

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA**

IN RE: STRYKER REJUVENATE AND
ABG II HIP IMPLANT PRODUCTS
LIABILITY LITIGATION

MDL NO. 13-2441 (DWF/BRT)

PRETRIAL ORDER NO. 45

This Document Relates to ALL
ACTIONS

**ORDER REGARDING
SUPPLEMENTAL REGISTRATION
OF CASES AND CLAIMS**

The Court, in furtherance of the compelling interests of updating and managing its docket, and in conjunction with the coordinated proceedings pending in the New Jersey MCL (Master Docket BER-L-936-13), hereby enters the following order:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. As a resource for this Court, the cooperating New Jersey Multicounty Litigation (Master Docket BER-L-936-13), and any other cooperating courts to manage this litigation, it is necessary to continue to accurately identify and update all remaining, unresolved filed and unfiled claims relating to the ABG II Modular Neck Hip Stem or the Rejuvenate Modular Neck Hip Stem (“Affected Products”) (such claims, the “Affected Product-related claims”).

2. **Supplemental Registration shall open on June 19, 2020 and close on July 20, 2020.**

3. A case management conference is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on July 28, 2020 in Courtroom 7C, 7th Floor, Warren E. Burger Federal Building and United States Courthouse, 316 North Robert Street, St. Paul, Minnesota before Judge Donovan Frank.

OBLIGATIONS OF COUNSEL

4. NEW CASES OR CLAIMS (Not Previously Registered and

Unresolved): Counsel for any Affected Product-related case pending in this Court and/or counsel who have any clients who have claims, filed or unfiled, connected with the Affected Products, **which were not previously registered and which remain UNRESOLVED**, shall accurately (i) identify *all* clients with filed and unfiled Affected Product-related claims, whether or not involving a revision surgery, and (ii) provide the information for each such client as set forth on the Registration Declaration and Registration List, including identifying all Interested Counsel in each filed case or unfiled claim, and (iii) designate the Primary Law Firm and contacts as described below. The Registration Declaration for represented and unrepresented claimants and the form of Registration Lists will be made available through the Registration Processor, Epiq (formerly known as “The Garden City Group, Inc.”).

5. PREVIOUSLY REGISTERED CASES OR CLAIMS (Which Remain

Unresolved): Counsel for any Affected Product-related case pending in this Court (*which are UNRESOLVED*) and/or counsel who have any clients who have claims, filed or unfiled (*which remain UNRESOLVED*), connected with the Affected Products who have previously registered a case or claim with Epiq (formerly known as “Garden City Group”) must update each such claimant’s registration information, **including revision status or subsequent death**, to the extent such information has changed since initial registration. **(NOTE: This obligation does not apply to cases or claims that have been resolved through the Settlement Program or otherwise (i.e. the enrolled patient**

has accepted his/her Base Award or Covered Unrevised, Infirm Patient Award) unless the patient has a claim or lawsuit as to a bilateral affected hip that was not resolved through the Settlement Program.)

6. **OBLIGATIONS OF COUNSEL:**

a. Designation of Principal Responsible Attorney: The registration of each filed, unresolved case pursuant to this Order must designate the Principal Responsible Attorney and legal assistant for that case. The Principal Responsible Attorney so designated shall be jointly identified by the Primary Law Firm and Interested Counsel by name, state, bar number, business address, and email address.

b. Designation of Primary Law Firm: For each filed, unresolved case pending in either state or federal court, there must be a single designation of a Primary Law Firm. The Primary Law Firm must also identify each and every client for whom it is the Primary Law Firm by serving a list of all filed, unresolved Affected Product-related claims – whether revised or unrevised – in which such law firm, or any attorney at such law firm, is the Primary Law Firm as of the date of this Order.

c. Counsel's Mandatory Obligations in Connection with Product Identification: *Prior to registration, or to the extent not already provided during prior registration periods*, the Primary Law Firm shall verify, including by review of actual product identification medical records, that its individual clients were in fact **implanted with an ABG II Modular Neck Hip Stem or a Rejuvenate**

Modular Neck Hip Stem. For all previously registered matters, in the event that a subsequent review of the registered client’s medical records establishes that s/he was in fact not implanted with an Affected Product, the Primary Law Firm must, within fourteen (14) days of such verification, notify counsel for HOC and provide a stipulation of dismissal for defense counsel’s signature or move the Court for appropriate relief. **The Court notes that compliance with all product identification obligations in the applicable registration process is required of all lawsuits and claims. Counsel responsible for registration of claims or cases involving products other than the Affected Products, who fail to take corrective action as set forth herein, are subject to further Court action.**

d. Completion and Service of Registration List: The Primary Law Firm representing clients with claims involving the Affected Products must prepare a Registration Declaration and Registration List, identifying all such clients as set out below in 5(e) and 5(f). To obtain a copy of the Registration Declaration and Registration List, go to the Registration Processor’s website that was set up as part of the Global Settlement Program, www.StrykerModularHipSettlement.com, click on the “Registration” tab, and follow the instructions. Beginning on **June 19, 2020**, the completed Registration Declaration and Registration List shall be submitted to the Registration Processor (as formatted for the accurate and efficient transfer of the required information) no later than **July 20, 2020**. To submit these materials, go to

www.StrykerModularHipSettlement.com, click the “Registration Button,” and follow the upload instructions.

e. Information to be Provided Regarding Each *Filed Unresolved Case*:

For *each* filed (**UNRESOLVED**) case, the Primary Law Firm shall identify on the Registration List all cases that are filed in these proceedings or in any other federal or state court or tribunal in the United States in which it serves as the Primary Law Firm as of the date of this Order, and provide the case and claim-related information as set forth on the form Registration List.

f. Information to be Provided Regarding Each *Unfiled, Unresolved*

Claim: The Primary Law Firm shall identify on the Registration List each and all unfiled and **UNRESOLVED** claims relating to the Affected Products, whether or not involving a revision surgery, in which counsel has any interest, and shall include certain basic information about each claim as set forth on the required form.

g. Updates Regarding Change in Status of Each *Previously Registered, Unresolved Matter*:

Unresolved Matter: The Primary Law Firm shall serve within thirty (30) days of any change in status of any Plaintiff or Unfiled Claimant identified on its Registration List, an updated Report regarding such change. The updated Report shall be in the form set by the Registration Processor and shall include changes in status, including subsequent death, to both unrevised plaintiffs and Unfiled Claimants and plaintiffs and Unfiled Claimants with subsequent additional revision surgeries.

h. Changes in Information Regarding Attorney or Represented Status

Information: The Primary Law Firm shall serve written notice of any changes to the information provided on the Registration List, including but not limited to the acquisition or loss of Primary Law Firm status for the case, any change in information for the Primary Law Firm, the Principal Responsible Attorney or administrative contact for the case, any change in designation of Primary Law Firm status for any case previously listed as “No Primary Law Firm Designated,” and any other change of any information verified under oath. If the change is a loss of Primary Law Firm status or loss of an Interest in the case, the notice shall also identify the name of the attorney and/or law firm, telephone number, email, and business address of the new representative for the Plaintiff or Unfiled Claimant or, if none, an affirmation of the Plaintiff or Unfiled Claimant’s *pro se* status and the telephone number, email, and address for the Plaintiff or Unfiled Claimant. Such written notice must specify the changed circumstances and be served within fourteen (14) days of such change upon the Registration Processor.

i. The Primary Law Firm shall declare on the Registration Declaration under oath that (i) all filed (unresolved) cases and unfiled (unresolved) claims in which it is the Primary Law Firm are identified on the Registration List, (ii) all Interested Counsel are identified, and (iii) that the claim-related information is

accurate and complete, including the information stating that the matter relates to one or more of the Affected Products.¹

j. Due Date for Service of Registration List: Registration will open on **June 19, 2020**. The Registration Declaration and Registration List shall be served on the Registration Processor as specified above **no later than July 20, 2020**.

OBLIGATIONS OF *PRO SE* PLAINTIFFS AND UNREPRESENTED CLAIMANTS

7. **NEW *PRO SE* CASES OR UNREPRESENTED CLAIMS (Not Previously Registered and Unresolved)**: All persons who represent themselves *pro se* in UNRESOLVED lawsuits relating to the Affected Products pending in this Court and all Unrepresented Claimants with unfiled, unresolved claims relating to the Affected Products (collectively “*Pro Se* Plaintiffs and Claimants”), **which were not previously registered and which remain UNRESOLVED**, shall complete the Registration Declaration. The Declaration is available by going to the Registration Processor’s website, www.StrykerModularHipSettlement.com, clicking on the “Registration” tab and following the instructions. Starting **June 19, 2020**, the completed Registration Declaration shall be submitted to the Registration Processor (as formatted for the accurate and efficient transfer of the required information) no later than **July 20, 2020**. To submit these materials, go to www.StrykerModularHipSettlement.com, click the “Registration” tab, and follow the upload instructions. If the *Pro Se* Plaintiff or Claimant is not able to

¹ For purposes of registration, an electronic signature denoted by “s/” is considered as binding as an original signature pursuant to FRCP 5(d)(3).

submit the forms electronically, s/he shall send the Registration Declaration via U.S. mail postmarked no later than **July 20, 2020** to: Stryker Registration Update, c/o Epiq (formerly known as “Garden City Group”), PO Box 10130, Dublin, OH 43017-3130.

8. **PREVIOUSLY REGISTERED *PRO SE* CASES OR UNREPRESENTED CLAIMS (Which Remain Unresolved)**: All *Pro Se* Plaintiffs and Claimants *who have previously registered a case or claim with the Registration Processor and whose cases or claims remain UNRESOLVED*, **must** update their registration information, including revision status, to the extent such information has changed since initial registration no later than **July 20, 2020**. **(Note: This obligation does not apply to cases or claims that have been resolved through the Settlement Program (i.e. the enrolled patient has accepted his/her Base Award or Covered Unrevised, Infirm Patient Award) unless the patient has a claim or lawsuit as to a bilateral affected hip that was not resolved through the Settlement Program.)**

9. **Changes in Information Regarding *Pro Se* Plaintiffs and Unrepresented Claimants**: All *Pro Se* Plaintiffs and Claimants shall serve written notice of any changes to the information provided on the Registration List, including but not limited to any change regarding contact information or the subsequent retention of counsel. If the change of information is the retention of counsel, the *Pro Se* Plaintiff or Claimant shall provide the attorney name, address, telephone number, and email address for counsel. Such written notice must specify the changed circumstances and be served within fourteen (14) days of such change upon the Registration Processor.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

10. **Registration Period:** The registration and updated registration process shall open on **June 19, 2020** and shall close on **July 20, 2020**.

11. **Enforcement:** All counsel and *Pro Se* Plaintiffs and Unrepresented Claimants are required to comply with this Order. Failure to meet the requirements of this Order will subject non-compliant parties and counsel to a show cause hearing as to the reason for such failure and may subject such party or counsel to penalties at the Court's discretion. ***The Court specifically draws attention to the obligation to verify implantation of Affected Product(s) and to comply with all product identification obligations in the applicable registration process, as set forth in paragraph 5(c), and notes that a penalty may be asserted if that obligation, or the obligation to correct subsequently obtained product identification, is ignored***

12. **Database:** The Registration Processor shall maintain a database of all registered cases and claims identified pursuant to this Order.

13. **Cooperation with Other Jurisdictions:** This Order is entered in conjunction with coordinated proceedings pending in the New Jersey MCL (Master Docket BER-L-936-13). It is the intention of this Court to work in cooperation with the New Jersey MCL Court and any other participating courts in a manner that promotes judicial economy and that secures as complete a registration of all claims and potential claims as possible, for use amongst the cooperating courts and their leadership counsel. It is also the intention of this Court to work in cooperation with any other state court or tribunal in which claims relating to the Affected Products are pending. If there is any

dispute concerning the implementation of this Order, this Court will coordinate conferral among the various courts for resolution of the issue, consistent with the law of the other jurisdictions.

Dated: June 12, 2020

s/Donovan W. Frank
DONOVAN W. FRANK
United States District Judge