-SR in the EU or any other country, and Upsher-Smith's change to an ANDA strategy would have had very deleterious effects on any of Schering's marketing plans, pricing assumptions and financial projections for Niacor-SR.

⁴⁹ USL 12581

⁵⁰ USL 12580

⁵¹ USL 12579

NDA product (10/97⁵² or 1/15/98⁵³). Regardless, it was almost a year (9/12/98) until they notified Schering.⁵⁴

B. Schering Gave No Indication of Being Serious About the Development of Niacor-SR in Its Territories

1. No evidence of a project team's having been formed.
2. No clinical trials were begun in the EU.
3. Upsher-Smith was having difficulty developing assay methodology for the conduct of pharmacokinetic studies mandated by the FDA. The pharmacokinetic studies were essential to Upsher-Smith's NDA filing on Niacor-SR and thus directly impacted the timelines for Schering's own development of the product. Such assay development is routine for the R&D departments of major pharmaceutical companies, and thus it seemed strange to me that Schering did not provide help to Upsher-Smith on this matter (or that Upsher-Smith did not ask for such help.)

⁵² *White Paper of Upsher-Smith Laboratories, Inc.*, pages 27-28

⁵³ USL 12579

⁵⁴ SP16 00057

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August 15, 2001 (10:03AM)

DOCUMENT LOG- Dr. Nelson Levy

Document Title	Bates Number Begin	Bates Number E
	FTC 0015138 Schering et al, D-9297	FTC 00151 Schering et al, D92
Complaint Counsel's Identification of Trial Experts		
Audibert investigational hearing transcript and exhibits		
Bell investigational hearing transcript and exhibits		
Driscoll investigational hearing transcript and exhibits		
Hoffman investigational hearing transcript and exhibits		
Kapur investigational hearing transcript and exhibits		
Kralovec investigational hearing transcript and exhibits		
Lauda investigational hearing transcript and exhibits		
O'Neill investigational hearing transcript and exhibits		
Patel investigational hearing transcript and exhibits		
Robbins investigational hearing transcript and exhibits		
Troup investigational hearing transcript and exhibits		

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	USL 12391	USL 123
	USL 12841	USL 128
	USL 15473	USL 154
	USL 15534	USL 155
	USL 21232	USL 212
03/23/01, White Paper of Schering-Plough Corporation		
	SP 05 00011	SP 05 000
	SP 16 00057	SP 16 000
	SP 16 00236	SP 16 002
	SP 18 00004	SP 18 000
	Schering-Plough White Paper Exhibits 0000189, Schering et al., 9910256	Schering-Plough White Paper Exhibits 00001 Schering et al., 99102
06/28/95, Collaboration and Licensing Agreement by and between Neurogen Corporation, Schering Corporation and Schering-Plough Ltd.		
07/28/95, Exclusive License and Supply Agreement between ICN Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and Schering-Plough Ltd.		
07/28/95, Stock Purchase Agreement by and between ICN Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and Schering-Plough Corporation		
04/03/98, Distribution Agreement by and Between Centocor, Inc. and Schering-Plough Ltd.	Schering-Plough 0000390, Schering et al., 991-0256	Schering-Plough 00005 Schering et al., 991-02
Co-promotion Agreement by and between Bristol-Myers Squibb Company and Schering Sales Management, Inc.	Schering-Plough 0000538, Schering et al., 991-0256	Schering-Plough 00006 Schering et al., 991-02

August 15, 2001 (10:03AM)

06/17/97, Key Pharmaceuticals, Inc. v. Upsher-Smith Laboratories, Inc. U.S.D.C., D.N.J. (Civil Action No. 956281 (WHW))	Schering-Plough 0000002, Schering et al., 991-0256	Schering-Plough 0000007, Schering et al., 991-02
	SPCID 00001	SPCID 0000
	SPCID 00090	SPCID 001
	SPCID 00138	SPCID 002
	SPCID 00442	SPCID 005
	SPCID 00255	SPCID 003
	SPCID 00695	SPCID 007
	SPCID 00631	SPCID 006
	FTC 0015038 Schering et al., D-9297	FTC 00150 Schering et al., D-92
	FTC 0015011 Schering et al., D-9297	FTC 00150 Schering et al., D-92
	FTC 0015024 Schering et al., D-9297	FTC 00150 Schering et al., D-92
	AAA 0000378	AAA 00003
	Moreton 0000001	Moreton 00007
	SP 12 00075	SP 12 001
	USL 02008	USL 020
	USL 09122	USL 091
	USL 09883	USL 098
	USL 11367	USL 113
	USL 11396	USL 114
	USL 11931	USL 119
	USL 11946	USL 119
	USL 12577	USL 126

August 15, 2001 (10:03AM)

	FTC 0015000 Schering et al., D9297	FTC 001501 Schering et al., D929
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that this 3rd day of January, 2002, I caused an original, one paper copy and an electronic copy of the foregoing Respondents' Joint Motion to Exclude the Expert Testimony of Dr. Nelson Levy and accompanying memorandum, to be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, and that two paper copies were served by hand upon:

Honorable D. Michael Chappell
Administrative Law Judge
Federal Trade Commission
Room 104
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20580

and one paper copy was hand delivered upon:

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