1 2	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION			
3 4	WENDY B. DOLIN, Individually and as) Independent Executor of the Estate of) STEWART DOLIN, deceased,			
5	Plaintiffs,)			
6	vs.		No. 12 CV 6403	
7 8	SMITHKLINE BEECHAM CORPORATION,) d/b/a GLAXOSMITHKLINE, a Pennsylvania) Corporation,)		Chicago, Illinois	
9	Defendant.)	March 21, 2017 1:20 p.m.	
10	VOLUME 5-B			
11	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS			
12	BEFORE THE HONORABLE WILLIAM T. HART, and a Jury			
13	APPEARANCES:			
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1	APPEARANCES (continued:)		
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1	(Proceedings heard in open court. Jury out.)
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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 (Proceedings heard in open court. Jury in.) 13 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. Please be seated. We'll resume. 14 15 Doctor, please. 16 You may proceed. 17 MR. WISNER: Thank you, your Honor. 18 DAVID ROSS, PLAINTIFF'S WITNESS, PREVIOUSLY SWORN 19 DIRECT EXAMINATION (Resumed) BY MR. WISNER: 20 21 Q. All right. Dr. Ross, do you have an opinion about whether 22 or not the labeling for GSK's Paxil was adequate as it relates 23 to adult suicide? 24 Can -- the Paxil label from when it was approved? 25 Q. Yes.

- 1 **A**. Okay. I do.
- 2 | Q. And do you have opinion about how that label existed
- 3 | starting in 1992?
- 4 | A. I do.
- 5 | Q. What is your opinion about that label, Doctor?
- $6 \parallel A$. It was falsely misleading at the time, and it remains so
- 7 | to the current day.
- 8 | Q. Why do you believe that the label as it first entered the
- 9 market in 1992 was both false and misleading?
- 10 A. So the statute says that misbranding as if the label is
- 11 | false or misleading in any particular, the particular here is
- 12 | that for adults is that the label doesn't tell prescribers or
- 13 patients that starting from the time of approval, the data
- 14 showed and the company knew that the chances of an adult
- 15 | getting Paxil resulting in suicidal behavior, that is, an
- 16 | attempt to kill oneself or actually killing oneself, was
- 17 | significantly greater in people exposed to Paxil versus those
- 18 ∥ who weren't.
- 19 MR. BAYMAN: Objection, your Honor. He said
- 20 prescriber or patients. The label goes to the prescriber.
- 21 | It's been the subject of a motion in limine about the duty to
- 22 | warn.
- 23 THE COURT: You can cover that on cross-examination.
- 24 | BY MR. WISNER:
- 25 | Q. Have you reviewed suicide data submitted by GSK in 1991

- 1 | prior to Paxil approval?
- 2 **A**. I have.
- 3 | Q. And generally, what percentage of patients taking Paxil
- 4 | versus patients not taking Paxil experienced suicidal behavior
- 5 or even committed suicide?
- 6 | A. Talking about just to clarify, the numbers given to the
- 7 | FDA or what really happened?
- 8 Q. What really happened.
- 9 A. What really happened was the proportion of patients who
- 10 | attempted suicide or actually succeeded in killing themselves
- 11 was about roughly 1.4 percent in people exposed to Paxil
- 12 compared to something less than 0.2 percent.
- 13 Q. And in the suicide report, did you look at the numbers
- 14 | that they put forward there?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 | Q. And would you recognize that suicide report if you saw it
- 17 | today?
- 18 **| A**. I would.
- 19 Q. Can you turn in your binder quickly to Page -- I'm sorry,
- 20 Plaintiff's Exhibit 82. Are you there?
- 21 **A**. I am.
- 22 **Q.** All right. What is Plaintiff's Exhibit 82?
- 23 A. This is a letter from the director of regulatory affairs
- 24 | at GlaxoSmithKline's predecessor company to the division --
- 25 the director of the division that was reviewing the Paxil NDA.

- 1 Q. And if you look on the back of that letter, is there a
- 2 | 1991 suicide report?
- 3 A. I'm sorry. The back of the letter?
- 4 | Q. If you turn the page a couple of pages attached to the
- 5 | letter.
- 6 A. Yes, there is.
- 7 MR. WISNER: Okay. Great. Your Honor, permission to
- 8 publish. This has already been shown to the jury.
- 9 THE COURT: I have -- we're on Exhibit 82; is that
- 10 | right?
- 11 MR. WISNER: Yes. Plaintiff's Exhibit 82.
- 12 THE COURT: And I have some material on the back
- 13 page, but I don't see any data.
- 14 MR. WISNER: Okay. If you look at Exhibit 82, your
- 15 | Honor --
- 16 THE COURT: Look at 82. Yes.
- 17 MR. WISNER: Okay. And you have a letter right
- 18 there. Do you see that?
- 19 | THE COURT: I have the letter.
- 20 MR. WISNER: And it's dated May 10th, 1991.
- 21 THE COURT: Correct.
- 22 MR. WISNER: Okay. Now, if you turn a couple of
- 23 pages past the weird obscured page --
- 24 THE COURT: This takes me to 85. It doesn't take me
- 25 | anywhere else.

- 1 MR. WISNER: Oh, you only have one page?
- 2 THE COURT: That's right.
- 3 ▮ MR. WISNER: Oh, I'm sorry, your Honor. Let me get
- 4 | you a full copy of that. May I approach, your Honor?
- 5 THE COURT: Yes.
- 6 MR. WISNER: I apologize, your Honor. Permission to
- 7 publish the document to the jury.
- 8 THE COURT: Yes.
- 9 MR. WISNER: Thank you.
- 10 BY MR. WISNER:
- 11 | Q. So Doctor, we're looking at the 1991 report here. Do you
- 12 | see that?
- 13 **A**. I do.
- 14 | Q. Okay. And if you turn through it, there's a page Table 1
- 15 that lists out suicides. Do you see that?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 | Q. Okay. Is there also a table in here that lists out
- 18 | suicide attempts?
- 19 **A**. Yes.
- 20 | Q. Okay. If you turn to the next page, we're going to look
- 21 at the suicide attempts right here.
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 | Q. Do you see that? Now, this has that 6 number right there
- 24 of placebo suicide attempts. Do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Again, did six suicide attempts occur in the placebo arm?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. And anywhere in the suicide report, does it disclose that
- 4 certain number of those actually occurred in the washout
- 5 | period?
- 6 A. No, it does not talk about that at all.
- $7 \parallel Q$. Okay. All right. Now, putting aside the placebo thing
- 8 for one second, let's focus on the actual attempted suicides
- 9 | here. We have 40 suicides. Do you see that?
- 10 **A**. Yes.
- 11 | Q. What does that 1.3 right there mean?
- 12 **A**. So that is --
- 13 MR. BAYMAN: Excuse me. You said suicides. It's 40
- 14 | suicide attempts. Objection.
- 15 BY MR. WISNER:
- 16 Q. I apologize. 40 suicide attempts.
- 17 | A. So that's the percentage you get when you divide 40 by the
- 18 denominator of 2,963.
- 19 Q. And what does that 1.3 mean?
- 20 A. So that means that of those 2,963 patients who got Paxil,
- 21 \ 1.3 percent of them attempted to kill themselves.
- 22 | Q. Now, under FDA regulations as they existed in 1992, with a
- 23 | 1.3 percent incident rate of suicide attempts, was there a
- 24 | requirement that GSK list suicide attempts as a frequent
- 25 | adverse event on the label?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Have you looked at the label for '92?
- 3 A. Yes, I have.
- 4 Q. Turn to Exhibit 48, Plaintiff's Exhibit 48.
- 5 A. Okay.
- 6 MR. BAYMAN: Objection, your Honor. This is not in 7 his expert report, so note my objection.
- 8 MR. WISNER: He's discussed the adequacy of the label 9 throughout his expert report. That's not true.
- MR. BAYMAN: Not in this section, your Honor, he did not.
- 12 THE COURT: Proceed.
- 13 BY MR. WISNER:
- 14 Q. All right. Doctor, what is the exhibit that we're looking
- 15 | at here, 48?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 | Q. What is it?
- 18 A. So -- I'm sorry. I just want to make sure I'm looking --
- 19 so this is the label that was approved when the drug was
- 20 initially approved for sale in the U.S.
- 21 Q. And is this a document that you relied upon?
- 22 | A. Yes, it is.
- 23 \mathbf{Q} . And talking about it would aid your -- aid you in your
- 24 | testimony today?
- 25 A. Yes, it would.

- 1 MR. WISNER: Your Honor, permission to publish.
- 2 THE COURT: You may proceed.
- 3 BY MR. WISNER:
- 4 | Q. All right. So what we have here, Doctor, it's really
- 5 small print, but thankfully due to technology, we can magnify
- 6 ∥ and read some portions. There is a -- let me just ask you,
- 7 | before I get into it, anywhere in this label, does it warn
- 8 about Paxil-induced suicidal behavior over the age of 30?
- 9 A. No, absolutely not.
- 10 Q. All right. Let's go into the label. And there's a
- 11 section here that's titled "Suicide." Do you see that,
- 12 Doctor? I have it blown up here so you can actually read it.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 | Q. Could you just read to the jury what it says?
- 15 A. "The possibility of a suicide attempt is inherent in
- 16 depression and may persist until significant remission
- 17 occurs. Close supervision of high-risk patients should
- 18 accompany initial drug therapy. Prescriptions for Paxil
- 19 should be written for the smallest quantity of tablets
- 20 consistent with good patient management in order to
- 21 reduce the risk of overdose."
- 22 | Q. Anywhere in that paragraph that you just read for the
- 23 | jury, does it warn that Paxil can induce a suicide attempt?
- 24 A. No.
- 25 | Q. What does that paragraph state, in your expert opinion?

- 1 A. This is the same kind of paragraph that you would see in
- 2 any antidepressant. Paxil happens to be filled in. It's
- 3 | almost like there's a template and they've written in "Paxil."
- 4 You would see similar language, I think, for any
- 5 antidepressant that was on the market at that point.
- 6 Q. It says, "suicide attempt is inherent in depression." Do
- 7 | you see that?
- 8 A. Yes.
- $9 \parallel Q$. Is that what the data that GSK had at the time showed?
- 10 **A**. Not -- I --
- 11 Q. What did it show?
- 12 A. It showed that the suicides, and I'm talking about
- 13 completed suicides, people who successfully killed themselves,
- 14 there were five in Paxil-exposed patients. There were none in
- 15 placebo-controlled, people without placebo.
- 16 Q. And what about suicide attempts here? It says "suicide
- 17 | attempts" here. How many were in the Paxil group?
- 18 \blacksquare A. So in terms of -- it's an interesting question. So
- 19 initially, what the company told the FDA was there were 42
- 20 suicide attempts. In '91, that decreased down to 40 without
- 21 any explanation but it was -- they just told the FDA it was 42
- 22 in 1989, and then they removed two of them in 1991.
- 23 Q. And when you combine both the suicide and the suicide
- 24 attempts, you got a risk ratio of what compared to placebo?
- 25 A. So again, we're talking about what actually happened here,

- 1 | not the numbers that the company gave the FDA. And the
- 2 | increase in risk, what we call the odds ratio, was about
- 3 | almost nine-fold for suicides plus suicide attempts.
- 4 | Q. Now, you're a general practitioner.
- 5 | A. Well, general internist.
- 6 | Q. Sorry, general internist. Apologies. Based on that --
- 7 | the experience as that kind of physician, when you read this
- 8 | statement about suicide, does it in any way suggest to you
- 9 that this drug can induce a suicidal behavior?
- 10 MR. BAYMAN: Objection, your Honor, no foundation.
- 11 And the witness has testified he's never prescribed an SSRI,
- 12 \blacksquare so I think this is -- it's improper, and there's no foundation.
- 13 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 14 | BY THE WITNESS:
- 15 ▮ A. So just to clarify, I take care of patients who have
- 16 depression, and I do prescribe antidepressants. So one thing
- 17 I have to consider in my prescribing decisions is what drug do
- 18 \mid I want to use. If I saw a nine-fold increase in the risk for
- 19 suicide, I would stay away from that drug.
- 20 BY MR. WISNER:
- 21 \mathbf{Q} . Fair enough. But we look at this paragraph, does it say
- 22 | anything about Paxil inducing suicide at all?
- 23 A. No.
- 24 Q. Does it -- does it suggest that actually that if there's
- 25 any suicidality, it's the underlying depression and not the

- 1 | drug?
- 2 A. That's how I read it.
- 3 | Q. So if you see this warning, and let's say you have a
- 4 | patient who starts experiencing suicidality, would you
- 5 | increase the dose to hopefully reduce the depression?
- 6 | A. I very well might.
- 7 | Q. Now, if you had known that the drug has a nine-time
- 8 chance -- nine times percent -- nine times increase in the
- 9 chance of inducing suicidal behavior, would you increase the
- 10 dose then?
- 11 A. Absolutely not.
- 12 Q. All right. Let's go to the second page of the label,
- 13 Doctor. And I want to focus in on a section of the label down
- 14 here. I'll pop it out for everybody. It says, "Other events
- 15 | observed during the pre-marketing evaluation of Paxil."
- 16 What does that mean, Doctor? Sorry. It's not --
- 17 | it's cut off.
- 18 A. Sure. Okay. So other events -- I'm sorry. I want to
- 19 | just make sure -- so "other" refers to other sections of the
- 20 | label that have been -- or other adverse events that have been
- 21 described elsewhere in the label. So these are things that
- 22 | are included in the warnings or are frequent adverse events.
- 23 | Q. Okay. So let's break this out. Pre-marketing evaluation
- 24 | of Paxil, what's that referring to?
- 25 A. That's the studies on the drug.

- 1 \ Q. And that's before it got approved?
- 2 A. Correct.

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Q. Okay. It goes on to say:

"During its pre-marketing assessment, multiple doses of Paxil were administered to 4,126 patients in Phase 2 and Phase 3 studies. The conditions and duration of exposure to Paxil varied greatly and included, in overlapping categories, open and double-blind studies, uncontrolled and controlled studies, inpatient and outpatient studies, and fixed-dose and titration studies."

Do you see that?

- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. So what sort of data is being used to generate this section of the label?
- A. So during the clinical trials, data is collected on depression and on various adverse events. And so at the end of the trial, they un-blind the trial if it's a blinded trial and say, which patient was taking which drug, and they count up how many adverse events occurred in how many patients, like how many patients had nausea, how many patients had an upset -- or headache, that sort of thing.
- Q. And this says uncontrolled, double-blind. Does this exclude any type of data that's collected?
- 25 A. Not from what I read here.

- 1 Q. So when we looked earlier at that chart that had 40
- 2 | suicide attempts, do you remember that?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 | Q. That's data collected from all the same studies that's
- 5 | listed here, right?
- 6 A. Yes.
- $7 \mid Q$. And in that chart that they submitted, there was an
- 8 | increased risk -- what was the incident rate again? It was 1
- 9 point what? I forgot.
- 10 | A. 1.4 percent.
- 11 | Q. Okay. So it goes on to say here:
- "Untoward events associated with this exposure were recorded by clinical investigators using terminology of their own choosing. Consequently, it is not possible to provide a meaningful estimate of the proportion of individuals experiencing adverse events without first grouping similar types of untoward events into a smaller
- number of standardized event categories."
- 19 What does that mean in simple terms?
- 20 A. So the way they ran the trials, different side effects
- 21 were called -- or could have been called by different things
- 22 at different clinical trial sites. So one investigator could
- 23 | say, well, this patient has an upset stomach. Another could
- 24 ∥ say they have nausea.
- 25 And if you were to just use those terms, you wouldn't

- 1 get the right number of events. You --instead of you saying,
- 2 | "We've got two patients with nausea," you'd say, "We've got
- 3 one with upset stomach and one with nausea."
- $4 \parallel Q$. And so what is it doing here by grouping them together?
- 5 | A. So it is giving you a meaningful, I think -- and this is
- 6 standard practice for both the FDA and the industry to say,
- 7 | let's count like with like.
- 8 Q. So, for example, in the suicide attempt, if someone were
- 9 to jump out of a window or someone were to do an overdose,
- 10 | although they're two different acts, they both fall into the
- 11 | same category of a suicide attempt --
- 12 **| A**. Exactly.
- 13 **Q**. -- is that right?
- 14 **A**. Exactly.
- 15 | Q. Okay. And in fact, based on the table that we looked at
- 16 | that had that over 1 percent number, that's what had happened
- 17 with those groupings; is that right?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Okay. All right. It goes on to read:
- 20 The tabulations that follow reported adverse events
- 21 -- in the tabulations that follow, reported adverse
- 22 events were classified using a standard -- and I'll blow
- 23 up the next part -- "COSTART-based dictionary
- 24 terminology. The frequencies presented, therefore,
- 25 represent the proportion of the 4,126 patients exposed to

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multiple doses of Paxil who experienced an event of the type cited on at least one occasion while receiving Paxil."

Do you see that, Doctor?

Α. Yes. 5

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- 6 Okay. And then let's go to the next paragraph -- what 7 does that mean? Before I move on, what does that mean?
- 8 Just bring that up again so I can --
- Q. Oh, sure.
- 10 Α. Sorry.
- 11 No problem. All right. There we go.
- 12 So COSTART was -- it still exists, but it's essentially a
- 13 list of standard terms. So if an investigator says the
- 14 patient has nausea, the COSTART term that you use is nausea.
- 15 If it's upset stomach, you use nausea. If it's dyspepsia, you
- 16 use nausea. So it maps different terms to the same concept.
- 17 So the frequencies, that is, the number of patients
- 18 who have that, had a particular adverse event, are used to
- 19 calculate the percentage of all the patients who are exposed
- 20 to multiple doses of Paxil, more than one dose of Paxil who
- 21 got -- had a side effect under that heading.
- 22 And isn't it true that "suicide attempt" is a COSTART term? Q.
- 23 Α. That is true.
- 24 Q. Okay. So if someone were to have had a suicide attempt,
- 25 there's no reason because of the dictionary that it wouldn't

- 1 ∥ have been coded as a suicide attempt, right?
- 2 MR. BAYMAN: Object to the leading, your Honor.
- THE COURT: Yes, you're leading.
- 4 MR. WISNER: Fair enough, your Honor. I'll rephrase.
- 5 BY MR. WISNER:
- 6 \parallel Q. Do you have any opinion about how a coding of a suicide
- 7 | attempt would be accomplished using the COSTART dictionary?
- 8 A. Yes. So these represent in general, to the extent
- 9 possible, mutually exclusive concepts. If you say that
- 10 somebody has nausea, you -- it can't be while they have nausea
- 11 because they are having a heart attack, okay, but sometimes
- 12 that's a symptom of a heart attack. If it was just nausea,
- 13 you put it under nausea. If it was nausea because their heart
- 14 wasn't getting enough blood, you would say myocardial
- 15 | infarction.
- 16 | Q. For the rest of us, a myocardial infarction is --
- 17 A. A heart attack.
- 18 | Q. Okay. All right. So have you ever heard of the term
- 19 "emotional lability"?
- 20 | A. I have.
- 21 | Q. Is that also in the COSTART dictionary?
- 22 MR. WISNER: Your Honor, objection. I know where
- 23 | this is going. Dr. Healy's covered it. It was not in his
- 24 report. It was not in his testimony. This is now beyond the
- 25 scope. And in this label, he has opinions about the 2010

- 1 | label. He's rendered no opinions in his report about the '92
- 2 | label which wasn't even the label in effect when Mr. Dolin
- 3 committed suicide.
- 4 THE COURT: You may answer.
- 5 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. Could you repeat your
- 6 | question?
- 7 ∥ BY MR. WISNER:
- 8 | Q. Sure. Are you familiar with the term "emotional lability"?
- 9 **∥ A**. Iam.
- 10 Q. Is that a term that's in the COSTART dictionary?
- 11 A. Not to the best of my knowledge.
- 12 $| Q \rangle$ And is the emotional lability term the same thing, in your
- 13 understanding, as a suicide attempt?
- 14 | A. No, it is not.
- 15 | Q. Okay. So the next paragraph goes:
- 16 | "Events are further categorized by body system and
- 17 | listed in order of decreasing frequency according to the
- 18 following definitions." And it says: "Frequent adverse
- 19 events are those occurring on one or more occasions in at
- 20 least 1 in 100 patients."
- 21 I'll stop right there. So what does that mean,
- 22 | Doctor?
- 23 | A. So for any given heading like nausea, you're going to
- 24 classify how often that happens according to these
- 25 definitions. Frequent is more often than 1 in 100.

- 1 Infrequent is 1 in 100 -- less than 1 in 100 but more than 1
- 2 | in 1,0000, and rare is if you only see it in 1 in 1,000
- 3 patients.
- 4 | Q. Based on the suicide report we looked at just a second
- 5 ago, how would you categorize suicide attempts?
- 6 | A. Well, I would categorize it as a frequent serious adverse
- 7 | event.
- 8 Q. Okay. Great. And it says there, "categorized by body
- 9 system." What does that mean?
- 10 A. So you can -- once you've mapped or combined terms that
- 11 mean the same thing, you can then -- you collect them
- 12 | together. You can then group terms that refer to the same
- 13 body system under that body system. So nausea would go under
- 14 the gastrointestinal system. Vomiting, which is a separate
- 15 | term, would go under gastrointestinal. If it is suicide, it
- 16 | would not go under gastrointestinal.
- 17 | Q. Would it go under the nervous system?
- 18 A. Yes, it would.
- 19 Q. All right. Let's look at the nervous system listings.
- 20 MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, he's now going to give
- 21 opinions about a label that wasn't even the label at issue in
- 22 | this case, not at the time Mr. Dolin committed suicide. This
- 23 | is beyond the scope of his expert report and his deposition,
- 24 ∥ and I object.
- 25 THE COURT: Do you object to any questions about the

- 1 | nervous system?
- 2 MR. BAYMAN: I object to him giving opinions about
- 3 the '92 label and what it says about --
- 4 THE COURT: I don't know about that, sir, but I'm not
- 5 going to sustain your last objection. It's overruled.
- 6 You may proceed.
- 7 MR. WISNER: Thank you, your Honor.
- 8 BY MR. WISNER:
- 9 Q. Holding the call-out -- okay. Great. So Doctor, I'm
- 10 | looking at the nervous system section here, right? We talked
- 11 | about suicide attempt. And under "frequent," I see a bunch of
- 12 different frequent adverse events. Do you see "suicide"
- 13 | attempt"?
- 14 A. No, I do not.
- 15 | Q. Do you see "emotional lability"?
- 16 **| A**. I do.
- 17 | Q. Why does it say emotional lability there and not suicide
- 18 | attempt, Doctor?
- 19 MR. BAYMAN: Objection. That calls for speculation.
- 20 | THE COURT: Sustained as to why.
- 21 BY MR. WISNER:
- 22 | Q. Doctor, do you have an opinion as to why it says emotional
- 23 | lability there as opposed to suicide --
- 24 MR. BAYMAN: Same objection.
- 25 MR. WISNER: -- attempt?

- 1 MR. BAYMAN: Same objection, your Honor.
- 2 THE WITNESS: I --
- THE COURT: You may answer as to the use of that
- 4 | phrase there or its appropriate use.
- 5 BY THE WITNESS:
- 6 A. I do.
- 7 BY MR. WISNER:
- $8 \mid Q$. What is it?
- 9 A. It conceals what's really going on.
- 10 | Q. How?
- 11 \blacksquare A. Well, emotional lability, if I saw that, and I happen to
- 12 know what it means because this is what led to banning of
- 13 | Paxil in the --
- MR. BAYMAN: Objection, your Honor. He's going to
- 15 \parallel get into pediatrics, and I'm objecting. Move to strike.
- 16 THE COURT: No, no, no. Just answer the question,
- 17 | Doctor --
- 18 THE WITNESS: Yes, your Honor.
- 19 THE COURT: -- without --
- 20 THE WITNESS: My apologies.
- 21 As a practicing internist, I have patients who come
- 22 | in sometimes, and they're upset about something. Sometimes
- 23 | they cry. Sometimes they yell. And that's what I think of as
- 24 | emotional lability. It would certainly not occur to me that
- 25 ▮ it means they tried to kill themselves.

- 1 BY MR. WISNER:
- 2 Q. Do you consider defenestration, or jumping out of a
- 3 | window, to be emotional lability?
- 4 | A. No.
- 5 | Q. Do you consider cutting your wrists to be emotional
- 6 | lability?
- 7 **A**. No.
- 8 | Q. Do you consider trying to hang yourself from a door frame
- 9 to be emotional lability?
- 10 A. Absolutely not.
- 11 | Q. Now, in looking through the rest of this nervous system
- 12 thing -- and I'll blow up the whole thing so we can see the
- 13 whole thing -- do you see any reference whatsoever to suicidal
- 14 attempts, suicide attempts?
- 15 \blacksquare A. So I just want to make sure I'm getting this right. I see
- 16 hysteria, libido increased --
- 17 THE COURT: Talk to yourself, please.
- 18 BY THE WITNESS:
- 19 **A**. No, I do not.
- 20 BY MR. WISNER:
- 21 | Q. Under the federal regulations as they existed in 1992 and
- 22 | based on your expert opinion in this area, does this label
- 23 properly disclose the risk of suicidal behavior in adults over
- 24 | the age of 30?
- 25 MR. BAYMAN: Objection, your Honor. This is beyond

- 1 the scope of his opinions in this case which have been solely
- 2 to the 2010 label. He's now offering opinions about the '92
- 3 | label which was not the label that was in effect at the time
- 4 | that Mr. Dolin was prescribed the medicine.
- 5 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 6 ∥ BY THE WITNESS:
- 7 | A. No, it does not.
- 8 BY MR. WISNER:
- 9 Q. And as a practicing physician, based on the evidence
- 10 you've seen as existed in 1989, does this label properly
- 11 instruct you on how to use this drug in adults over the age of
- 12 | 30?
- 13 MR. BAYMAN: Same objection.
- 14 THE COURT: Same ruling.
- 15 BY THE WITNESS:
- 16 A. No.
- 17 BY MR. WISNER:
- 18 Q. All right, Doctor. Following the 1992 label and the
- 19 | approval of Paxil in the United States, were there additional
- 20 | interactions with the FDA about Paxil and suicide?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 | Q. When, if at all, did -- strike that.
- 23 Starting in 1992 and moving onward, have you seen any
- 24 evidence about what GSK did with the washout data as it
- 25 | related to suicide?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. What did you see?
- 3 A. I saw that for a period of some years, they not only did
- 4 | not revise the label to reflect what was already going on but
- 5 | they presented that data that erased the true risk in
- 6 | publications, in scientific meetings, in materials for their
- 7 | marketing staff, and so on.
- 8 | Q. And what did -- those marketing and materials, what did
- 9 | they say?
- 10 MR. BAYMAN: Objection. This is not within his
- 11 report, your Honor. It's outside the scope of his report as
- 12 | well as Dr. Healy has testified about this at length, and now
- 13 this is entirely cumulative, and Dr. Healy is a
- 14 | psychiatrist --
- 15 THE COURT: Well, you're going to have to prove up
- 16 ∥ what they said, sir, not simply ask for him to reiterate.
- 17 MR. WISNER: I was actually trying to avoid showing
- 18 the document, but if they want me to, I'll gladly do it, your
- 19 | Honor.
- 20 THE COURT: Proceed.
- 21 BY MR. WISNER:
- 22 | Q. Doctor, if you could turn to Page -- I'm sorry, in
- 23 | Plaintiff's Exhibit 98.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. What is that document, Doctor?

- 1 A. This is a paper in a journal called the European -- I'm
- 2 sorry, European Neuropsychopharmacology published by three
- 3 researchers, one of whom was with GSK and the other two of
- 4 | whom, I believe, were either consultants or contractors to
- 5 | GSK.
- 6 MR. WISNER: Your Honor, briefly, before we go into
- 7 | this document, I move Exhibit 48, which is the '92 label, into
- 8 | evidence.
- 9 THE COURT: It may be received.
- 10 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 48 received in evidence.)
- 11 BY MR. WISNER:
- 12 Q. All right. So back to Plaintiff's Exhibit 98, Doctor.
- 13 Who are the authors on this article? Are they related in any
- 14 | way to GlaxoSmithKline?
- 15 **A**. They work for them.
- 16 | Q. And is this a document that you reviewed in preparing your
- 17 | testimony and opinions in this case?
- 18 **A.** Yes.
- 19 Q. And is this document, to the extent that it purports what
- 20 it purports, reliable?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 | Q. Let me ask that another way. Did you rely upon it --
- 23 | A. I misunderstood.
- 24 | Q. -- for what it says?
- 25 A. I'm sorry. In that sense, did I rely on it in forming my

- 1 ppinions, yes.
- 2 MR. WISNER: Okay. Permission to publish, your Honor.
- THE COURT: Yes, you may proceed.
- 4 BY MR. WISNER:
- 5 | Q. This document was not previously shown during
- 6 | Dr. Healy's -- so let's talk about the title here. What is
- 7 | the title here, Doctor?
- 8 A. "Reduction of suicidal thoughts with paroxetine in
- 9 | comparison with reference antidepressants and placebo."
- 10 Q. And if you look down here, it has these people's
- 11 association. Do you see that?
- 12 **A**. Yes.
- 13 \mathbb{Q} . What is their association?
- 14 A. So Dr. Montgomery is associated with SmithKline Beecham.
- 15 | Dr. Dunbar, I believe, at the time was an employee of
- 16 GlaxoSmithKline. And I believe that Dr. Dunner was either
- 17 | receiving financial support from Glaxo or grants or other
- 18 | forms of support.
- 19 Q. And in this article, does it discuss the Paxil suicide
- 20 data we saw in the '91 report?
- 21 A. It does.
- 22 | Q. Let's go to the conclusion of the study so we can -- all
- 23 right. So let's go down to the conclusion here. It reads:
- 24 The risk of suicide increases with length of
- 25 exposure to a drug, and differences in the number of

suicides and suicide attempts should take differences

in length of exposure into account. The absolute number

of suicides or suicide attempts when length of exposure

was not taken into account did not differ significantly

Just to clarify, is it true that's what it says, or is

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Based on the data we've seen, what did we see with regards

to the absolute number of suicide or suicide attempts between

the placebo groups and the Paxil groups?

There was almost nine-fold increase in risk. And just to

clarify, when I -- you asked me if this was reliable. What I

meant was, I believe this paper should be retracted.

Q. Has it been?

A. Not to the best of my knowledge.

between the groups."

that statement true?

Is that true?

Is that true what it says?

That is true, it says that.

Is that true scientifically?

Are you aware of whether or not any of these authors tried

to take this paper back?

MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, they've heard Dr. Dunbar's testimony about this, and this is now -- this is now cumulative.

THE COURT: All right. I think it's covered.

- 1 MR. BAYMAN: He doesn't know what --
- 2 MR. WISNER: Okay.
- 3 BY MR. WISNER:
- 4 | Q. Now, you mentioned that this article was used with
- 5 | physicians. Have you seen any documents that confirm that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- $7 \mid Q$. Okay. If you could turn your attention to Exhibit 100,
- 8 Plaintiff's Exhibit 100, have you got it?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 **Q**. What is Exhibit 100?
- 11 A. So this is a memo from a marketing executive at GSK.
- 12 \mathbb{Q} . What is the name of that marketing executive?
- 13 A. Barry Brand.
- 14 | Q. Okay. And is this a document that you looked at and
- 15 | examined in your studies -- in your research?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 | Q. And is it something that you relied upon?
- 18 **A**. Yes.
- 19 MR. WISNER: Permission to publish, your Honor.
- 20 THE COURT: You may.
- 21 MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, I object. He has no
- 22 | marketing opinions in the case. He's the FDA regulatory
- 23 witness, and now he's getting into the area of marketing.
- 24 | It's outside the scope of his expert opinions.
- 25 THE COURT: Let's see. This is 100?

- MR. WISNER: Yes, Plaintiff's Exhibit 100 -- sorry.

 Yes, Plaintiff's Exhibit 100. That's what I have here, your
- THE COURT: Are you going into this for marketing?

 MR. WISNER: No, your Honor. Marketing is dictated
 by what's in the label, so this is just an extension of the
 label. So it's part of his opinion that GSK was not upfront
 about the suicide risk. That was one of the opinions he
- MR. BAYMAN: And your Honor, it says very clearly,

 "marketing department." It's a marketing department.
- THE COURT: The objection is overruled. You may proceed.
- 14 BY MR. WISNER:
- 15 Q. Dr. Ross, let's start off on the top here. This is
- 16 dated -- I'll blow it up for you. When is this dated?
- 17 **A**. July 5th, 1995.

expressed earlier.

- 18 | Q. And the subject reads what?
- 19 A. "Meta-analysis examining suicidal ideation, approved for
- 20 | use."

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Honor.

- 21 \mathbb{Q} . All right. If you look at the first paragraph, it says:
- 22 "A meta-analysis, recently published in the
- peer-reviewed journal *European Psychopharmacology*,
- 24 examined whether Paxil was associated with any increase
- in suicidal thoughts or acts. Paxil showed a

- statistically significant advantage in reducing suicidal thoughts in all analyses compared with placebo."
- What does that mean in layman's terms, Doctor?
- 4 A. This claims that Paxil reduces suicidal thoughts
 5 consistently according to this paragraph.

have regarding suicidal ideation."

- Q. All right. Let's go to the next paragraph. This is what I want to get at. It says, "This paper has been approved for use with physicians to alleviate any concerns that they may
 - Now, I want to -- when the company has its sales representatives visiting with physicians, are they allowed to discuss things that are not on the label?
 - MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, now we really are getting into marketing behavior and marketing opinions. It's beyond the scope.
 - THE COURT: He may testify if he knows.
- THE WITNESS: Yes -- I'm sorry. You said that are not on label?
- 19 BY MR. WISNER:

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- Q. Let me ask the question. Are they allowed to discuss things that are not on the label?
- 22 THE COURT: If you know.
- 23 BY THE WITNESS:
- A. In general, they certainly can't initiate -- I'm talking about at the current time. Back then, they were not allowed

- 1 | to.
- 2 BY MR. WISNER:
- 3 | Q. There was FDA regulation --
- 4 A. There's FDA regulations, and there are, about what's
- 5 | called off-label promotion.
- 6 | Q. Okay. And if the label had said that there was an
- 7 | increased risk of adult suicidal behavior, would GSK have been
- 8 | able to contradict that statement with this article?
- 9 A. Not only would they not have legally been able to do it,
- 10 doing so would have constituted misbranding.
- 11 \mathbf{Q} . Why is it misbranding? I thought misbranding only applied
- 12 | to the label.
- 13 A. No. The label, the advertising promotion, anything that
- 14 | is -- that they're all tied to the label. They have to be
- 15 | consistent with the label, so you can't -- you know, you
- 16 | couldn't say, well, this drug is, on label, it's only per --
- 17 | sorry, approved for heart attacks, you can't then go on and
- 18 advertise it for, it's also good for baldness or whatever.
- 19 It's got to be something that's in the label. And you also
- 20 can't say stuff about safety that's not in the label.
- 21 MR. WISNER: At this time, your Honor, we move
- 22 | Plaintiff's Exhibit 100 into evidence.
- 23 MR. BAYMAN: The same objection, your Honor.
- 24 THE COURT: It may be received.
- 25 Plaintiff's Exhibit 100 received in evidence.)

1 ∥ BY MR. WISNER:

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- Q. All right. Let's look at this one paragraph here as pointed out by my colleague. It said:
 - "In the analysis of the data from controlled trials -- studies and open extension studies of Paxil calculated by patient year of exposure, there were 2.8 fewer suicides in the Paxil treated group compared with the active control and 5.6 times fewer compared with placebo."
- When it says "5.6 times fewer than placebo," what is that saying?
- 12 A. That means, they're claiming here that patients on placebo
- 13 | are 5.6 times more likely to kill -- or I'm sorry, yes, 5.6
- 14 times more likely to kill themselves than people on Paxil
- 15 when, in fact, it's the reverse.
- 16 \mathbb{Q} . Thank you. All right. Following the submission of the
- 17 Paxil suicide report in 1991, and Paxil was approved; is that
- 18 | right?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And the approval came in what type of -- was there an
- 21 analysis of the safety data done by the FDA?
- 22 A. Technically, yes.
- 23 Q. And what is that document generally called?
- 24 A. That is part of what's called a clinical review. And
- 25 there's typically a safety review that's done by the medical

- 1 | reviewer.
- 2 | Q. Have you heard of something called a summary basis of
- 3 | approval?
- 4 A. Yes.
- $5 \mid Q$. What is that?
- 6 A. That contains the reasons that the FDA concluded that it
- 7 | could approve the drug, you know, that it thinks the drug
- 8 works based on the data presented by the manufacturer on why
- 9 they think it's safe.
- 10 \mid Q. And have you reviewed the summary basis of approval in
- 11 | this case?
- 12 A. I have.
- 13 \mathbb{Q} . Did it disclose that those suicides in the placebo arm,
- 14 | that some of them happened in the washouts?
- 15 **A**. No, it did not.
- 16 \mathbf{Q} . One of the things I was curious, Doctor, considering your
- 17 | expertise, who writes the summary basis of approval?
- 18 A. Well, technically, the manufacturer can write it and just
- 19 | submit it to the FDA.
- 20 Q. Have you seen any evidence about whether or not GSK
- 21 drafted the summary basis of approval and submitted the draft
- 22 | to the FDA?
- 23 A. Yes, I have.
- 24 | Q. Now, do you know if the final one that was put out by the
- 25 | FDA was written by GSK or not?

- 1 A. I believe it was.
- 2 | Q. Okay. And also in the summary basis of approval that we
- 3 were just discussing, did the F -- did the FDA mention that
- 4 some of the suicide attempts had occurred in the placebo
- 5 | run-in?
- 6 | A. I believe it may have noted it, but it's actually -- I'm
- 7 sorry. You said in the summary basis of approval?
- 8 Q. That's right.
- 9 A. No. I'm sorry. I misunderstood. No, it did not. I
- 10 apologize.
- 11 | Q. Okay. Sounds good. All right. Let's move on -- okay.
- 12 Let's confirm that, Doctor. Let's take a look at the summary
- 13 basis of approval.
- 14 A. Please.
- 15 \mathbb{Q} . All right. If you can turn your attention to Plaintiff's
- 16 **|** Exhibit 28.
- 17 **A**. Okay.
- 18 \mathbf{Q} . What is Exhibit 28?
- 19 **A.** So this is the summary basis of approval for Paxil back
- 20 | from '92.
- 21 | Q. And is this the document that we were just discussing?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Is this a fair and accurate copy of that document?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 MR. WISNER: Your Honor, at this time, permission to

- publish portions of this document to the jury. They've already seen it.
- THE COURT: You may proceed.
- 4 MR. WISNER: Thank you, your Honor.
- All right. Let's go to Table 55. Give me a second
- 6 to find it. All right. That's 45. Okay.
- 7 THE COURT: Page?
- 8 MR. WISNER: Table 45, your Honor. This is on --
- 9 it's not numbered, but it's Page 46, so it's three pages from
- 10 the end. Got it, Doctor -- your Honor?
- 11 THE COURT: Yes.
- 12 BY MR. WISNER:
- 13 Q. Okay. You got it, Doctor?
- 14 **| A**. I do.
- 15 Q. Okay. Great. So what is Table 55 reflecting in the
- 16 summary basis of approval?
- 17 A. Well, it purports to be two things really. First off,
- 18 | for -- if you collect the patients into three groups -- those
- 19 who got Paxil, those who got placebo, and in those trials
- 20 where there was an antidepressant other than Paxil that was
- 21 used for comparison, what's called an active-control trial,
- 22 those three groups -- and then for each of those categories,
- 23 | it shows the number of patients who experienced a particular
- 24 type of adverse event, the percentage when divided by the
- 25 denominator, and then something corrected for what the company

- 1 called patient exposure years.
- 2 Q. So at a look here, how many Paxil suicides occurred?
- 3 **A**. Five.
- 4 | Q. Okay. And how many placebo suicides occurred as is
- 5 reflected here?
- 6 A. Two.
- $7 \parallel Q$. And those two, did they occur in the placebo arm?
- 8 A. They actually did not.
- 9 Q. Where did they occur?
- 10 A. They occurred in the run-in phase before patients actually
- 11 went into the treatment phase.
- 12 | Q. Okay. How many Paxil-attempted suicides happened here?
- 13 A. Well, again, originally, the company had told the FDA 42.
- 14 Without really any explanation, it changed to 40 here.
- 15 Q. All right. And how many placebo-attempted suicides are
- 16 | listed here?
- 17 A. What the table states is six.
- 18 Q. And were there actually six attempted suicides?
- 19 **A**. No.
- 20 Q. Were five of them actually occurring in the run-in period?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Okay. And again, I saw on the previous tables there were
- 23 these asterisks. Do you recall?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Do you see any asterisks here indicating that these were

- 1 | from the run-ins?
- 2 A. Not unless they're in invisible ink.
- 3 Q. Okay. All right. Okay. Great. So Doctor, following the
- 4 | approval of the drug in 1992, and we looked at that label and
- 5 | then we looked at what they were doing with the data after
- 6 | that, at some point, did the FDA again ask for data related to
- 7 | deaths?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. When was that, do you recall?
- 10 ▮ A. That was roughly in -- I think in perhaps April of 1999.
- 11 Q. Okay. And what did the FDA specifically ask for?
- 12 | A. So the FDA --
- MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, this is -- may we approach
- 14 ∥ at sidebar?
- 15 THE COURT: We're going to 99?
- 16 MR. BAYMAN: Yes. This is entirely cumulative of
- 17 | what Dr. Healy covered yesterday, I mean --
- 18 MR. WISNER: Actually --
- 19 MR. BAYMAN: -- step by step.
- 20 THE COURT: Well, we'll take it -- proceed. Proceed.
- 21 MR. WISNER: Thank you, your Honor.
- 22 BY MR. WISNER:
- 23 | Q. So Paragraph -- sorry, 1999, what did the FDA ask for?
- 24 A. It asked -- they were having a general discussion within
- 25 the FDA about an important policy issue about suicide and

- 1 death connected with SSRIs, the general class that Paxil
- 2 belongs to, and they asked GlaxoSmithKline, among other
- 3 entities, what -- to submit all of their data including the
- 4 original data set but also data collected after that on
- 5 deaths, suicides, and suicide attempts to the FDA.
- 6 | Q. And when the FDA asked GSK for this data in '99, did it
- 7 prompt any concerns that you've seen within GSK?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Please turn to Exhibit 110 in your binder, Doctor,
- 10 Plaintiff's Exhibit 110.
- 11 **A**. Yes.
- 12 | Q. Is this one of those documents that you saw that reflected
- 13 | those concerns?
- 14 **| A**. Yes.
- 15 MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, this is the same exact line
- 16 I of questioning that Dr. Healy was giving on redirect
- 17 | examination at the end of the day. This is entirely
- 18 cumulative, and he's speculating now about concerns. He
- 19 wasn't involved in any of this.
- 20 THE COURT: Well, a cumulative objection is one that
- 21 | is left to the discretion of the Court. In this case, I
- 22 | realize you're right, that it is somewhat cumulative, but I
- 23 | think it's educational for the Court and the jury, so I'm
- 24 going to permit him to proceed.
- 25 MR. WISNER: Thank you, your Honor.

- 1 BY MR. WISNER:
- 2 | Q. Is this the document you're referring to here?
- 3 A. Yes, it is.
- 4 | Q. Is this a fair and accurate copy of that document?
- 5 **| A**. It is.
- 6 | Q. And you reviewed this document before your testimony today?
- 7 **| A**. Yes.
- 8 MR. WISNER: Permission to publish, your Honor.
- 9 THE COURT: Yes. You may proceed.
- 10 | BY MR. WISNER:
- 11 | Q. Okay. We have this -- all right. We have an email here
- 12 | at the top. Do you see that, Doctor?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And the subject reads what?
- 15 A. "Re. FDA conversation, Paxil request for data on deaths."
- 16 Q. I'm sorry. I know it's a little hard to read, so we'll
- 17 read through it closely. Is this -- is this the reference to
- 18 the request for data that we were talking about a second ago?
- 19 **A**. Yes.
- 20 Q. Okay. And then it goes on:
- 21 "Tom, please allow some time for legal to review this
- 22 prior submission to FDA. Per my earlier email on this
- 23 one, I think Andrea Parry and I will need to be involved
- 24 in light of the litigation in this area. I want to
- 25 ensure our positions are not inadvertently compromised as

- 1 a result of anything we share with the FDA."
- 2 During your time at FDA, did you ever have any
- 3 conversations with drug sponsors about ongoing litigation as
- 4 | it related to safety?
- MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, we're now going to get into
- 6 other litigation. I'm objecting to this.
- 7 THE COURT: It's pretty general.
- 8 MR. WISNER: Fair enough. I don't want to violate
- 9 any of the Court's rulings on motions in limine, so I don't
- 10 want to delve too deeply --
- 11 THE COURT: You don't have a foundation for a
- 12 conversation.
- 13 MR. WISNER: Let me lay a foundation, your Honor.
- 14 BY MR. WISNER:
- 15 | Q. Have you spoken with drug sponsors during your time with
- 16 | the FDA?
- 17 **A**. Yes.
- 18 Q. And those conversations related to safety issues?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 \mathbb{Q} . And was that a regular part of your job at the FDA?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 | Q. And did you routinely speak with drug sponsors about
- 23 | safety data?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 | Q. And in those conversations you did have while you were at

- 1 the FDA, did the drug sponsor ever discuss with you or raise
- 2 | issues about ongoing litigation as it related to safety
- 3 | issues?
- 4 MR. BAYMAN: Objection, your Honor. It's hearsay.
- 5 | It's about other drug sponsors. It has no relation to any of
- 6 | these issues, and I object to the entire line.
- 7 THE COURT: I'll sustain it. It's too general, sir.
- 8 MR. WISNER: Yes, your Honor.
- 9 BY MR. WISNER:
- 10 Q. Do you have an opinion about whether or not it is
- 11 | appropriate from a regulatory perspective for GlaxoSmithKline
- 12 | to be mitigating its disclosures to the FDA in response to
- 13 ongoing litigation?
- 14 **| A**. Yes.
- 15 | Q. What is your opinion on that?
- 16 MR. BAYMAN: Objection. This is not in his report.
- 17 | He's giving an opinion now about litigation matters. It's
- 18 outside the scope of his expertise.
- 19 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 20 BY THE WITNESS:
- 21 A. First off, disclosures to the FDA are those mandated by
- 22 | law and regulation. It's -- really from a regulatory point of
- 23 | view, it's not -- litigation is irrelevant. I mean, you know,
- 24 | from a practical point of view, people, the FDA say, well,
- 25 okay, yes, you have a business issue or you have a legal

- 1 issue. The question we have is, what are the data. That's
- 2 ∥ what we want to see. And if it's something that is material
- 3 to our determinations about safety and efficacy, then we want
- 4 to see it, and we are authorized to see it.
- 5 | BY MR. WISNER:
- 6 \parallel Q. Did you review the FDA -- the GSK submission in response
- 7 | to this request?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Would you recognize it if you saw it today?
- 10 **| A**. I would.
- 11 | Q. If you please turn to Exhibit 24, Defense Exhibit 24. Are
- 12 | you there, Doctor?
- 13 **| A**. I am.
- MR. WISNER: Thank you. At this time, your Honor, we
- 15 | would move Plaintiff's Exhibit 110 into evidence.
- 16 MR. BAYMAN: I'd object, your Honor. This is not in
- 17 | his -- it also is not in his expert report.
- 18 THE COURT: It may be received.
- 19 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 110 received in evidence.)
- 20 BY MR. WISNER:
- 21 | Q. All right. Doctor, so you're looking at what exhibit now?
- 22 A. This says Defense Exhibit 24.
- 23 Q. Okay. Great. And what is Defense Exhibit 24?
- 24 A. So this is the response to the FDA's request for
- 25 | information on deaths and suicides in controlled clinical

- 1 | trials for Paxil.
- 2 Q. And what's the date of this document?
- 3 **∥ A**. July 13th, 1999.
- 4 Q. So this is after the email we just were looking at a
- 5 second ago in Plaintiff's Exhibit 110?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 MR. WISNER: Okay. Permission to publish, your
- 8 | Honor.
- 9 THE COURT: Yes. You may proceed.
- 10 ▮ BY MR. WISNER:
- 11 | Q. All right. So we have here a letter. Do you see that,
- 12 Doctor?
- 13 **A**. Yes.
- 14 | Q. It's to Dr. Katz. Do you see that?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 | Q. Who is Dr. Katz?
- 17 | A. So at the time, Dr. Katz was acting director for the
- 18 division that regulates Paxil.
- 19 | Q. Okay. And if you go through this submission, Doctor, you
- 20 | see that there's an Attachment I.
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 | Q. And what is Attachment I supposed to reflect?
- 23 A. Attachment I claims to provide an analysis of what the
- 24 relative numbers -- well, first off -- thank you. I think I
- 25 | need new glasses. So it says, it starts with how many

- 1 patients were exposed -- were exposed to Paxil in a
- 2 double-blind trial, randomized trial up until, entered as of
- 3 such-and-such date. And they refer here to centrally funded
- 4 | research and development studies which is part but not all of
- 5 the studies that GlaxoSmithKline ran.
- 6 \parallel Q. All right. So let's break that down. It says, the total
- 7 ∥ number of patients exposed to double-blind treatment in a
- 8 | randomized controlled paroxetine trials, do you see that, in
- 9 depression?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 | Q. So is this talking about open-label trials?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 \mathbf{Q} . Is it talking about uncontrolled trials?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 | Q. It's talking about the placebo control, the randomized
- 16 | control trials; is that right?
- 17 A. Correct.
- 18 Q. And this just relates to what condition, Doctor?
- 19 A. So this is only in depression. They had been approved
- 20 since then for other indications besides depression.
- 21 | Q. Okay. Now, if we look down here at this table, what does
- 22 | this table reflect?
- 23 A. Well, what it says is that there are a total of 48 deaths
- 24 I in that group of trials that they looked at. And it shows for
- 25 | those deaths something like 90 percent occurred in patients

- 1 who got Paxil, and there were four in placebo. And then it
- 2 | breaks those down into whether these represented suicides or
- 3 deaths attributed to something else besides suicide.
- 4 | Q. How many suicides happened in the Paxil group?
- 5 A. According to this document, 12.
- 6 Q. Now, I want to be clear, Doctor. I'm confused here
- 7 | because it says up here that this is what happened in
- 8 | randomized controlled paroxetine trials. Do you see that?
- 9 **| A**. Yes.
- 10 Q. So what is this document saying about the number of
- 11 | suicides that happened in randomized controlled trials?
- 12 A. The -- I'm sorry. Can you repeat the question again?
- 13 Q. Sure. What does this document tell us about the number of
- 14 | suicides that happened on Paxil in randomized controlled
- 15 | trials?
- 16 A. What is it purporting to say --
- 17 | Q. Yes.
- 18 A. -- or what does it really say?
- 19 Q. What's the document say?
- 20 A. The document says there were 12 suicides.
- 21 | Q. Okay. You see below that, there's a footnote that says,
- 22 | "The grand total does not include 10 cases undergoing further
- 23 | investigation." Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 | Q. So what does that mean?

- 1 A. It's not all the deaths.
- 2 Q. Okay. This report, did it prompt any concerns or issues
- 3 within GSK about its conduct in reporting suicides previously?
- 4 MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, he's now asking him to
- 5 | speculate about concerns. It's again motive, intent.
- 6 THE COURT: If he has some specific item as
- 7 distinguished from concerns --
- 8 MR. WISNER: Sure.
- 9 THE COURT: Sustained.
- 10 BY MR. WISNER:
- 11 | Q. Did a man by the name of Dan Burnham raise -- raise --
- 12 send an email concerning this submission?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 | Q. Okay. Would you recognize that email if you saw it today?
- 15 **A**. Yes.
- 16 Q. All right. Please turn to Exhibit -- actually, we're
- 17 going to use the defendant's exhibit here, Defendant's Exhibit
- 18 | 136. Do you have it?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Is this the email we were just discussing?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 MR. WISNER: Your Honor, permission to publish this
- 23 | email. We've previously published it as Plaintiff's Exhibit
- 24 | 17. This is a more complete version of the exhibit which we'd
- 25 | like to show to the jury.

- 1 THE COURT: 136?
- 2 MR. WISNER: Yes, your Honor. Defendant's Exhibit 136.
- THE COURT: It's signed, "Dan"?
- 4 MR. WISNER: That's right.
- 5 THE COURT: Okay. You may proceed.
- 6 BY MR. WISNER:
- 7 | Q. All right. Doctor, what is this document?
- 8 A. So this is an email that was sent by Mr. Burnham to a
- 9 | number of other GSK employees.
- 10 \mathbb{Q} . And I'll pull up the top here so we have the full picture.
- 11 What's the date of this?
- 12 A. November 18th, 1999.
- 13 \mathbb{Q} . Okay. And I just want to ask you a couple questions.
- 14 | Earlier, remember that memorandum we were looking at regarding
- 15 the use of the Dunham article?
- 16 A. Is that the one by Mr. Brand?
- 17 Q. That's right. Is he on this email?
- 18 A. Yes. He's the last person on the cc. line.
- 19 Q. Okay. And then we also talked about people who interacted
- 20 | with the FDA. Are you familiar with who Thomas Kline is?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 | Q. Who was he?
- 23 ▮ A. He was a, I believe, regulatory affairs official at GSK
- 24 | who would regularly interact with FDA on this.
- 25 | Q. So this email from Mr. Burnham is going both to a

- 1 regulatory affairs person and a marketing guy?
- 2 A. Yes.

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- Q. Okay. What concern does Mr. Burnham raise in this email?
 - A. So basically, he says, what we've been telling people --
- MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, he's speculating and now trying to --
 - THE COURT: Go to the document itself.
- 8 MR. WISNER: All right.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 10 MR. BAYMAN: He doesn't use the word "concern."
- THE COURT: If you have any questions, you can ask
- 12 about the document but not a summary of it.
- 13 ▮ BY MR. WISNER:
- 14 \mathbb{Q} . All right. Let's go through it then. I was trying to
- 15 make it go quicker, but we'll do it. We'll do it. Sorry.
- 16 All right. So it says:
 - "Raj and Chip, attached is a draft of the cover letter and Excel spreadsheet that now includes the additional deaths that occurred during the placebo run-in phase of randomized controlled paroxetine depression trials. The two suicides among the 544 placebo patients in Montgomery and Dunbar's 1995 publication actually occurred during single-blind placebo run-in, not
- 25 I'll stop right there. That 1995 Montgomery and

double-blind placebo."

- 1 Dunbar, what is that?
- 2 | A. That is the paper in European Psychopharmacology -- or
- 3 | European Neuropsychopharmacology that used those two suicides,
- 4 | attributed them to placebo even though they weren't really
- 5 placebo to conclude that Paxil actually reduced suicidal
- 6 | ideation.
- $7 \parallel Q$. Is that the document we looked at a minute ago?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Okay. All right. It goes on to say, "Because patients
- 10 undergo usually one week of single-blind run-in before
- 11 | randomization, these two suicides on placebo are not
- 12 comparable to deaths occurring after randomization for three
- 13 reasons." Do you see that, Doctor?
- 14 **A**. Yes.
- 15 | Q. Okay. What is he saying? What does that mean in layman's
- 16 | terms?
- 17 A. Those two suicides should never have been counted as
- 18 placebo suicides. They fell outside both the placebo and
- 19 | Paxil.
- 20 Q. He goes on and gives three different reasons. Do you see
- 21 | that?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 | Q. It says, "First, the pre- and post-randomization
- 24 populations are different because patients who respond to
- 25 | single-blind placebo are excluded from randomization." What

- 1 does that mean?
- 2 A. So people would come into the study on medicine, maybe
- 3 not. And when I say "come to the study," I mean just kind
- 4 of -- they seemed initially eligible for it. They stopped
- 5 | their medications and wash out what they were getting with the
- 6 placebo. Some people on that off-medicine --
- 7 THE COURT: I think we've heard this.
- 8 BY MR. WISNER:
- 9 Q. Okay. All right. In your opinion --
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 | Q. -- is Mr. Burnham critical of using those run-ins to
- 12 | calculate the placebo rate?
- 13 A. I'd say he's saying it shouldn't be done.
- 14 MR. BAYMAN: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 15 ▮ THE COURT: Yes. I think the document --
- 16 MR. BAYMAN: Move to strike that.
- 17 THE COURT: -- speaks for itself.
- 18 MR. WISNER: Okay. Your Honor, at this time, we'd
- 19 | move Defendant's Exhibit 136 into evidence.
- 20 THE COURT: What about plaintiff's one, 17?
- 21 MR. WISNER: It's duplicative, so we'd rather not --
- 22 keep the record clean.
- THE COURT: That's what I was trying to avoid. I've
- 24 been trying to avoid that throughout this case.
- 25 MR. WISNER: I know, your Honor. Unfortunately,

- 1 there's quite a bit of duplication, but this is a more
- 2 complete document, so we'd like to move it into evidence.
- THE COURT: All right. It may be received.
- 4 | (Defendant's Exhibit 136 received in evidence.)
- 5 BY MR. WISNER:
- 6 \parallel Q. All right. Have you seen any response to Mr. Burnham's
- 7 | email?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Okay. Can you please turn to Exhibit 1 -- Plaintiff's
- 10 | Exhibit 114? Are you there, Doctor?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. This appears to be a duplicate, unfortunately. Let me see
- 13 I if I can pull it out of the -- all right. What is 114 in
- 14 | front of you, Doctor?
- MR. BAYMAN: Objection, your Honor. I object to this
- 16 exhibit as it's not in his expert report. His expert report
- 17 gives no opinions about it.
- THE COURT: Well, he can testify to what it is.
- 19 MR. WISNER: I'm sorry, your Honor. This is a
- 20 document -- I can ask him some questions to lay the foundation.
- 21 BY MR. WISNER:
- 22 | Q. Is this a document that you reviewed, Doctor?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Is this a document that you relied upon?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 \blacksquare Q. And would discussing its content aid the jury in
- 2 | understanding your opinions?
- 3 A. I really, really do.
- 4 MR. WISNER: Okay. Your Honor, permission to publish.
- 5 THE COURT: All right. You may proceed.
- 6 MR. BAYMAN: Same objection, your Honor.
- 7 THE COURT: Same ruling.
- 8 BY MR. WISNER:
- 9 Q. I don't have it on my iPad, so we're going to have to use
- 10 the old-fashioned -- or it's actually a pretty high-tech
- 11 | version, the Elmo. Okay, Doctor.
- 12 It says down here, it's to Rajinder Kumar. Do you
- 13 | see that?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And it's from who?
- 16 A. This is from Mr. Brand.
- 17 | Q. Okay. And Barry Brand is who again?
- 18 \blacksquare A. This is the marketing executive who was mentioned earlier.
- 19 Q. Okay. Great. And he goes:
- 20 This response to FDA seems to be setting us up for
- 21 potential problems suggesting that Paxil is associated
- 22 with a higher rate of suicide versus placebo. A very
- 23 comprehensive meta-analysis" --
- 24 I'll stop right there. What does that first sentence
- 25 | mean?

A. Well --

MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, he's trying to interpret what someone else is saying.

THE COURT: That's right. I don't think we need to have his interpretation.

MR. WISNER: Okay.

THE COURT: Proceed. Sustained.

BY MR. WISNER:

Q. "Perceives a very comprehensive meta-analysis published by S. Montgomery clearly showed a higher incidence placebo-related suicides, and a 1998 study published in American Journal of Psychiatry in non-depressed patients suggested that Paxil offered a protective effect in patients with less than three previous suicide attempts. Can we use the Montgomery meta-analysis as the baseline for our analysis and reference the American Journal of Psychiatry study in our response back to the FDA? I have provided copies of the studies to Dan Burnham. Let me know your thoughts. Regards, Barry."

In -- regarding the request made from the FDA for these documents for these deaths, would it have been appropriate to send in a journal article instead?

A. Well, no, but having said that, this is the paper I said earlier should be retracted so -- which basically, I read this

- 1 as saying, let's keep counting those placebo --
- 2 MR. BAYMAN: Objection, your Honor. Speculation as 3 to --
 - THE COURT: Sustained as to how he reads it. That's sustained.
- 6 MR. WISNER: Would it be appropriate to submit a --7 I'm sorry.
- 8 THE COURT: Go on to something else.
- 9 MR. WISNER: Yes, your Honor.
- Your Honor, at this time, we move Plaintiff's Exhibit

 11 | 114 into evidence.
- MR. BAYMAN: I'm going to object again. It's not been disclosed, not in his expert report, your Honor.
- MR. WISNER: I don't believe that's an admissibility issue. I think that's a testimony issue so I, again, your Honor, would move it into evidence.
- 17 THE COURT: It may be received.
- 18 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 114 received in evidence.)
- 19 | BY MR. WISNER:

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- 20 Q. All right. Doctor, following Mr. Brand's email which was
- 21 dated -- do you recall the date, Doctor? Do you have it in
- 22 | front of you?
- 23 A. I believe it was sometime in November of '99.
- 24 | Q. Okay. I want to show it to you so we're not guessing.
- 25 A. Okay. My apologies.

- 1 Q. No worries.
- 2 A. A lot of emails.
- THE COURT: The document is in evidence. It speaks
- 4 for itself, whatever the date is.
- 5 | BY MR. WISNER:
- 6 \parallel Q. I'm just trying to establish the date. It's December 7th.
- 7 Do you see that, Doctor?
- 8 ∥ A. Oh, I'm sorry. I misunderstood. I thought you meant the
- 9 email from Mr. Burnham.
- 10 **Q**. 0kay.
- 11 A. I apologize.
- 12 | Q. So Barry Brand's email was December 7th, right?
- 13 **A**. Yes.
- 14 | Q. Okay. Did GSK have a conversation with the FDA about
- 15 | run-ins the next day?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 | Q. And have you seen a document that documents that
- 18 | conversation?
- 19 **A**. Yes.
- 20 | Q. Can you please turn in your folder -- in your binder to
- 21 | Exhibit, Plaintiff's Exhibit 115? Do you have it, Doctor?
- 22 **| A**. I do.
- 23 | Q. What is Exhibit --
- 24 MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, I object again to the
- 25 cumulative nature. This was the exact document that was

- 1 covered in detail by Dr. Wheadon at the end of the day
- 2 yesterday -- Dr. Healy, excuse me. And it's entirely
- 3 cumulative. We're re-covering the same ground.
- THE COURT: Well, isn't this a basis for his opinions
- 5 here?
- 6 MR. WISNER: Yes, your Honor. I'm just showing the
- 7 chronology of GSK's interaction with the FDA about the suicide
- 8 issue. He's an FDA guy. He's here to talk about their
- 9 | interactions. This is a summary of a conversation with the
- 10 | FDA.
- 11 THE COURT: All you want is chronology?
- 12 MR. WISNER: I'm building a chronology to lead to
- 13 the -- these are all admissions by GSK in their own documents.
- 14 THE COURT: All right. You may proceed.
- 15 MR. BAYMAN: Objection. Object to that
- 16 characterization.
- 17 MR. WISNER: Your Honor -- okay.
- 18 ∥ BY MR. WISNER:
- 19 Q. So Dr. Ross, Plaintiff's Exhibit 115, what is this document?
- 20 A. So this is a memorandum prepared by GSK employee Thomas
- 21 Kline reporting a conversation with an FDA reviewer in the
- 22 | division that regulates Paxil.
- 23 | Q. Mr. Kline was on that Burnham email?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Okay. And who is he having a conversation with?

- 1 A. With a reviewer by the name of Michael Seika.
- 2 MR. WISNER: Okay. Permission to publish, your
- 3 | Honor.

- 4 THE COURT: All right. Proceed.
- 5 | BY MR. WISNER:
- 6 \parallel Q. Now, we showed this to the jury yesterday with Dr. Healy.
- 7 I want to show it again now with all the other stuff we've 8 talked about. It reads:
- "In addition, I raised a hypothetical example for his consideration. I inquired about his interpretation of classifying placebo-run deaths. Specifically, I asked if a patient were to die during placebo run-in, i.e., prior to randomization, should that patient be included in the
- Doctor, was there a hypothetical issue regarding run-in suicides at this time?
- 17 A. No. There was an actual issue.
- 18 Q. And was that the issue that was raised by Mr. Burnham in 19 his email?
- 20 A. The actual issue, not -- it was not hypothetical.

calculation for placebo deaths."

- 21 Q. In response, it says:
- "He clearly stated that such a patient should not be counted in our analyses since such a patient would not compromise" -- sorry, this is the last time -- "would not comprise the 'controlled' portion of a trial."

- 1 Do you see that, Doctor?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 | Q. What -- does that -- what is your opinion about whether or
- 4 | not it's appropriate to include those patients in the run-in
- 5 period?
- 6 | A. Well, let me just speak as a regulator. And, first off,
- 7 | if somebody said to me this is hypothetical, I'm going to put
- 8 | myself in Dr. Seika's position, if they say it's hypothetical,
- 9 | like I said earlier --
- 10 MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, we're speculating what
- 11 | Dr. Seika now was thinking.
- 12 THE COURT: This has been covered by Dr. Healy.
- 13 MR. WISNER: Yes, but we haven't had someone from the
- 14 | FDA. Dr. Healy is a physician and academic --
- 15 MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, he's not -- for the record,
- 16 he's not currently with the FDA.
- 17 THE COURT: Well, he has experience in that area.
- 18 All right. For that purpose, you may --
- 19 BY MR. WISNER:
- 20 Q. Just to be clear, Doctor, this is in 1999?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Were you at the FDA in 1999?
- 23 **A**. I was.
- 24 | Q. Okay. So you were telling us about a sponsor raising a
- 25 | hypothetical to you.

- 1 A. I'd take them at their word. I wouldn't say, well -- I
- 2 | would ask them, I would assume they're telling me the truth.
- 3 So having said that, what Dr. Seika says is the same answer
- 4 | that I would give because this is what the FDA's guidance,
- 5 ∥ written guidance from 1986 was. And secondly, scientifically,
- 6 | it's not appropriate to count those patients before they've
- 7 been put into the treatment phase.
- 8 So Dr. Seika gave the right answer to what I would
- 9 | think if this came to me was just a hypothetical.
- 10 Q. Based on that response from an FDA reviewer or medical
- 11 officer, did GSK have an obligation to immediately disclose
- 12 what had occurred in its prior analysis?
- 13 A. They had -- their obligation actually predated this
- 14 | because they knew about it before that, but certainly when
- 15 \parallel they explicitly raised the issue, if I -- if they said, well,
- 16 | listen, it's not just sole hypothetical, it's actual, and
- 17 | there have been situations that I've encountered at FDA like
- 18 I that, I would be a little teched, to put it mildly.
- 19 Q. All right. Let's move on. Did GSK ever conduct a
- 20 reanalysis of that original '89 data and submit it to the FDA?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 \mathbb{Q} . When was that analysis submitted to the FDA?
- 23 A. 2002.
- 24 | Q. So for two years, did GSK submit anything to the FDA
- 25 | specifically related to that blind or washout analysis?

- 1 **A**. No.
- 2 | Q. All right. Yesterday with Dr. Healy, we talked a bit
- 3 about Dr. Laughren. Do you know who he is?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 | Q. In 2002, do you know what position he was holding at the
- 6 | FDA?
- 7 | A. I believe at that point, he was actually the division
- 8 director for neuropharm products, the division that reviewed
- 9 | Paxil.
- 10 Q. And in 2002, did GSK have a conversation with Dr. Laughren
- 11 | that addressed some of these placebo run-in issues?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 | Q. Would you recognize a record of that conversation if you
- 14 | saw it today?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Please turn to Plaintiff's Exhibit 124 in your binder. Do
- 17 | you have it, Doctor?
- 18 **∥ A**. I do.
- 19 Q. What is this document?
- 20 A. This is a record of a conversation between a GSK employee
- 21 | by the name of David Wheadon with Dr. Laughren.
- 22 Q. And what year is this dated?
- 23 **A**. 2002.
- 24 | Q. And what's the date actually?
- 25 A. I'm sorry. April 10th, 2002.

- 1 Q. Okay. And is this a document that you've reviewed?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 | Q. And is it helpful to discuss it with the jury?
- 4 A. I believe so.
- MR. WISNER: Your Honor, permission to publish. This document has not been shown to the jury yet.
- 7 THE COURT: All right. You may proceed.
- 8 BY MR. WISNER:
- 9 Q. Okay. Doctor, again, this is a document that was prepared
- 10 | by who?

- 11 A. Let's see. I believe this was Dr. -- Mr. Wheadon.
- 12 | Q. No, I mean --
- 13 A. GSK. Sorry.
- 14 Q. All right. And let's read what it says. Under the
- 15 heading, "Description of conversation," it reads:
- neuropsychopharmacology division last Wednesday, April
 18 10th, concerning the updated Paxil analyses on suicide
 19 attempts. I explained to Dr. Laughren that, subsequent

"I spoke with Dr. Laughren of the FDA

- 20 to ongoing defense of Paxil cases, the issue of attempts
- in patients on placebo during placebo run-in had been
- debated and a decision had been made to reanalyze the
- original NDA data on suicide attempts, doing the apples
- 24 to applies comparisons specifically."
- Do you see that, Doctor?

1 Α. Yes. 2 What -- do you have an opinion about what this is saying 3 regarding why GSK decided to do this comparison in 2002? 4 Objection, your Honor. The document MR. BAYMAN: 5 speaks for itself. He's now -- he's now trying to speculate 6 about it. 7 THE COURT: It's sustained. 8 BY MR. WISNER: Q. Doctor, during your time at the FDA when you were 10 reviewing submissions from drug sponsors, had you ever 11 reviewed a submission that was prepared subsequent to ongoing 12 defense --13 MR. BAYMAN: Same objection, your Honor. 14 MR. WISNER: -- of Paxil -- of a drug case? 15 THE COURT: Don't object until I hear the whole 16 question. 17 MR. WISNER: Sorry. Do you want me to re-say it? 18 THE COURT: Well, I'll just look. 19 You may answer. It calls for a yes or no. 20 THE WITNESS: Yes -- I'm sorry. I apologize. I'm --21 can you repeat the question? I'm sorry. 22 THE COURT: Read it back. 23 THE WITNESS: I apologize.

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(Record read.)

BY THE WITNESS:

- 1 **A**. No.
- 2 BY MR. WISNER:
- $3 \mid Q$. Would that make a difference to you in reviewing safety
- 4 | data?
- 5 | A. I would think it was a weird thing to say --
- 6 MR. BAYMAN: Objection to that --
- 7 THE COURT: Calls for a yes or no, Doctor.
- 8 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. Could you repeat the
- 9 | question?
- 10 | BY MR. WISNER:
- 11 | Q. Would it have made a difference to you whether or not it
- 12 was prepared in defense of litigation or not?
- 13 ▮ A. Not -- no, not directly, but I would -- you know, a --
- 14 | say, is this -- I'm sorry. My apologies, your Honor. I'm
- 15 | trying to answer yes or no.
- 16 It would in the sense that the data that's submitted
- 17 | needs to be driven by the regulatory requirements and the
- 18 scientific issues. If they said, "Well, this is the same
- 19 | thing we've submitted, there weren't any cases," then no, that
- 20 | wouldn't make a difference. If it's like, "Well, this is what
- 21 | we did for our defense, "like, "Is this everything that's
- 22 going to address our regulatory and scientific questions,"
- 23 | then yes, that would make a difference.
- 24 | Q. Now, Doc -- now, Doctor, have you ever worked on a drug
- 25 while at the FDA where safety issues were discovered by virtue

- 1 of litigation?
- 2 MR. BAYMAN: Objection. This is getting far afield
- 3 now again, your Honor.
- 4 | THE COURT: Yes. Sustained.
- 5 MR. BAYMAN: Thank you.
- 6 BY MR. WISNER:
- 7 | Q. Again, what year is this conversation, Doctor?
- 8 A. 2002.
- 9 Q. So how many years is that from today?
- 10 A. Approximately -- almost 15.
- 11 | Q. Okay. Did you review the submission referenced in this
- 12 | article that was submitted to the FDA?
- 13 A. Submitted in, I'm sorry, in this record of this phone
- 14 | conversation?
- 15 Q. Sir, let me ask the question again.
- 16 **|** A. I'm sorry.
- 17 | Q. The submission referenced in the paragraph we just read,
- 18 did you read that submission that was submitted to the FDA?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And who was that prepared by?
- 21 A. That was prepared, I believe, by an individual by the name
- 22 of John Davies.
- 23 | Q. And did he prepare one or two reports?
- 24 | A. He prepared, for this, two reports.
- 25 Q. And what were those reports about?

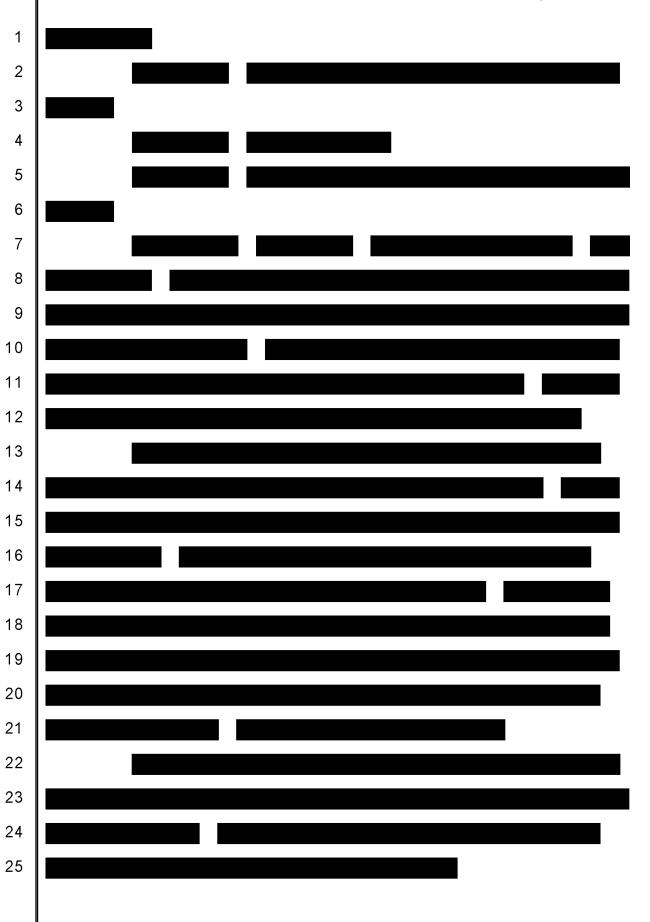
- 1 A. So one was a review of data about suicides in the original
- 2 NDA, and the other was about suicide attempts in the original
- 3 NDA. Excuse me.
- 4 MR. WISNER: All right. Please turn to Plaintiff's
- 5 | Exhibit 122 and 129. Just have them both in front of you.
- 6 At this time, your Honor, we'd move Plaintiff's
- 7 | Exhibit 124 into evidence.
- 8 THE COURT: It may be received.
- 9 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 124 received in evidence.)
- 10 | BY MR. WISNER:
- 11 Q. Do you have those two documents, Doctor?
- 12 **A**. I do.
- 13 Q. All right. What are those two documents?
- 14 A. So Plaintiff's Exhibit 122 is an analysis titled "Results"
- 15 | for review of data about, quote, suicide attempts in 1991,"
- 16 | and then 129 is about suicides as opposed to suicide attempts.
- 17 | Q. Okay. All right. Let's start off with the suicides
- 18 document. That's Plaintiff's Exhibit 129. Get that in front
- 19 | of you, Doctor.
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 | Q. Is this a report that you reviewed in preparing your report
- 22 | in this case?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 | Q. And are you prepared to testify about its contents?
- 25 A. Yes.

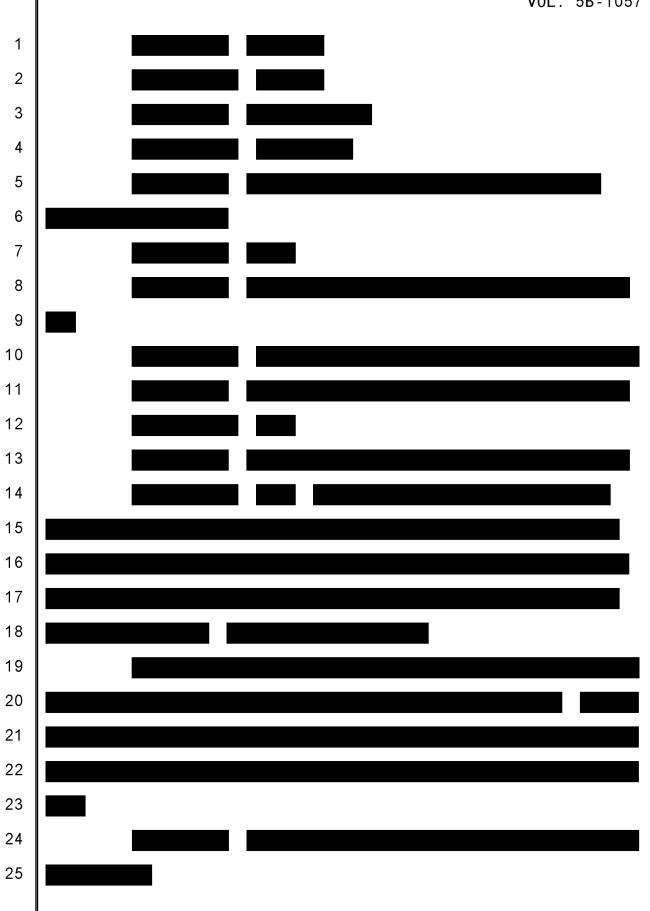
- 1 MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, objection. He specifically
 2 testified in his denosition the first time he'd ever seen this
- 2 testified in his deposition the first time he'd ever seen this
 3 was at the deposition --
- 4 MR. WISNER: Objection, your Honor. If he's going to
- 5 make this objection about what was testified in his
- 6 deposition, he should do so at sidebar. That's hearsay.
- 7 MR. BAYMAN: That's fine.
- 8 THE COURT: Proceed.
- 9 ∥ BY MR. WISNER:
- 10 Q. Did you review this document, Doctor?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 | Q. Previously when you were deposed and they showed you this
- 13 document, did you recognize it?
- 14 A. You know, it was at the end of a -- or near the end of a
- 15 long day. Frankly, I got confused, so I said no, but I
- 16 actually, when I went back and I looked and I said, "Wait a
- 17 | minute, David, you've seen this before."
- 18 \blacksquare Q. And did your opinions change at all -- well, had you
- 19 | looked at this document in preparing your opinions?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 \mathbf{Q} . And did reviewing it again in any way affect your opinions?
- 22 A. No.
- 23 Q. So did you feel a need to update your report about your
- 24 opinions?
- 25 MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, may we have a sidebar?

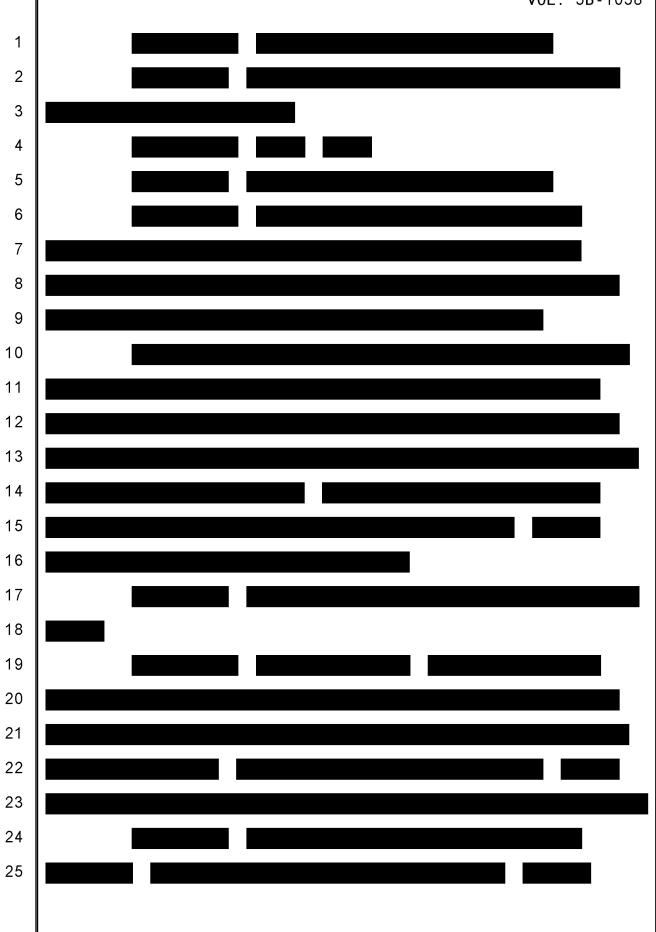
- 1 THE COURT: Later when we take a break. Let's go on.
- 2 BY MR. WISNER:
- 3 Q. Did you feel the need to update your opinions, Doctor?
- 4 | A. No.
- 5 MR. WISNER: Okay. So Exhibit 129 -- permission to
- 6 publish, your Honor.
- 7 THE COURT: All right. You may proceed.
- 8 BY MR. WISNER:
- $9 \mid Q$. All right. This is the document you said that relates to
- 10 | suicides. Do you see that, Doctor?
- 11 **A**. Yes.
- 12 | Q. Now, it's dated May 2002, but it refers to the 1991
- 13 report. What does that mean?
- 14 ∥ A. So this refers to the data in the 19- -- the original
- 15 | application. And again, to clarify because originally, there
- 16 was an '89 submission, this was the '91 version of what GSK
- 17 | submitted to the FDA.
- 18 Q. And have you seen any reanalysis of the '91 data any time
- 19 during this ten-year period, between 1991 and 2002?
- 20 A. Not one that corrects the omissions --
- 21 Q. Okay.
- 22 | A. -- and the mistakes in the earlier -- the original
- 23 | analysis.
- 24 Q. All right. So let's look at the first part of this. It
- 25 | says here, "Identify all placebo-controlled trials in the

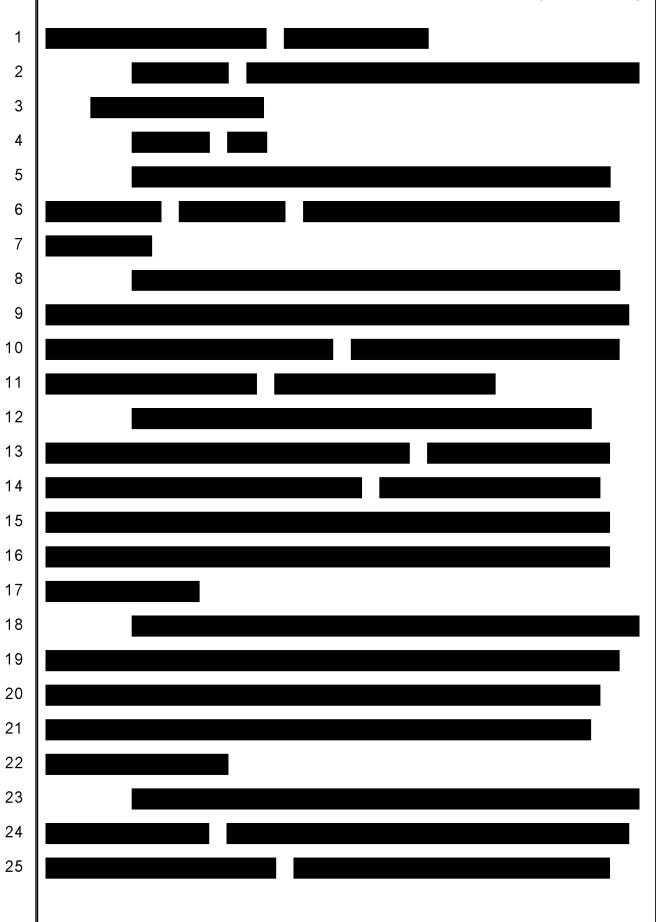
- 1 original NDA including paroxetine and placebo data from
- 2 | three-arm trials." What does that mean, Doctor?
- 3 ▮ A. So they were going to -- this started with -- I'm sorry.
- 4 So you start with all the studies that are in there. There's
- 5 | randomized trials, those that have a placebo control, and
- 6 | those that have an active -- another antidepressants control.
- 7 | Those that are just Paxil by itself, those that are -- started
- 8 out as a double-blind trial and then where there was an
- 9 extension of Paxil after the double-blind trial ended. And
- 10 | they took all those, and they threw out anything except the
- 11 | trials that were placebo-controlled.
- 12 | Q. And when they changed -- when they excluded all those
- 13 data, how many suicides were in the Paxil group after they
- 14 | excluded all that data?
- 15 **A.** So -- you mean after they got rid of all that?
- 16 Originally, in the total database, there were five suicides.
- 17 | When they excluded all of those -- all that other data, there
- 18 ∥ were no suicides left.
- 19 Q. So by excluding all of that data, they went from five to
- 20 | zero?
- 21 A. That is correct.
- 22 | Q. Okay. Now, it says here, studies PAR-04 and PAR-14 will
- 23 be excluded by virtue of their design. Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 | Q. Have you looked into those studies?

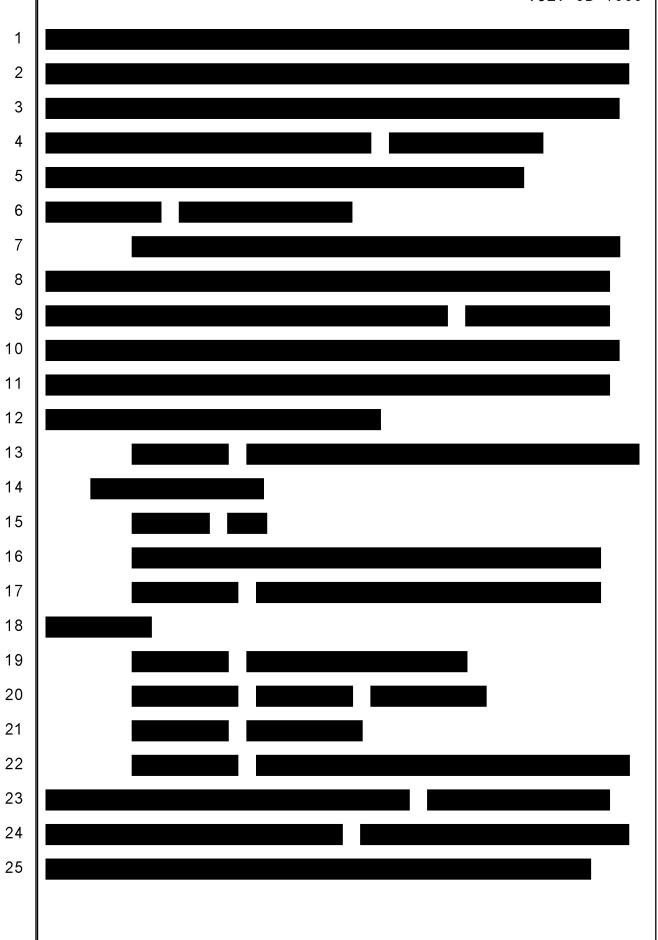
Α. I have. Q. And do you believe in your expert opinion that these studies should have been excluded? A. No --MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, this is a totally new opinion, not in his report, not in his deposition. And we believe he should not be able to testify, and we'd like to get a sidebar. THE COURT: All right. Let's take a break now, ladies and gentlemen. (Proceedings heard in open court. Jury out.)

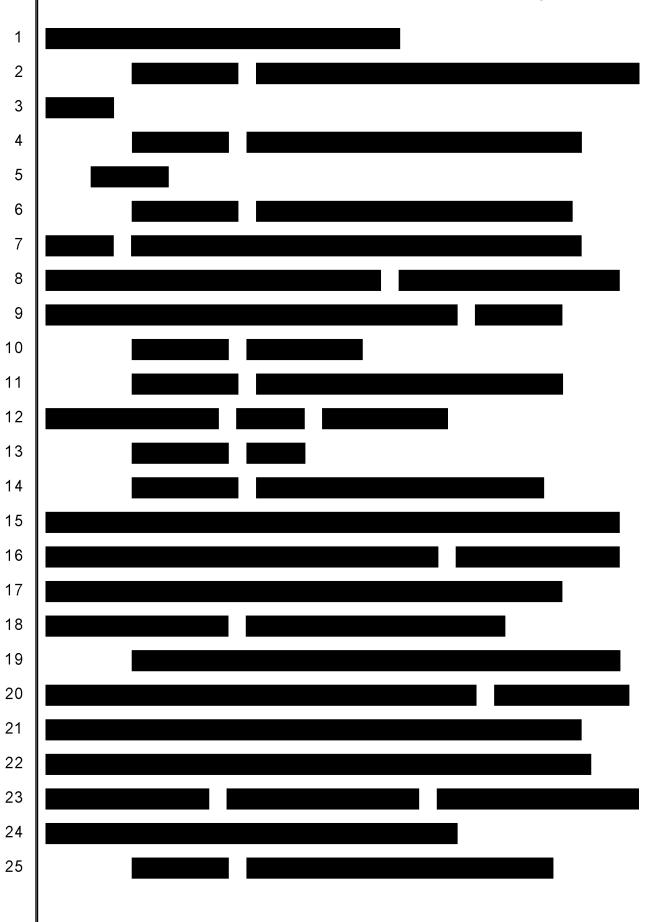


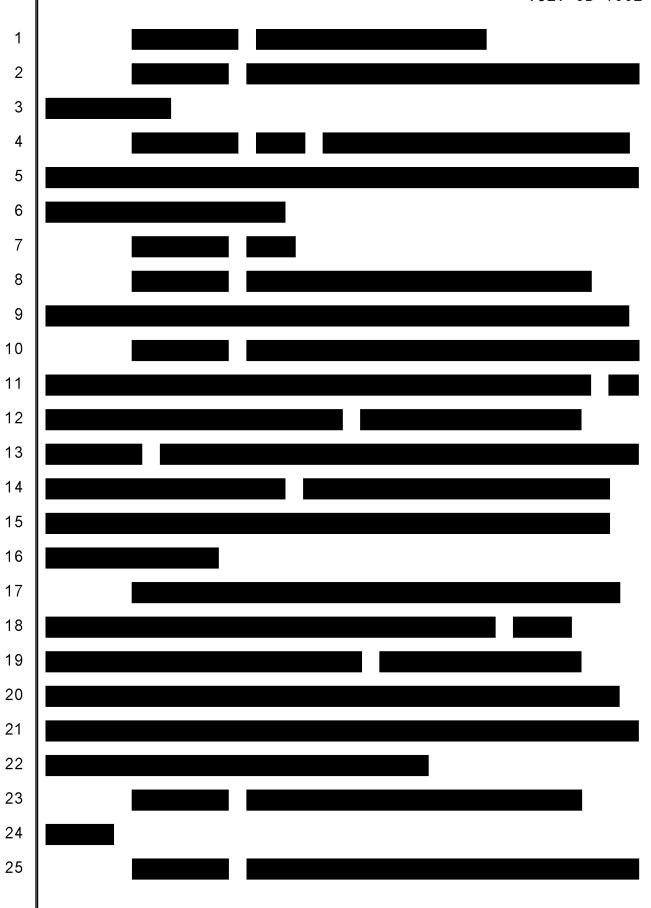


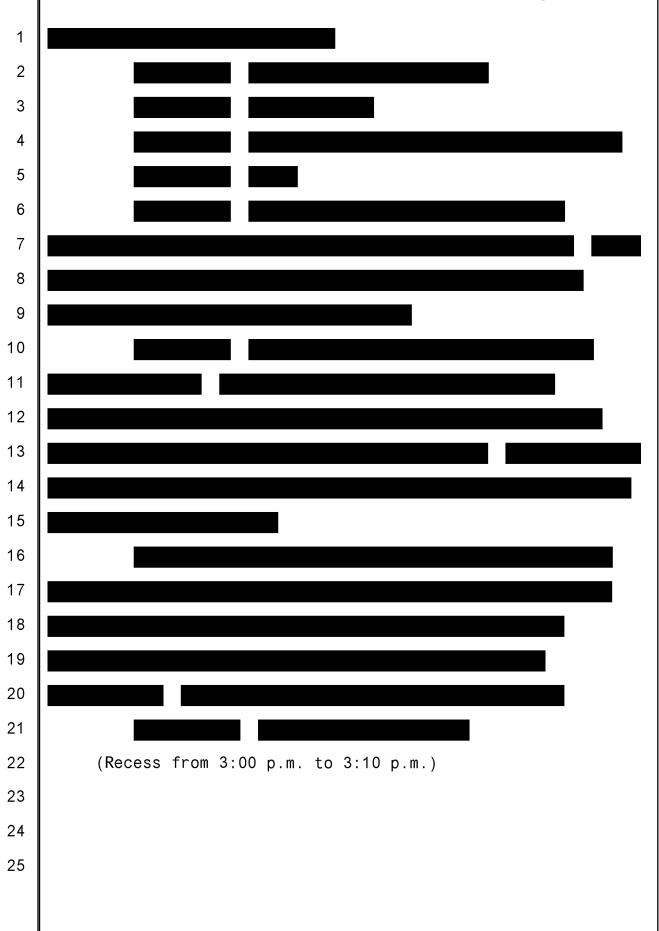












1 (Change of reporters, volume 5-C.) 2 3 (Jury enters courtroom.) 4 5 THE COURT: All right. Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen. Please be seated and we'll resume. 6 7 Doctor, take the witness stand, please. 8 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Judge. THE COURT: Proceed, please. 9 10 MR. WISNER: Thank you, your Honor. 11 BY MR. WISNER: 12 Q. Dr. Ross, before we ended, we were looking at this study 13 involving completed suicides by John Davies dated 1991. 14 It said that certain studies were excluded, including 15 PAR-04. Do you believe PAR-04 should have been excluded? 16 Α. No. 17 Now, earlier -- well, let's go back into this 18 document, and if you look down at the bottom --19 THE COURT: What's PAR-04? 20 MR. WISNER: Sorry. BY MR. WISNER: 21 22 Q. What is PAR-04, Doctor? 23 A. So, there was a traunch called PAR-03 in which patients 24 either got Paxil or placebo, so that's a double-blind trial. 25 In theory, neither the patients nor the doctors knew who was

- getting which. And then PAR-04 was an extension of that trial.
- So, it started out with a placebo arm and a Paxil arm, and then it was continued as an extension. So, it was a placebo-controlled trial. PAR-04 was more of PAR-03 with a somewhat different design.
- Q. Why don't you believe that study PAR-04 -- why do you believe it should have been included?
- 9 A. So, you know, there's a couple of reasons. First off,
 10 this whole approach -- the question is: Should you just limit
 11 things to just placebo-controlled trials? And the answer is
 12 no.

There was a memo that we were discussing before that described the fact that this was a general -- sort of a general policy issue, wasn't specific to any drug. But in general, you don't want to exclude informative data on safety. Safety data usually comes in unexpected forms. So, you really want to consider -- you might want to say what do comparisons mean, but you don't want to exclude it.

- Q. Now, putting aside study PAR-04, in your expert opinion, do you think it was appropriate to exclude suicides that occurred in other types of trials in assessing the suicide risk?
- 24 A. No, of course not.
- 25 | Q. Why not?

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- 1 | A. Let me give -- you know, I've got a severe allergic
- 2 | reaction to penicillin in a study on pneumonia, and I'm
- 3 studying, oh, I don't know, meningitis. So I say, "Well, that
- 4 | allergic reaction in pneumonia was in pneumonia. It couldn't
- 5 possibly happen in meningitis." Everyone would laugh at me.
- 6 Saying that while this drug might be associated with
- 7 | suicide in one indication but not another is not something you
- 8 want to assume. Certainly, it's complicated by the fact that
- 9 | some conditions are more likely themselves to lead to suicide,
- 10 | but you certainly don't want to just ignore it.
- 11 | Q. Now, would you go back -- you mentioned that study PAR-04
- 12 | was a placebo-controlled trial, is that right?
- 13 **| A**. Yes.
- 14 | Q. If you could go back to Defendant's Exhibit 136.
- 15 **A**. Okay.
- 16 | Q. And if you turn to the back, there's a chart attached to
- 17 | the document. Do you see that, Doctor?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Okay. And if you go to the first chart --
- 20 MR. WISNER: Your Honor, permission to publish. This
- 21 | is already in evidence.
- 22 THE COURT: Yes, you may proceed.
- 23 BY MR. WISNER:
- 24 | Q. Looking at this chart here that was attached to that
- 25 Burnham e-mail, right?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 \parallel Q. Okay. Can you just point out to the jury -- well, what is
- 3 this a chart of, first?
- 4 A. So, these are data from clinical trials in the Paxil NDA,
- 5 | and each column represents a different piece of data. There's
- 6 ∥ one row per patient. Each row is a different patient. So,
- 7 | there's an identifying number, a case ID, how old the patient
- 8 | is, male or female. What drug were they given? What was the
- 9 cause of death? What was the investigator's conclusion about
- 10 whether or not the drug and the side effect were related? And
- 11 then some other administrative data, including which study it
- 12 | was in.
- 13 Q. Okay. Great. There we go. All right, Doctor, is there
- 14 any reference here to PAR-04?
- 15 ▮ A. Yes, there is. So, if you look at the patient who's
- 16 described on the fourth row --
- 17 | Q. I'm trying to blow it up, Doctor, but -- okay. I see it
- 18 on the fourth row, right here, Doctor?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And that states what?
- 21 A. So, this is what trial -- these code numbers describe what
- 22 | trial this patient who had a fail adverse event, which are
- 23 | they in. So, this patient was in PAR-04.
- 24 | Q. So, in this report from 1999, GSK is listing PAR-04 as a
- 25 placebo-controlled trial?

- 1 A. That is correct. They -- I just -- on top of the -- the
- 2 | heading for the spreadsheet is, "Paroxetine or placebo in
- 3 depression trials."
- 4 | Q. So, in the study report we looked at from 1991, do you
- 5 | think it was appropriate to exclude PAR-04 now we're talking
- 6 about completed suicides?
- $7 \mid A$. No, I don't think that was appropriate.
- 8 Q. All right. Let's turn to Defendant's Exhibit -- I'm
- 9 sorry, Plaintiff's Exhibit 129.
- 10 **| A**. Um-hum.
- 11 MR. WISNER: Permission to publish, your Honor. This
- 12 | is one of the reports we were just discussing.
- 13 THE COURT: Yes.
- 14 BY MR. WISNER:
- 15 Q. What is Exhibit -- Plaintiff's Exhibit 129?
- 16 A. So, this is the -- just stepping back, FDA had asked in
- 17 | April of 1999 for death -- I'm sorry, data on deaths including
- 18 I suicides from GSK, April of '99. They report the data in July
- 19 of '99, although they say, "Well, we need to do more
- 20 analysis. And then they say later that year -- and these
- 21 were the Burnham e-mail that we discussed before. They said,
- 22 | "Gee, these two suicides that were counted against placebo
- 23 | actually shouldn't have been counted at all."
- And so then this analysis takes that, looks at
- 25 suicides and suicide attempts for the first time not

- 1 | incorrectly counting those washout suicides as being
- 2 | attributable to placebo.
- 3 Q. So, Exhibit 129 is referring to suicides, is that right?
- 4 A. Correct.
- 5 | Q. All right. And if you turn to 124, Plaintiff's
- 6 | Exhibit 124 -- sorry, 122, Plaintiff's Exhibit 122, this
- 7 refers to suicide attempts, is that right?
- 8 A. That is correct.
- 9 Q. Okay. And then -- the reason why I ask, Doctor, is in
- 10 PAR-04, were there any suicide attempts in the Paxil group?
- 11 **A**. Yes.
- 12 | Q | And if we look here on the suicide attempts analysis, the
- 13 chart here, what has GSK represented about the suicide
- 14 | attempts?
- 15 A. So, there were five in the clinical trial database, five
- 16 in Paxil-exposed patients.
- 17 | Q. And this doesn't include any of the suicide attempts from
- 18 | PAR-04?
- 19 | A. I'm sorry. I just want to make sure I'm on the right
- 20 \parallel table here. I just want to make sure the document I'm looking
- 21 | at here -- I might be looking at the wrong exhibit. That's
- 22 | the problem. I've gotten a little lost here. Which exhibit
- 23 are we on? I'm sorry. I should be looking at the screen and
- 24 | not --
- 25 Q. No, that's fine. Plaintiff's Exhibit 122.

- 1 A. Plaintiff's Exhibit 122. Sorry. That's on suicide
- 2 | attempts, though.
- 3 | Q. That's correct.
- 4 A. Okay. That's where I got --
- 5 | Q. And in that analysis, study PAR-04, is it excluded?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 | Q. So, this number here of Paxil suicide attempts, does that
- 8 reflect any suicide attempts that occurred on PAR-04?
- 9 **I** A. No.
- 10 Q. Okay. All right. So, Doctor, this report by Dr. Davies
- 11 | was in what year?
- 12 A. Well, it was prepared, I believe, in '99 but was
- 13 submitted, I believe, in 2002.
- 14 | Q. Prepared in 1999?
- 15 A. I'm sorry. It was prepared -- I'm sorry. I'm confusing
- 16 | that with the Burnham memo.
- 17 It was essentially completed near the end of 2001,
- 18 sorry, and then finalized as shown by the dates here, this is
- 19 | both 122 and 129, in -- later on in 2002. Sorry about that.
- 20 | Q. Okay. Now, have you had a chance to look at the 2002
- 21 | label at the time of this submission?
- 22 A. Yes, I have.
- 23 | Q. And is that something that you could identify if I showed
- 24 | it to you today?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Can you please turn to Plaintiff's Exhibit 293.
- 2 MR. BAYMAN: Objection, your Honor. He has no
- 3 opinions about the 2002 label in his report or in his
- 4 | testimony. Again, this is not the label that's at issue in
- 5 this case, so we are far afield.
- 6 MR. WISNER: Your Honor, he has testified and has
- 7 offered opinions that GSK did not adequately warn about the
- 8 risks of adult suicide from the very beginning. 2002 is part
- 9 of that story.
- 10 THE COURT: All right. You may proceed.
- 11 ∥ BY MR. WISNER:
- 12 Q. Doctor, what is Exhibit 293?
- 13 A. So, Exhibit 293 is basically -- this is taken from the
- 14 | Physicians Desk Reference. It's the 2002 approved labeling
- 15 **|** for Paxil.
- 16 Q. What is the *Physicians Desk Reference*?
- 17 A. So, the *Physicians Desk Reference* is -- basically, it's a
- 18 big advertising book. It is -- drug manufacturers will
- 19 purchase space in it to publish their labels, their
- 20 | FDA-approved labels.
- 21 | Q. And so does it contain FDA-approved labels?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 | Q. And in 2002, was it standard practice for physicians to
- 24 use the *PDR* to look at labels?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 \mathbb{Q} . Is this a fair and accurate copy of the Paxil entry in the
- 2 | PDR as it existed in 2002?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 MR. WISNER: Your Honor, permission to publish?
- 5 THE COURT: Yes, proceed.
- 6 BY MR. WISNER:
- 7 | Q. All right. Doctor, if we see here, it's in the middle of
- 8 the column, it has, "Paxil." Do you see that?
- 9 ∥A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And the way it's listed here in columns, this is sort of
- 11 | like a dictionary. Is that intentional? Well, strike that.
- 12 Is this something that is alphabetized in
- 13 | alphabetical order in the *PDR*?
- 14 **A**. Yes.
- 15 | Q. All right. Let's look at the suicide -- let's look at the
- 16 warnings, if they had any, in 2002. Go down here again. Look
- 17 | at the section here that's titled, "Suicide." Do you see
- 18 | that, Doctor?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 | Q. That paragraph says, "The possibility of a suicide attempt
- 21 | is inherent in depression and may persist until significant
- 22 remission occurs." Is that the same as what we saw in 1992?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 | Q. Is -- does that paragraph in any way tell physicians that
- 25 | Paxil induces adult suicidal behavior over the age of 30?

- 1 **A**. No.
- 2 Q. Does it say anything about Paxil inducing suicidal
- 3 | behavior?
- 4 | A. No.
- 5 | Q. All right. Let's go to those adverse events sections
- 6 | again. All right. So, I'll call it out here for you, Doctor.
- 7 | Again, it's the section titled, "Other events during the
- 8 premarketing evaluation of Paxil." Do you see that?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And this is the same process used to reflect adverse
- 11 | events in the label as it existed in 1992?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And here, we see that the number has increased from --
- 14 increased to 6,000. Do you see that?
- 15 **A**. Yes.
- 16 Q. What does that reflect?
- 17 A. So, that reflects the total number of -- as of the date of
- 18 approval of this label, that reflects the number of patients
- 19 who got multiple doses of Paxil in phase 2 and 3 studies.
- 20 Q. Okay. Now let's take a look at the nervous system section
- 21 again.
- 22 All right. Doctor, I see this nervous system
- 23 section. Do you see any statement of suicide attempt?
- 24 A. No.
- 25 | Q. Do you see emotional lability?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 | Q. And how is emotional lability depicted here?
- 3 A. It is the first item after, "Frequent."
- 4 | Q. Is your understanding that based on the data at least from
- 5 | 1989 onward, that suicide attempts should have been considered
- 6 a frequent adverse event?
- 7 **A**. Yes.
- 8 Q. So, to be clear, Doctor, for this 10-year period between
- 9 1992 and 2002, did the label for Paxil ever disclose suicide
- 10 | attempts as a frequent adverse event?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 | Q. At any time after 2002 --
- 13 THE COURT: What section are you referring to?
- 14 MR. WISNER: I was referring to the whole label, but
- 15 | specifically, your Honor, the nervous system section right
- 16 | here.
- 17 | THE COURT: Yeah. Okay. All right. Thank you.
- 18 MR. WISNER: No problem.
- 19 | BY MR. WISNER:
- 20 Q. Now, Doctor, following the 2002 --
- 21 MR. WINSNER: Actually, at this time, your Honor, I
- 22 | would move Plaintiff's Exhibit 293 into evidence.
- 23 THE COURT: It may be received.
- 24 (Said exhibit admitted in evidence.)
- MR. WISNER: I'd also like to move Plaintiff's

- 1 Exhibit 122 and 129, which are those suicide reports from
- 2 | 199- -- 2002 into evidence as well.
- THE COURT: It may be received.
- 4 (Said exhibits admitted in evidence.)
- 5 | BY MR. WISNER:
- 6 \parallel Q. Okay. Now, this issue of emotional lability and suicide,
- 7 did this become an issue within the FDA as it relates to --
- 8 MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor --
- 9 MR. WISNER: Let me finish my question.
- 10 BY MR. WISNER:
- 11 Q. -- as it relates to SSRIs after 2002?
- 12 **A**. Yes.
- 13 MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, I'm objecting to the line of
- 14 | questioning that he's going down again with respect to
- 15 pediatrics.
- 16 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 17 BY MR. WISNER:
- 18 | Q. And have you seen any internal communications within the
- 19 | FDA concerning the coding of suicide attempts as emotional
- 20 | lability?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, you've ruled this out
- 23 previously, so I object. Your ruling on the motion *in limine*
- 24 | as to pediatrics was very limited, very --
- 25 THE COURT: Overruled.

- 1 BY MR. WISNER:
- 2 | Q. And would you recognize those internal communications if
- 3 | you saw them today?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And as someone who worked at the FDA, are these the type
- 6 of communications you would have participated in at that time?
- 7 **A**. Yes.
- 8 MR. WISNER: Your Honor, at this time -- oh, sorry.
- 9 We're not there yet.
- 10 | BY MR. WISNER:
- 11 Q. Doctor, can you please turn to Plaintiff's Exhibit 27 in
- 12 | your book.
- 13 MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, this is the exhibit that you
- 14 | ruled out when it came up with Dr. Healy when we had the
- 15 sidebar conference, and so I object to it.
- 16 MR. WISNER: Your Honor, if I can respond, I don't
- 17 | know if there should be a sidebar or not; but I believe your
- 18 ruling was, "For now it's staying out, but I'm not sure about
- 19 ∥ next week."
- 20 THE COURT: I may well have said that.
- 21 MR. WISNER: So now we're here next week, and I've
- 22 got an FDA expert talking about FDA e-mails. I think it's
- 23 | time --
- 24 THE COURT: Let me take a quick look at it.
- 25 MR. BAYMAN: We'd like to have a sidebar, your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. You may as well bring your magnifying glass with you, too. How many pages is this? MR. WISNER: Eight pages, your Honor. (Proceedings heard at sidebar:)

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(Proceedings heard in open court, jury present:)

MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, may I have a continuing objection so I don't have to interrupt?

THE COURT: Yes, sir, you may.

MR. BAYMAN: Thank you.

- 11 BY MR. WISNER:
- 12 | Q. Doctor, Exhibit 27, what is it?
- 13 A. So, this is a series of e-mails basically between Russ
- 14 Katz, who was the -- I don't remember Russ's exact title at
- 15 that time, but he was a senior member of the neuro-pharm
- 16 division, and reviewers in the office of drug safety, who are
- 17 | the people who review safety and risk-related data.
- 18 Q. This is a document you've seen before?
- 19 **A**. Yes.
- 20 | Q. Relied upon in rendering your testimony today?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 | Q. And do you have an opinion about whether or not, under
- 23 | FDA's regulations and practices, coding suicide attempts as
- 24 | emotional lability was proper?
- 25 **A**. I do.

- 1 \ Q. And does this document support that opinion?
- 2 A. It does.
- 3 MR. BAYMAN: Objection. I would also object, your
- 4 ∥ Honor, that this is another opinion that's not been disclosed
- 5 | in his report or in his testimony.
- 6 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 7 MR. WINSNER: Permission to publish, your Honor?
- 8 THE COURT: Yes.
- 9 BY MR. WISNER:
- 10 Q. All right. Doctor, I want to focus in on this e-mail
- 11 | exchange right here. Who is the e-mail from, and who is it
- 12 | to?
- 13 A. So, this is from Dr. Russell Katz, who had previously
- 14 served as the division director for neuro-pharm, and Andy
- 15 Mosholder, both of them physicians at FDA.
- 16 | Q. And did both of these individuals with FDA review Paxil
- 17 | data?
- 18 **A**. Yes.
- 19 | Q. And are they talking about Paxil data in this e-mail?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 | Q. Let's start off with the second paragraph in the e-mail.
- 22 | It starts off, "It turns out that the sponsor was in the
- 23 process of submitting to us a partial response to a question
- 24 we asked in the approval letter for the pediatric use."
- 25 I'll stop right there because there's a lot of

- 1 | jargon. What is the sponsor?
- 2 A. The drug manufacturer.
- 3 | Q. Okay. And, "submitting to us a partial response to a
- 4 | question, what is that?
- 5 A. So, that is -- I'm sorry. GSK submitted an application to
- 6 get Paxil approved for use with kids. FDA was reviewing it
- 7 \parallel and asked a question back to GSK, who gave a partial answer.
- 8 Q. What's the difference between a partial answer and a
- 9 | complete answer?
- 10 A. Well, a partial answer leaves something out.
- 11 | Q. Okay. It says, "Specifically, we asked them to further
- 12 | elaborate on the events subsumed under the preferred term
- 13 emotional lability."
- 14 What does it mean when it says, "preferred term
- 15 | emotional lability"?
- 16 A. So, at this time, FDA was moving away from COSTART and
- 17 moving to another adverse event dictionary, if you will, with
- 18 what are called preferred terms, which is basically the same
- 19 thing as the standard terms in COSTART, but broader and more
- 20 descriptive.
- 21 \mathbf{Q} . It goes on, "We have received this partial response, and
- 22 almost all of these events related to suicidality." Do you
- 23 | see that?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 | Q. Based on the practices within the FDA at the time in 2003,

- 1 were -- was emotional lability considered the same as
- 2 | suicidality?
- 3 A. No --
- 4 MR. BAYMAN: Objection, your Honor. He's speculating
- 5 | now.
- 6 THE COURT: Overruled. If he knows.
- 7 | BY THE WITNESS:
- 8 | A. No, absolute -- that is, I should just say, something that
- 9 you can go back to the coding sets, the list of terms, and
- 10 | say, "What's -- how do you use these?" These were
- 11 presentations being given to reviewers and team leaders. I
- 12 was working on an application at this point where such coding
- 13 ∥ was incredibly important, so I was then and am now very
- 14 | familiar with this issue about: Miscoding of adverse events,
- 15 | can that give you a false picture of what's really going on?
- 16 ∥ BY MR. WINSNER:
- 17 | Q. All right. Look at the next page. In the middle of the
- 18 paragraph, it says, "We have some problems with the
- 19 | methodology they used to capture cases, but this is a major
- 20 | finding, and it has us worried. The sponsor has not proposed
- 21 | labeling changes and makes a feeble attempt to dismiss this
- 22 | finding. We are also awaiting the submission of what the
- 23 | sponsor submitted to the UK."
- Now, what does it mean when it says they haven't
- 25 proposed labeling changes?

- 1 A. So, in this context, it would mean, A, we realized that 2 emotional lability is --
- MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, he's now -- it's a very
 simple phrase. The document speaks for itself, and he's now
 trying to characterize what it means beyond what the document
 says.
- THE COURT: Just confine your analysis to what the document says, Doctor.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
- 10 BY THE WITNESS:
- 11 A. Labeling changes with regard to the Paxil label.
- 12 BY MR. WISNER:
- 13 Q. Is it standard procedure or, in fact, a regulatory
- 14 requirement that a sponsor propose labeling changes when it
- 15 discovers a safety signal?
- 16 A. Excuse me. If there is a serious adverse event on which
- 17 the sponsor, the manufacturer, has information, as we
- 18 discussed back at the beginning of the day, the sponsor has to
- 19 revise the label as soon as possible.
- 20 \mathbb{Q} . All right. I want to look at this next sentence right
- 21 here, these next few sentences. "We want to move quickly to
- 22 evaluate this signal. We are planning to look at the NDAs for
- 23 other SSRIs to see whether or not similar events are being
- 24 | hidden by various inappropriate coding maneuvers, but we'd
- 25 also like to compare the drugs in other meaningful ways, if we

- can. We also want to call the sponsor very soon and ask some questions about their methodology."
- Now, Doctor, what is -- it says, "move quickly to evaluate this signal." What is a signal in FDA parlance?
- 5 A. A signal is an excess of adverse events that may represent 6 a safety problem.
- 7 | Q. Now, this e-mail is dated 2003, is that right?
- 8 A. Yes.

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- 9 Q. In your opinion, do you believe that there was a signal
 10 for Paxil and adult suicide over the age of 30 prior to 2003?
- A. I would say it wasn't just a signal. It was a real -
 there was reasonable evidence of an association. So, that's

13 stronger than a signal.

- There was the basis to -- you wouldn't revise a label for a signal, but there's something much stronger than that already. And that's, as I said earlier, going back to '92.
- Q. It says here, "We're going to look at the NDAs for other SSRIs to see whether or not similar events are being hidden by various inappropriate coding maneuvers."

At this time, did the FDA initiate an investigation into the suicidal connection between SSRIs, in children, adolescents, and adults?

23 A. Yes.

MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, objection. We're now getting into pediatrics.

- THE COURT: All right. To make it clear, we're not concerned with pediatric suicidality. We're concerned with adult suicidality. But there are certain connections in the manner of the presentation of documents which warrants some
- 5 inquiry, limited, into what was going on in terms of the 6 investigation.
 - The investigation was not separated, as I understand what I've been told, but I may hear more from the defense about that at a later time.
- 10 And on that basis, I'll permit the inquiry.
- 11 BY MR. WISNER:
- 12 | Q. Now, Doctor, was there an investigation that began shortly
- 13 | after these e-mail exchanges?
- 14 **| A**. Yes.

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- 15 Q. And did that first -- did the initial look at the data
- 16 | focus on pediatrics?
- 17 **A**. Yes.
- 18 Q. And then after that point, did it transition to adults?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Now, in the interim, before they got to the adult data,
- 21 did the FDA issue a safety alert in 2004?
- 22 **A**. It did.
- 23 \mid Q. And what was the nature of that safety alert?
- 24 A. So, there was what's called a public --
- 25 MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, this is right in the heart

- 1 now of the pediatrics. The 2004 safety alert --
- 2 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 3 | BY THE WITNESS:
- 4 | A. So, the FDA issued what's called a public health advisory,
- 5 | which tells the public, including health care providers, that
- 6 ∥ there's a problem that FDA has identified, almost always it's
- 7 concerning drug safety; and the FDA is investigating it, and
- 8 | in the meantime, keep your ears open.
- 9 BY MR. WISNER:
- 10 Q. Did you specifically -- do you know whether or not at this
- 11 | time, while the FDA was investigating these potential signals,
- 12 whether or not they instituted a temporary class label?
- 13 A. I believe they did. I believe they did.
- 14 | Q. Okay. Would you recognize that class labeling if you saw
- 15 | it today?
- 16 A. Yes, I believe so.
- MR. WISNER: Before I move on, your Honor, I would
- 18 | move Plaintiff's Exhibit 27 into evidence.
- 19 THE COURT: All right. It may be received.
- 20 MR. BAYMAN: Yeah, same objection, your Honor.
- 21 THE COURT: Yes, you have a standing objection.
- 22 (Said exhibit admitted in evidence.)
- 23 BY MR. WISNER:
- 24 | Q. All right. Doctor, if you could turn to Joint Exhibit 7.
- 25 THE COURT: That's in another book, I guess, huh?

- MR. WISNER: No, it should be in the same book. It's just JX 7.
- THE COURT: I've got it, yes. Thank you.
- 4 ∥ BY MR. WISNER:
- 5 Q. Do you see Joint Exhibit 7, Doctor?
- 6 | A. I do.
- 7 **Q**. 0kay.
- 8 MR. WISNER: This is already in evidence, your Honor.
- 9 Permission to publish?
- 10 THE COURT: Yes, you may.
- 11 BY MR. WISNER:
- 12 | Q. What is this we're looking at, Doctor?
- 13 A. So, this is a -- what's called a Dear Health Care
- 14 | Professional letter sent out by GlaxoSmithKline with regard to
- 15 | the issue of safety issues involving antidepressants and the
- 16 | FDA's actions with regard to that.
- 17 | Q. All right. It says here that, "On March 22nd, 2004, the
- 18 | FDA issued a public health advisory cautioning physicians,
- 19 their patients, and families about the need to closely monitor
- 20 | all patients being treated with antidepressants. This
- 21 | advisory arose from the FDA's ongoing review of potential
- 22 | safety issues involving antidepressants in pediatric patients.
- 23 | Additional information concerning this review is expected
- 24 | later this year. The FDA also announced it was proposing
- 25 | labeling changes for 10 antidepressants."

There's a bunch listed there. Do you see Paxil,

- 2 Doctor?
- 3 **A**. I do.
- 4 | Q. All right. "These labeling changes, which have now been
- 5 | finalized, describe that patients with major depressive
- 6 disorder, both adult and pediatric, may experience worsening
- 7 of their depression and/or emergence of suicidal ideation,
- 8 whether or not they are taking antidepressant medications."
- 9 I'm going to stop right there and look at that
- 10 sentence. Where it says that they might experience some
- 11 worsening depression and/or emergence of suicidal ideation and
- 12 behavior whether or not they are taking antidepressant
- 13 | medications, does that indicate that the drugs themselves are
- 14 | causing any of these suicidality concerns?
- 15 A. Going back to the language of the regulations, a causative
- 16 relationship does not have to be established. What it --
- 17 | those labeling changes say, though, that there is reasonable
- 18 | evidence to associate those drugs with worsening of suicidal
- 19 | ideation or depression, in other words, emergence of
- 20 | suicidality.
- 21 | Q. Yeah, Doctor. But it says here, "whether or not they are
- 22 | taking antidepressant medications." Does that state that
- 23 | Paxil or any of these SSRIs can induce adult suicidal
- 24 | behavior?
- 25 A. I'm sorry. I'm reading this as if it were from the FDA.

- 1 | I apologize. No, it does not say that.
- 2 Q. Okay. What does it say?
- 3 | A. It just says, well, may experience worsening of their
- 4 depression whether or not they are taking antidepressant
- 5 | medications.
- 6 | Q. Considering what we've known about the risk of suicidal
- 7 behavior and Paxil ingestion starting in 1989, does this
- 8 sentence or this statement in any way warn that Paxil induces
- 9 suicidal behavior in adults over the age of 30?
- 10 **A**. No.
- 11 | Q. All right. It goes on -- in fact, Doctor, you recall in
- 12 the 1992 label, it says that depression is associated with
- 13 | suicide, remember?
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 | Q. And it says patients should be monitored because depressed
- 16 patients, you know, you should take care of them, right?
- 17 Is this a continuing reiteration of the fact that
- 18 depressed patients should be closely monitored?
- 19 A. Basically, when it says, "whether or not they are taking
- 20 antidepressant medications," it sounds like that doesn't have
- 21 \parallel anything to do with it, per se. It's independent of the
- 22 | antidepressant medications.
- MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, could we have the last
- 24 sentence read for the rule of completeness?
- 25 THE COURT: You can cover it on cross-examination,

- 1 | sir.
- 2 BY MR. WISNER:
- 3 | Q. Let's read the last sentence. "The changes include a new
- 4 warning recommending close observation of adult and pediatric
- 5 patients treated with antidepressant drugs for worsening
- 6 depression or the emergence of suicidality, particularly at
- 7 | the beginning of treatment or at the time of dose increases or
- 8 decreases."
- 9 Do you see that, Doctor?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 | Q. Again, does this say anything about Paxil inducing adult
- 12 | suicidal behavior?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 | Q. Does it say anything about any SSRI inducing adult
- 15 | suicidal behavior?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 | Q. And in the context of just saying that this could be done
- 18 regardless of whether or not you're taking a medication or
- 19 | not, does this warn doctors that patients that they're
- 20 starting on Paxil could have a drug-induced reaction leading
- 21 | to their death?
- 22 A. No.
- 23 | Q. Now, if you look at the second page here, we see a bunch
- 24 of warnings. Do you see that, Doctor?
- 25 **A**. Yes.

- 1 Q. And these were the class-wide warnings that were
- 2 | instituted at the time, is that right?
- 3 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 4 | Q. All right. Let's go through some of them. I don't want
- 5 \parallel to go through all of them. It's going to take us all day, but
- 6 we do need to talk about them.
- 7 It says, "Warnings: Clinical worsening and suicide
- 8 | risk." It goes on to read, "Patients with major depressive
- 9 disorder, both adult and pediatric, may experience worsening
- 10 of their depression and/or the emergence of suicidal ideation
- 11 and behavior (suicidality) whether or not they are taking
- 12 | antidepressant medications, and this risk may persist until
- 13 | significant remission occurs."
- 14 So, that's basically what we saw in the letter,
- 15 | right?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 | Q. "Although there has been a longstanding concern that
- 18 ■ antidepressants may have a role in inducing worsening of
- 19 depression and the emergence of suicidality in certain
- 20 patients, a causal role for antidepressants in inducing such
- 21 behaviors has not been established."
- 22 Do you see that?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. We're going to get to the next sentence in a second, but
- 25 what is it saying here, then, with regards to whether or not

- 1 | there's a relation between antidepressants and drug-induced
- 2 | suicidal behavior?
- 3 ▮ A. Well, it's a little odd, because it says --
- 4 MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, the letter speaks for
- 5 | itself.

- 6 MR. WISNER: Your Honor, he's a labeling expert.
- 7 THE COURT: Yes, yes. Go ahead, Doctor.
 - THE WITNESS: Thank you, your Honor.
- 9 BY THE WITNESS:
- 10 A. The causal -- it's understood by everybody who knows what
- 11 | they're doing at the FDA and in industry that a warning needs
- 12 | to be added when you've got reasonable evidence of an
- 13 association under the rules that are in effect for Paxil.
- 14 And you don't need to say the causal role has not
- 15 been established. In fact, the regs go on to say you don't
- 16 | have to have proof of a causal relationship.
- 17 So, it really seems like this is almost -- saying,
- 18 | "Don't over-interpret this. Don't put too much weight on
- 19 this, because we haven't seen anything definite yet."
- 20 BY MR. WISNER:
- 21 | Q. Let me ask you in plain English, Doctor --
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 | Q. -- does that sentence say Paxil can induce suicidal
- 24 | behavior?
- 25 A. No.

- 1 Q. Does it say, "This drug can induce suicidal behavior"?
- 2 A. No, it does not.
- 3 Q. Does it say, "This drug can induce a reaction that could
- 4 | lead to a suicide"?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 | Q. It says a causal role has not been established, isn't that
- 7 | right?
- 8 A. That's correct.
- 9 Q. The next sentence says, "Nevertheless, patients being
- 10 treated with antidepressants should be observed closely for
- 11 | clinical worsening and suicidality, especially at beginning of
- 12 | a course of drug therapy or at the time of dose changes,
- 13 either increases or decreases."
- 14 Do you see that, Doctor?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 | Q. Is that how you treat any patient with depression?
- 17 A. Yes. That's my --
- 18 MR. BAYMAN: Objection, your Honor. He's not a
- 19 | psychiatrist.
- 20 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 21 BY MR. WISNER:
- 22 | Q. Is that how you treat patients with depression?
- 23 A. In my practice, yes. I give patients my personal
- 24 cellphone, and I say, "If you're having a problem, call me."
- 25 | Q. Do psychiatrists -- are they the only ones who treat

- 1 depression?
- 2 A. No, of course not.
- $3 \mid Q$. In fact, the vast majority of people who are treated for
- 4 depression, what type of doctors are they?
- 5 A. Primary care physicians.
- 6 | Q. What kind of doctor are you?
- 7 **| A**. I deliver primary care and specialty care.
- 8 | Q. And as a primary care physician reading this sentence
- 9 about monitoring patients -- sorry, it looks like it's getting
- 10 cut off -- reading a sentence about monitoring patients, does
- 11 | that tell you as a primary care doctor, "This drug could cause
- 12 | my patient to go kill himself"?
- 13 A. No, it doesn't say anything of the sort.
- 14 | Q. Does it in any way suggest to you that you have to be
- 15 | concerned about your patient having a drug-induced reaction at
- 16 | that point?
- 17 **A**. No.
- 18 Q. Okay. Let's read the next paragraph.
- 19 Because of the possibility of comorbidity between
- 20 major depressive disorder and other psychiatric and
- 21 | non-psychiatric disorders, the same precautions observed when
- 22 | treating patients with major depressive disorder should be
- 23 | observed when treating patients with other psychiatric and
- 24 ∥ non-psychiatric disorders."
- 25 Again, is there anything in there about these drugs

- 1 | inducing adult suicidal behavior?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 | Q. All right. And then it goes on to read, "The following
- 4 | symptoms" -- and it lists a bunch of symptoms. I'll read a
- 5 | few of them. It says, "anxiety, agitation, panic attacks,
- 6 insomnia, irritability, hostility or aggressiveness,
- 7 | impulsivity, akathisia (psychomotor restlessness)," and then
- 8 | it goes on, "have been reported in adult and pediatric
- 9 patients being treated with antidepressants for major
- 10 depressive disorder as well as for other indications both
- 11 psychiatric and non-psychiatric."
- 12 Now, Doctor, you mentioned the Teischer article
- 13 earlier. Is that an example of a physician reporting a
- 14 reaction of akathisia from an SSRI?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. It says -- let's go to the next sentence. "Although a
- 17 causal link between the emergence of such symptoms and either
- 18 the worsening of depression and/or the emergence of suicidal
- 19 | impulses has not been established" -- I'll stop right there.
- 20 | What is that telling the person reading this?
- 21 MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, what is that telling the
- 22 person reading this, or what is that telling him?
- 23 MR. WINSNER: I'll rephrase.
- 24 BY MR. WISNER:
- 25 | Q. What does that tell a primary physician considering

- 1 prescribing an SSRI for their patient?
- 2 MR. BAYMAN: Same objection, your Honor.
- 3 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 4 BY THE WITNESS:
- 5 A. Well, there are warnings that are added that say very
- 6 explicitly, "Caution, this drug, if you start seeing this with
- 7 | this specific drug, stop the drug." This kind of says, "Well,
- 8 you know, we don't really know what's going on here."
- 9 And that's how -- if I had a new drug in front of me
- 10 ∥ or a new drug label and was thinking about prescribing it for
- 11 | a patient, that's how I'd read it.
- 12 BY MR. WISNER:
- 13 | Q. Now, Doctor, this is 2004, right?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. We've had a drug label since 1992 that makes no mention of
- 16 the relationship between Paxil and suicide, right?
- 17 A. That's correct.
- 18 \mathbf{Q} . So, reading this now, that there is no causal link between
- 19 these side effects and suicidality, what does that mean?
- 20 A. Again, that is a statement that is redundant because of
- 21 the standard that you don't need to show a causal
- 22 relationship. So, it's almost saying -- not almost. I really
- 23 | think the message is, "It's really not clear if there's
- 24 | anything going on. There's certainly nothing specific here
- 25 about Paxil."

- 1 \parallel Q. It goes on, "Consideration should be given to changing the
- 2 | therapeutic regimen, including possibly discontinuing the
- 3 | medication in patients for whom symptoms are severe, abrupt in
- 4 onset, or were not part of the patient's presenting symptoms."
- 5 Do you see that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 | Q. Okay. Again, does that say anything about, "Hey, this
- 8 drug could cause an adult over the age of 30 to engage in
- 9 | suicidal behavior"?
- 10 A. Well, you know, the thing that is confusing is this is
- 12 you think that it might be doing something -- and I deal with
- 13 | this all the time with HIV drugs, for example. It says, "Stop
- 14 | the drug immediately," even though there hasn't been a causal
- 15 | relationship established. You don't want to take a chance.
- 16 | Certainly, there's alternatives.
- 17 I mean, you know, at the very least, if I think
- 18 somebody's having a problem, well, they're going to lose the
- 19 drug's benefit, then I'll choose an alternative.
- 20 But this says, "Consideration should be given." If
- 21 the -- it's not very noticeable. It's not a warning in the
- 22 sense of, like, "Stop."
- 23 | Q. Now, it has here symptoms like anxiety and agitation,
- 24 | insomnia, hostility. Do you see all of that, Doctor?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 \ Q. Do you see suicidality anywhere in there?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Do you see suicide attempts anywhere in there?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 | Q. Do you see emotional lability in there?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. All right. It goes on to read, "Families and caregivers
- 8 of patients being treated with antidepressants for major
- 9 depressive disorder or other indications, both psychiatric and
- 10 | non-psychiatric, should be alerted about the need to monitor
- 11 patients for the emergence of agitation, irritability, and the
- 12 other symptoms described above, as well as the emergence of
- 13 | suicidality, and to report such symptoms immediately to
- 14 | health care providers. Prescriptions of Paxil should be
- 15 written for the smallest quantity of capsules consistent with
- 16 good patient management in order to reduce the risk of
- 17 | overdose."
- Doctor, does this say anything new that we haven't
- 19 | already covered?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 | Q. What's it telling the person -- the reader -- the
- 22 physician reading it to do?
- 23 A. Do something that you will be doing anyhow regardless of
- 24 | whether they're on antidepressants or not.
- 25 Q. Does it state that Paxil can induce adult suicidal

- 1 | behavior in that paragraph?
- 2 A. No.
- 4 | the drug. We'll skip that.
- 5 Is there any more discussion about anything involving
- 6 suicidality at all, Doctor, in these paragraphs?
- $7 \mid A$. I -- in reviewing this, I did not see anything.
- 8 | Q. Okay. If you look down at the bottom, there's a
- 9 Precautions section. Do you see that?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 | Q. It says, "Patients and their families should be encouraged
- 12 | to be alert to the emergence of anxiety," and it repeats all
- 13 the same things from before, right?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. It says, "Such symptoms should be reported to the
- 16 patient's physician, especially in they are severe, abrupt in
- 17 onset, or were not part of the patient's presenting symptoms."
- 18 Do you see that?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Again, is that standard medical practice?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 | Q. Now, Doctor, we've just read a whole page of jargon and
- 23 | the label --
- 24 MR. BAYMAN: Objection to the characterization,
- 25 | jargon.

- 1 THE COURT: Yes. Use a better term than jargon,
- 2 please. That may go out.
- 3 MR. BAYMAN: Thank you.
- 4 MR. WINSNER: Yes, your Honor.
- 5 BY MR. WISNER:
- 6 | Q. Considering all the language we just read, as a primary
- 7 | care physician and somebody who works -- who worked at the
- 8 | FDA, actually helped create labels, does this label warn
- 9 │ about the increased risk of adult suicidal behavior in adults
- 10 | over 30?
- 11 A. In those taking Paxil?
- 12 Q. Yeah.
- 13 A. No.
- 14 | Q. Do you think that this is a sufficient warning for a
- 15 doctor to know about the risks that you've seen?
- 16 A. Can I answer that with a very quick story? The DC-9 was
- 17 originally built so that the flap louvres, which are used to
- 18 increase lift, were close to the thrust reversers, which turn
- 19 the engine off. And there was a -- the manufacturer put in a
- 20 sign saying, "Caution: Thrust reversers near flap" --
- 21 | "Caution: Don't mix up the two."
- 22 And somebody said, "You might as well put up a sign
- 23 saying, 'Do not crash this plane.'" It didn't give a specific
- 24 | instruction that you could use in that configuration.
- This is the equivalent of saying, "Do not crash this

- 1 plane." It doesn't give me anything useful.
- 2 | Q. And as a doctor who's considering weighing the risks and
- 3 benefits of a drug you might be putting your patient on, does
- 4 | this warning adequately give you enough information to make a
- 5 decision about whether or not to prescribe a drug to that
- 6 patient?
- 7 MR. BAYMAN: Objection, your Honor. He's never
- 8 prescribed an SSRI. We're now getting really, really far
- 9 | afield.
- 10 MR. WISNER: Objection. Move to strike his objection
- 11 as nonsense. He can't testify.
- 12 THE COURT: All right. Is this the final label?
- 13 MR. WISNER: No, your Honor. This is the initial
- 14 class-wide warning.
- 15 THE COURT: Class-wide warning. Are we going on to
- 16 the final label?
- 17 MR. WISNER: Yes.
- 18 THE COURT: All right. Why don't you do that. Move
- 19 on. This, I think, was covered.
- 20 MR. WISNER: Okay.
- 21 BY MR. WISNER:
- 22 | Q. Before we move on, have you ever prescribed an
- 23 | antidepressant?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Okay. Let me clarify that. Have you ever initiated a

- 1 person on an antidepressant for the very first time?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 | Q. Have you ever prescribed an SSRI for somebody for the very
- 4 | first time?
- 5 | A. Well, that's not a yes-or-no question. The reason, say,
- 6 is what I do is I treat depression, and there's a number of
- 7 | tools for treating that. There are drugs and non-drug things.
- 8 So, there are reasons that physicians and other providers make
- 9 choices. You need to say, "What tool am I going to use here
- 10 | to help this patient?"
- 11 So, I certainly have patients who other people have
- 12 put on SSRIs, and I look at that, because part of my
- 13 responsibility is to say, "Should they continue on it?"
- 14 So, I don't know if that answers your question.
- 15 | Q. I think it does. Thank you, Doctor.
- 16 Now, after 2004, did the FDA ultimately complete its
- 17 | investigation into suicidality?
- 18 **A**. Yes.
- 19 Q. Prior to that, did GSK conduct its own analysis and
- 20 | investigation?
- 21 A. I believe so.
- 22 | Q. All right. Would you recognize that analysis if you saw
- 23 | it today?
- 24 A. Yes, I believe so.
- 25 Q. Okay. Turn to Plaintiff's Exhibit 9 in your binder.

- 1 Do you have it there, Doctor?
- 2 A. Yes.
- MR. WISNER: Permission to publish, your Honor? This
- 4 is already in evidence.
- 5 THE COURT: Yes.
- 6 ∥ BY MR. WISNER:
- 7 Q. Okay, Doctor. What is Exhibit 9?
- 8 A. So, this is a letter from GlaxoSmithKline to Dr. Laughren,
- 9 division of psychiatry products, which is what it was now
- 10 called, about Paxil; and they are providing updated results
- 11 | from an earlier analysis of Paxil and suicide that had been
- 12 submitted to the FDA.
- 13 Q. You reviewed this document, obviously, in preparing your
- 14 | testimony?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And let's -- let's read what their analysis said. Sorry.
- 17 Let's get the whole thing called up.
- So, on page 2, we have the summary results of
- 19 suicidality analysis in adults. Do you see that?
- 20 | A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And it starts off by saying, "Young adults, especially
- 22 | those with MDD, may be at an increased risk for suicidal
- 23 behavior during treatment with paroxetine. Analysis of
- 24 placebo-controlled trials of adults with psychiatric disorders
- 25 showed a higher frequency of suicidal behavior in young

- 1 adults, prospectively defined as aged 18 to 24 years, treated
- 2 with paroxetine compared with placebo, although this
- 3 difference was not statistically significant."
- 4 Do you see that, Doctor?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. What does that mean in layman's terms?
- 7 \blacksquare A. Young adults are more likely to try to kill themselves if
- 8 | they get Paxil versus a placebo.
- 9 \mathbf{Q} . But it says that this difference was not statistically
- 10 significant. Does that make a difference here?
- 11 **A**. No.
- 12 | Q. All right. Let's read the next result.
- "In the older groups, aged 25 to 64 years or equaling
- 14 65 years, no such increase was observed." Do you see that?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 \mathbf{Q} . And that's referring to suicidality. Does that include
- 17 ideation as well?
- 18 ▮ A. Well, given the terminology that they were -- and the
- 19 | methodology that was being used, suicidal behavior -- suicidal
- 20 | ideation was one category of adverse event that was less
- 21 severe than suicidal behavior. In other words, there's
- 22 | suicide; there's attempted suicide; there's things like making
- 23 | a plan to commit suicide; and then there's thoughts or
- 24 | ideation of suicide.
- 25 | Q. All right. It says here, "In adults with MDD, all ages,

- 1 | there was a statistically significant increase in the
- 2 | frequency of suicidal behavior in patients treated with
- 3 paroxetine compared to placebo." Do you see that?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. What does that mean?
- $6 \mid A$. So, if you look at patients with depression overall,
- 7 | regardless of the age, patients getting Paxil were more
- 8 | likely to experience suicidal behavior than people who got
- 9 placebo. So, that's killing themselves, trying to kill
- 10 themselves, or planning to kill themselves.
- 11 Q. So, the first sentence says there was no risk in older
- 12 groups. This sentence says for depressive patients, they're
- 13 more likely to engage in suicidal acts; is that fair to say?
- 14 **A**. Yes.
- 15 Q. And that's for all ages, right?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 | Q. Now, it goes on. It says, "However, the majority of these
- 18 attempts for paroxetine, 8 of 11, were in younger adults aged
- 19 | 18 through 30. These MDD suggest that the higher frequency
- 20 observed in the younger adult population across psychiatric
- 21 | disorders may extend beyond the age of 24."
- 22 Let's break that down for a second. It says that the
- 23 | majority of these attempts were in younger adults aged 18
- 24 | through 30. Is that misleading, in your opinion?
- 25 **A**. Yes.

- 1 | Q. Why?
- 2 | A. Because it's based on a -- manipulating the data to look
- 3 | like it's only the younger adults. You could just as well
- 4 | argue, based on the data that they're talking about, that the
- 5 | majority of attempts occurred in people older than 25, that
- 6 is, older adults, not younger adults. Those can't both be
- 7 | true, but the data would support either one.
- $8 \parallel Q$. Now, I want to go back to the previous page for a brief
- 9 second. It says right here that for suicidal behavior in
- 10 young adults, it was prospectively defined as aged 18
- 11 | through 24. Do you see that?
- 12 **A**. Yes.
- 13 Q. All right. Well, let's go back to this one, and now it's
- 14 calling younger adults age 18 through 30. Is that correct?
- 15 A. Well, saying the majority implies that this is the right
- 16 way to analyze the data; but as I just said, you could say the
- 17 | majority of these attempts, and by majority, I mean eight out
- 18 of 11, were in people older than 25. You could cut the data
- 19 | another way.
- This is what we used to call data dredging at FDA,
- 21 which is you slice the data until you get the result you want.
- 22 | Q. Now, you've reviewed the various suicide attempts that
- 23 | this data is based on, right?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 | Q. And you looked to see how old the people were?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Were there suicide attempts of people in their 50s?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 \parallel Q. All right. Let's move on to the next part of this. 1
- 5 don't want to go through all of this again. We've already
- 6 gone through quite a bit, but I do want to point out one thing
- 7 to you, Doctor, and then go to the label.
- 8 It says here -- this is another representation of the
- 9 results that we just read. Do you see that, Doctor?
- 10 **A**. Yes.
- 11 | Q. It says, "The results provide evidence of an increase in
- 12 | suicide attempts in adults with MDD treated with paroxetine
- 13 compared to placebo; however, as the absolute number and
- 14 | incidence are very small for paroxetine versus placebo, odds
- 15 | ratio 6.7, these data should be interpreted with caution."
- 16 That odds ratio of 6.7, is that a large odds ratio?
- 17 | A. It's huge.
- 18 \mathbb{Q} . And is that odds ratio there considered statistically
- 19 | significant?
- 20 A. So, the number that -- I'm sorry, I'm going to -- just
- 21 | indulge me. The fact that you're seeing that large an
- 22 | increase when these studies that were set in the earlier
- 23 | exhibit that you showed weren't designed to look at suicide,
- 24 | it's stunning. I mean, it's unanticipated that you would
- 25 | actually find something. You would need probably several

- 1 | times as many patients as they actually analyzed here to be
- 2 confident that you were finding something or not something.
- 3 So, that is a huge increase that you're seeing.
- The P value that they cite here, it's on the margin
- 5 of being statistically significant. If you don't have a P
- 6 | value that's less than .05, it can mean one of two things,
- 7 | that it's not a real association, or you didn't look at enough
- 8 patients.
- 9 Q. Well, look at the confidence interval, Doctor. Plus 1,
- 10 **|** right?
- 11 A. Yes. And that's actually something they were doing in the
- 12 | protocol.
- 13 | Q. It says right here that it's statistically significant,
- 14 doesn't it?
- 15 A. Yes. I'm just looking at the P value. If you look at --
- 16 do a confidence interval, which is the preferred approach for
- 17 | statisticians, then that does meet the criteria for
- 18 significance because it's greater than one.
- 19 Q. Now, this odds ratio of 6.7, is that consistent evidence
- 20 with the odds ratio 8.9 from the analysis that you reviewed,
- 21 | what is it, 17 years prior?
- 22 **A**. Yes, it is.
- 23 | Q. In your opinion as a regulatory expert, seeing a 6.7 for
- 24 depressed patients in 2006, considering all the data they had
- 25 | from 1989, did GSK have an obligation under the regulations to

- 1 put into their Paxil label that this drug can induce adult
- 2 | suicidal behavior above the age of 24 or even 30?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 | Q. Why do you believe they have that obligation, Doctor?
- $5 \mid A$. So, they have a situation where people are more likely, if
- 6 they get Paxil, to attempt suicide. It's consistent across
- 7 | multiple studies and analyses. Even though the total number
- 8 of studies, patients, is relatively small, you get these huge
- 9 effects. They're different numerically by not that great
- 10 amount, 6.7 and 8.9. They're huge. Most of the time, we see
- 11 | an effect of like 20, 30 percent. These are like 500 percent,
- 12 | 700, almost 800 percent.
- So, yes, this is -- this isn't a red flag. This is a
- 14 | claxon.
- 15 | Q. Now, at the time this briefing document was submitted to
- 16 ■ the FDA, this is before the FDA's finished its analysis,
- 17 | right?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Faced with this number, did GSK do something to the label?
- 20 A. Well, they complied with the FDA's request and put in the
- 21 | class labeling.
- 22 | Q. Doctor, before we get to the class labeling --
- 23 A. Yeah, I'm sorry.
- 24 | Q. -- in 2006 --
- 25 A. I'm sorry. I misunderstood.

- 1 \mathbb{Q} . -- did they attempt to put some of this information in
- 2 | their label?
- 3 | A. Okay. I understand. Yes, they did attempt to put it in
- 4 | the label.
- 5 | Q. And did the FDA say, "No, you can't put it in the label"?
- 6 A. No.
- $7 \mid Q$. You mentioned a red flag, the 6.7. What did you mean by
- 8 | that?
- 9 A. So, I mean, I think we all know that if you get in a car
- 10 and you do certain things like you drive in the rain or you
- 11 drive in the snow, I won't even talk about the Dan Ryan
- 12 | Expressway, that your chance of being in an accident can go
- 13 up. But you don't think, "Well, it may be 20, 30 percent."
- 14 If you thought, "I've got six times or seven times or
- 15 | eight times more of a chance of getting in a crash," that's an
- 16 ∥ enormous increase in risk if you think about that you're six
- 17 | times more likely not to come home.
- And this is -- remember, this isn't nausea or
- 19 | headache or your skin turning green. This is dying.
- 20 | Q. Now, Doctor, in your opinion as a physician, this risk of
- 21 \ 6.7 for depressed patients, is this something you would want
- 22 | to know?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 | Q. And considering that you do treat patients with depression
- 25 | and considering that you now know this fact about Paxil, do

- 1 you prescribe Paxil to your patients?
- 2 **A**. I do not.
- 3 | Q. Why not?
- 4 MR. BAYMAN: Objection. Outside the scope of his
- 5 | report, your Honor.
- 6 THE COURT: He may answer.
- 7 BY MR. WISNER:
- 8 Q. Why don't you prescribe Paxil to your patients?
- 9 MR. BAYMAN: Objection. That's irrelevant, your
- 10 | Honor.
- 11 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 12 BY THE WITNESS:
- 13 A. I don't believe it works, and I don't believe it's safe.
- 14 ∥ BY MR. WISNER:
- 15 **| Q.** And if you have a patient who comes to you who's already
- 16 ▮ on Paxil, do you have a conversation with them about the risks
- 17 of adult suicide because of the data you've seen?
- 18 A. Suicide is an enormous problem among veterans. We have 22
- 19 veterans a day in this country who commit suicide. I'm
- 20 obligated --
- 21 MR. BAYMAN: Your Honor, this is unduly --
- 22 THE COURT: Yeah, the objection is sustained.
- 23 | THE WITNESS: Sorry, your Honor.
- 24 BY THE WITNESS:
- 25 A. Yes, I do. I do. I have a discussion with them,

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1
    certainly.
    BY MR. WISNER:
 2
 3
    Q. Okay. And if they're taking Paxil, do you do what you can
 4
    to get them off of the drug?
 5
    A. I tell them what --
 6
              MR. BAYMAN: Same objection, your Honor.
 7
              THE COURT: Yeah, sustained.
    BY MR. WISNER:
 9
    Q. All right, Doctor. Please turn to -- let's turn to Joint
10
    Exhibit 5 in your binder --
11
              THE COURT: I think we're going to break now until
12
    tomorrow morning at 9:30.
13
              All right. Ladies and gentlemen, we'll resume
14
    tomorrow morning.
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          (Jury exits courtroom.)
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(Court adjourned, to reconvene 3/22/17 at 9:30 a.m.) CERTIFICATE We certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter. /s/Judith A. Walsh March 21, 2017 Judith A. Walsh Date Official Court Reporter /s/Charles R. Zandi March 21, 2017 Charles R. Zandi Date Official Court Reporter