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11 [Additional Attorneys and Plaintiffs on Signature Page]

12 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
13 **NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
14 **OAKLAND DIVISION**

15 SAFEWAY INC.,; WALGREEN CO.,; THE
KROGER CO.,; NEW ALBERTSON'S, INC.,;
16 AMERICAN SALES COMPANY, INC.,; and
HEB GROCERY COMPANY, LP,

17 Plaintiffs,

18 v.

19 ABBOTT LABORATORIES,

20 Defendant.

Case No. C07-5470 (CW)
PLAINTIFFS' JOINT
SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM
IN OPPOSITION TO ABBOTT'S
OMNIBUS MOTION TO DISMISS
ANTITRUST CLAIMS

Date: October 15, 2009
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Courtroom: 2 (4th Floor)
Judge: Hon. Claudia Wilken

22 MEIJER, INC. & MEIJER DISTRIBUTION,
INC., on behalf of themselves and all others
23 similarly situated,

24 Plaintiffs,

25 v.

26 ABBOTT LABORATORIES,

27 Defendant.

28 *(Caption continued on next page)*

Case No. C 07-5985 CW
CONSOLIDATED CASE
PLAINTIFFS' JOINT
SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM
IN OPPOSITION TO ABBOTT'S
OMNIBUS MOTION TO DISMISS
ANTITRUST CLAIMS

Date: October 15, 2009
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RITE AID CORPORATION; RITE AID
HDQTRS, CORP.,; JCG (PJC) USA, LLC; MAXI
DRUG, INC. d/b/a BROOKS PHARMACY;
ECKERD CORPORATION; CVS PHARMACY,
INC.; and CAREMARK, L.L.C.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ABBOTT LABORATORIES,

Defendant.

Case No. C 07-6120 (CW)

**PLAINTIFFS' JOINT
SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM
IN OPPOSITION TO ABBOTT'S
OMNIBUS MOTION TO DISMISS
ANTITRUST CLAIMS**

Date: October 15, 2009
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Courtroom: 2 (4th Floor)
Judge: Hon. Claudia Wilken

SMITHKLINE BEECHAM CORPORATION
d/b/a GLAXOSMITHKLINE,

Plaintiff,

v.

ABBOTT LABORATORIES,

Defendant.

Case No. C 07-5702 (CW)

**PLAINTIFFS' JOINT
SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM
IN OPPOSITION TO ABBOTT'S
OMNIBUS MOTION TO DISMISS
ANTITRUST CLAIMS**

Date: October 15, 2009
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Courtroom: 2 (4th Floor)
Judge: Hon. Claudia Wilken

1 Abbott’s supplemental memorandum highlights the weakness of its position. It is a classic
2 example of setting up, and knocking down, a straw man.

3 Abbott attributes to all Plaintiffs here the position that Plaintiffs “can state a claim for a
4 violation of Section 2 *based on refusal to deal* by alleging that Abbott had an intent to
5 monopolize, without identifying conduct that would be considered exclusionary (also referred to
6 as ‘predatory’ or ‘anticompetitive’ in the case law).” Abbott Supp. Memo. at 1 (emphasis added).
7 But, of course, Plaintiffs are not arguing that merely alleging an intent to monopolize is sufficient
8 to state a claim based on a violation of a duty to deal. There is a long history of antitrust case law
9 establishing that a monopolist’s refusal to deal—or, as in this case, a drastic change in the terms
10 on which it is willing to deal that unnecessarily handicaps or excludes its competitors—*is*
11 exclusionary conduct capable of supporting a section 2 claim. *See, e.g., Aspen Skiing Co. v. Aspen*
12 *Highlands Skiing Corp.*, 472 U.S. 585 (1985); *Otter Tail Power Co. v. United States*, 410 U.S. 366
13 (1973); *Lorain Journal Co. v. United States*, 342 U.S. 143 (1951); *Eastman Kodak Co. v. S. Photo*
14 *Materials Co.*, 273 U.S. 359 (1927); *United States v. Terminal R.R. Ass’n of St. Louis*, 224 U.S.
15 383 (1912). Thus, the very statement of Plaintiffs’ position identifies the conduct that “would be
16 considered exclusionary.”

17 While Plaintiffs have never contended that proof of intent without exclusionary conduct is
18 sufficient to state a claim under Section 2, it is well-established that evidence of intent is
19 admissible, and often critical, in Sherman Act cases “because knowledge of intent may help the
20 court to interpret facts and to predict consequences.” *Bd. of Trade of the City of Chicago v. United*
21 *States*, 246 U.S. 231, 238 (1918). Thus, “[t]he intentions underlying the defendant’s conduct have
22 long played an important role in Sherman 2 [sic] cases.” 1 ABA Section of Antitrust Law,
23 ANTITRUST LAW DEVELOPMENTS 242 (6th ed. 2007).

24 This proposition applies to claims, such as those at issue here, that the alleged monopolist
25 has violated a duty to deal. The Supreme Court’s opinion in *Aspen Skiing*, while acknowledging
26 Ski Co.’s (and Abbott’s) position that “an ‘anticompetitive intent’ does not transform
27 nonexclusionary conduct into monopolization,” 472 U.S. at 600, nevertheless emphasizes
28 repeatedly the critical importance of Ski Co.’s intent in assessing the lawfulness of its challenged

1 conduct. *See id.* at 602 (“evidence of intent is . . . relevant to the question whether the challenged
2 conduct is fairly characterized as ‘exclusionary’ or ‘anticompetitive’ . . . or ‘predatory’”); *id.* at
3 605 (“[i]f a firm has been ‘attempting to exclude rivals on some basis other than efficiency,’ it is
4 fair to characterize its behavior as predatory”) (footnote omitted); *id.* at 608 (describing as
5 “[p]erhaps most significant” Ski Co.’s failure to “persuade the jury that its conduct was justified
6 by any normal business purpose”); *see also* GSK Opposition to Abbott Laboratories’ Motion to
7 Dismiss, Docket # 182, at 10-11. This is in accordance with longstanding antitrust case law. *See*
8 *Lorain Journal*, 342 U.S. at 155 (a refusal to deal “as a purposeful means of monopolizing
9 interstate commerce is prohibited by the Sherman Act”); *Eastman Kodak*, 273 U.S. at 375
10 (Kodak’s refusal to sell to competing retailer was “in pursuance of a purpose to monopolize”).

11 It is exactly this use of evidence of intent that explains the language on which Abbott
12 relies from *Verizon Communications, Inc. v. Law Offices of Curtis V. Trinko LLP*, 540 U.S. 398,
13 408-09 (2004). Abbott argues that, through this discussion, the Court has set out three specific
14 requirements for claims based on allegations like those in *Aspen Skiing*. But, as counsel for GSK
15 demonstrated in its opposition brief and at oral argument, the discussion in *Trinko* upon which
16 Abbott relies was actually a search by the Court for anticompetitive intent that would justify
17 viewing the defendant’s failure to cooperate as sufficiently suspicious to warrant the kind of full
18 evaluation of the record that occurred in *Aspen Skiing*. *See, e.g.*, 540 U.S. at 409 (“the defendant’s
19 prior conduct sheds no light upon the motivation of its refusal to deal”); *see also* GSK Opposition,
20 at 15-17. Having found no such evidence in *Trinko*, the Court concluded that dismissal without a
21 full examination of the record was appropriate. In this case, by contrast, Plaintiffs have provided
22 ample, and highly specific, evidence of Abbott’s anticompetitive intent.

23 None of the cases cited by Abbott in its Supplemental Memorandum calls into question the
24 viability of Plaintiffs’ claim that Abbott violated an antitrust duty to deal. Abbott cites those cases
25 for the proposition, irrelevant here, that anticompetitive intent, standing alone, cannot result in a
26 violation of section 2. *See* Abbott Supp. Memo. at 2 (referencing parts of *Rural Telephone Service*
27 *Co., Inc. v. Feist Publications, Inc.*, 957 F.2d 765, 769 (10th Cir. 1992); *Delaware & Hudson*
28 *Railway Co. v. Consolidated Rail Corp.*, 902 F.2d 174, 179 (2d Cir. 1990); and *Ocean State*

1 *Physicians Health Plan, Inc. v. Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island*, 883 F.2d 1101, 1113
 2 (1st Cir. 1989), dealing with uses of intent “alone” or “standing alone”). What Abbott fails to say
 3 is that these cases recognize that, as Plaintiffs have consistently argued, the monopolist’s intent
 4 does play a role in the liability determination where violation of a duty to deal is at issue, just as it
 5 does in other section 2 cases. *See Rural Telephone*, 957 F.2d at 768 & n.4 (observing that Tenth
 6 Circuit applies a two part test in such cases, assessing first the competitive effects of the
 7 challenged conduct then the motivation of the monopolist); *JamSports & Entm’t, LLC v.*
 8 *Paradama Prods., Inc.*, 336 F. Supp. 2d 824, 842-43 (N.D. Ill. 2004) (explaining that *Olympia*
 9 *Equipment Leasing Co. v. Western Union Telegraph Co.*, 797 F.2d 370 (7th Cir. 1986)—a
 10 Seventh Circuit case also cited by Abbott—does not contradict the proposition that the trier of fact
 11 is entitled to look to the defendant’s intent in assessing whether its conduct had a valid business
 12 justification).

13 Abbott’s supplemental brief adds nothing to its argument. Its motion to dismiss should be
 14 denied.

15 Dated: October 27, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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Pursuant to General Order No. 45, Section X, I attest under penalty of perjury that concurrence in the filing of this document has been obtained from Alexander F. Wiles.

Dated: October 27, 2009

By: /s/ S. Albert Wang
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Attorneys for GlaxoSmithKline