

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**  
**Before the**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**  
**Release No. 10809 / July 31, 2020**

**SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**  
**Release No. 89442 / July 31, 2020**

**ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING ENFORCEMENT**  
**Release No. 4153 / July 31, 2020**

**ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING**  
**File No. 3-19899**

**In the Matter of**

**VALEANT PHARMACEUTICALS  
INTERNATIONAL, INC., n/k/a  
BAUSCH HEALTH COMPANIES  
INC.,**

**Respondent.**

**ORDER INSTITUTING CEASE-AND-  
DESIST PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT  
TO SECTION 8A OF THE  
SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 AND  
SECTION 21C OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934, MAKING  
FINDINGS, AND IMPOSING A  
CEASE-AND-DESIST ORDER**

**I.**

The Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) deems it appropriate that cease-and-desist proceedings be, and hereby are, instituted pursuant to Section 8A of the Securities Act of 1933 (“Securities Act”) and Section 21C of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”), against Valeant Pharmaceuticals International, Inc., now known as Bausch Health Companies Inc. (“Bausch Health” or “Respondent”).

**II.**

In anticipation of the institution of these proceedings, Respondent has submitted an Offer of Settlement (the “Offer”) which the Commission has determined to accept. Solely for the purpose of these proceedings and any other proceedings brought by or on behalf of the Commission, or to which the Commission is a party, and without admitting or denying the findings herein, except as to the Commission’s jurisdiction over it and the subject matter of these proceedings, which are admitted, Respondent consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Cease-

and-Desist Proceedings Pursuant to Section 8A of the Securities Act and Section 21C of the Exchange Act, Making Findings, and Imposing a Cease-and-Desist Order (“Order”), as set forth below.

### III.

On the basis of this Order and Respondent’s Offer, the Commission finds<sup>1</sup> that:

#### Summary

1. Respondent is a publicly-traded global pharmaceutical and medical device company that develops, manufactures, and markets a broad range of branded, generic and branded generic pharmaceuticals, over-the-counter products, and medical devices. During the relevant period, Respondent was known as Valeant Pharmaceuticals International, Inc. (“Valeant”). Due to its growth-by-acquisition business strategy in 2014 and 2015, Valeant supplemented its disclosures pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (“GAAP”) with non-GAAP financial measures as “a meaningful, consistent comparison of the company’s core operating results and trends.” Among those non-GAAP financial measures were same store organic growth (“organic growth”), which represented growth rates for businesses owned for one year or more, and “Cash EPS,” which excluded costs associated with business development, among other things. When announcing certain GAAP and non-GAAP financial measures, Valeant failed to disclose to investors certain material information about these measures.

2. Valeant helped establish a mail order pharmacy, Philidor Rx Services, LLC, in 2013 and played a significant role in Philidor’s business. In 2013, Respondent provided an advance of \$2 million and entered into agreements with Philidor to dispense Valeant’s products. From Q3 2014 through Q3 2015, Valeant expanded its sales to Philidor. Philidor increasingly contributed to Valeant’s U.S. organic growth in particular. By Q3 2015, Valeant announced double-digit U.S. organic growth for the fifth consecutive quarter, with U.S. organic growth of 22%. By this time, Philidor sales had grown to such an extent that it alone accounted for over 14% of U.S. organic growth. Excluding those sales to Philidor, Valeant’s U.S. organic growth for the quarter was over 7%. Valeant disclosed for the first time it had, since December 2014, an option to purchase Philidor in its Q3 2015 earnings call.

3. In Q2 2015, Valeant recorded revenue resulting from price appreciation credits (“PACs”) it received pursuant to its Distribution Services Agreements (“DSAs”) with its major wholesalers, which impacted certain reported GAAP and non-GAAP measures. A provision in the DSAs provided for Valeant to offset distribution fees owed to wholesalers with credits for price increases on Valeant products held in wholesalers’ inventory. Thus, price increases generated additional net revenue to Valeant not just from prospective products sales at the incrementally higher prices, but also from previously sold products still held by wholesalers. On June 18, 2015, Valeant recorded approximately \$110 million in net PAC revenue through a 500% price increase

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<sup>1</sup> The findings herein are made pursuant to Respondent’s Offer of Settlement and are not binding on any other person or entity in this or any other proceeding.

on Glumetza, a drug acquired on April 1, 2015. Rather than reflecting any of the PAC generated by the Glumetza price increase as revenue attributable to Glumetza in its records, Valeant erroneously allocated the entire \$110 million Glumetza PAC as net revenue to over 100 other products. The allocation of the Glumetza PAC resulted in numerous misleading disclosures in Valeant's Q2 2015 earnings presentation and Commission periodic reports filed for Q2 and Q3 2015 and year ended 2015.

4. On October 26, 2015, in response to media and analyst attention over its relationship with Philidor, Valeant gave an investor presentation concerning Philidor. On April 29, 2016, in its annual report for 2015 ("2015 Form 10-K"), Valeant restated its financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2014 to reduce previously reported fiscal year 2014 revenue from sales to Philidor by approximately \$58 million due to such revenue being recognized prematurely. Among other things, Valeant acknowledged the existence of material weaknesses in its internal control over financial reporting. Valeant also disclosed the existence of PACs for the first time but failed to disclose the impact PACs earned in 2015 had on certain GAAP and non-GAAP measures.

5. Based on the foregoing and the conduct described herein, Valeant violated Sections 17(a)(2) and 17(a)(3) of the Securities Act and Sections 13(a), 13(b)(2)(A) and 13(b)(2)(B) of the Exchange Act and Rules 12b-20, 13a-1, 13a-11, and 13a-13 and Rule 100(b) of Regulation G thereunder.

#### **Respondent**

6. **Valeant Pharmaceuticals International, Inc.**, now known as **Bausch Health Companies Inc.** ("Bausch Health"), is a British Columbia corporation headquartered in Laval, Quebec with its principal administrative offices in Bridgewater, New Jersey. On July 13, 2018, Valeant changed its name to Bausch Health. Bausch Health's common stock is registered under Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act and is dually listed on the New York and Toronto Stock Exchanges.

#### **Other Relevant Entity**

7. **Philidor Rx Services LLC** is a defunct Delaware limited liability company that was formed in January 2013. Philidor was a licensed pharmacy based in Hatboro, Pennsylvania. Approximately 95% of the product dispensed by Philidor and its affiliated pharmacies (collectively, "Philidor") consisted of Valeant branded drugs. Valeant acquired an option to purchase Philidor on December 15, 2014, and terminated its relationship with Philidor on October 30, 2015, shortly after extensive media reports discussing Valeant's relationship with Philidor. Valeant fully paid for but never exercised its option to purchase Philidor.

## Facts

### Philidor

8. Valeant management identified Philidor as a “key strategy” to turnaround the dermatology unit in 2014. Valeant’s agreements with Philidor included similar terms as with any wholesaler, but there were several other important aspects to Valeant’s relationship with Philidor. Valeant: 1) provided an advance of \$2 million to Philidor; 2) was involved in setting up its infrastructure and hiring of key employees; 3) maintained a sales force to promote access to its products through Philidor to health care providers; and 4) advised and assisted Philidor on its launch and expansion to other states. In addition, Valeant agreed to reimburse Philidor for the cost of Valeant drugs that the third-party payors and insurance companies did not cover and deducted this obligation from gross revenue. Valeant internally recorded this obligation as the “alternative fulfillment subsidy” or “AF subsidy.” Valeant’s sales to Philidor increased throughout 2014 and 2015 and Philidor sales became one of the growth drivers for Valeant’s dermatology products.

9. Toward the end of Q3 2014, Valeant received a \$75 million order from Philidor, which was put on hold because it exceeded Philidor’s credit limit. Valeant approved a \$70 million credit increase to process this order, and did so without proper justification as required by Valeant’s Standard Operating Procedure (“SOP”) for credit limits. At the time of the credit increase, Philidor’s accounts receivable balance was \$32 million, with \$8.5 million of the balance over 61 days past due.

10. In Q4 2014, Valeant received a \$130 million order from Philidor in early December. Once more Valeant approved Philidor’s credit increase, and also granted extended payment terms, without proper justification as required under Valeant’s SOP for credit limits. Philidor’s accounts receivable balance was approximately \$78.3 million, of which approximately \$41 million was past due.

11. The \$130 million order included one-time special pricing implemented for Philidor orders placed between November 24 and December 5, 2014, in which Philidor paid 4% over the wholesale cost. Since none of Valeant’s other customers purchased Valeant products at prices above the wholesale cost, Valeant had to manually input the price changes.

12. When Valeant learned that one of the products on the order was out of stock, Philidor acquiesced to Valeant’s request to substitute the out-of-stock product, a topical medication for mild acne, with an oral antibiotic for severe acne in a sufficient quantity to meet the dollar amount of the out-of-stock product. Valeant also took steps to ensure product was delivered to Philidor on a Saturday, rather than the customary business day of Monday.

13. The timing and amount of the \$130 million order, with its one-time pricing, product substitution, and Saturday product delivery, occurred less than two weeks before the December 15, 2014 date when Valeant acquired the option to purchase Philidor for \$100 million cash and began consolidating Philidor in its financial statements. Upon the closing of the option agreement, Valeant knew that it would consolidate Philidor in its financial statements and would

have to wait to recognize the Philidor revenue until Philidor sold the product through to patients. Valeant's actions with respect to the \$130 million order enabled it to conclude at the time that it could recognize revenue when the product was delivered to Philidor. Valeant later restated the revenue from this order.

14. Valeant evaluated its disclosure obligations in light of the option agreement. As of December 1, 2014, Valeant's disclosure thresholds required Valeant to disclose details about transactions the size of the Philidor transaction, including mentioning the acquiree by name, in its annual report on Form 10-K for 2014. On December 10, 2014, Valeant increased its thresholds in an amount that exceeded the anticipated total option purchase price for Philidor such that Valeant would no longer disclose transactions of Philidor's size by name in the 2014 Form 10-K. Management informed the Board's audit and risk committee about the increased disclosure threshold, including its impact on disclosure of the Philidor option transaction. In early 2015, Valeant learned that certain pharmacy benefit managers had informed Philidor it was in violation of certain terms of its pharmacy network agreements. In August 2015, Valeant received an economic analysis of products it sold to Philidor, and was told that the product sales growth through Philidor had been mostly "subsidized (free) through Philidor." The analysis characterized the AF subsidy to Philidor as "'free goods' that are fully reimbursed by [Valeant]."

#### **Valeant's Misleading Disclosures Regarding Philidor**

15. Valeant reported its results for the quarters ended September 30, 2014 through September 30, 2015 in earnings calls and presentations, and in periodic reports filed with the SEC. Valeant, through its management, knew or should have known that its disclosures did not reveal the material impact of the Philidor sales on certain of Valeant's GAAP and non-GAAP financial measures.

- a. *Same Store Organic Growth:* Valeant announced U.S. organic growth in the double digits for each quarter from Q3 2014 through Q3 2015. Philidor represented an increasingly larger portion of Valeant's U.S. organic growth, ranging from 5% to over 14%. Valeant would have failed to achieve double digit U.S. organic growth in Q3 2015 without Philidor.
- b. *Cash EPS:* Valeant exceeded its guidance and analyst consensus estimates of \$2.55 for Q4 2014 when it announced Cash EPS of \$2.58 in its earnings presentation. Valeant's sales to Philidor contributed \$0.12 to Valeant's Q4 2014 Cash EPS.
- c. *Dermatology unit revenue:* Valeant announced its dermatology unit's revenue of \$273 million for Q3 2014 and \$425 million for Q4 2014 in its earnings calls. Valeant conveyed no information regarding the material contribution of the sales made by Philidor, which represented over 13% of the third quarter dermatology revenue or over 16% of the fourth quarter dermatology revenue.

- d. *Dermatology unit's performance:* Valeant highlighted the performance of the dermatology unit in its earnings calls, variously describing it as experiencing a “turnaround” (Q3 2014), having “strong growth for promoted brands” (Q4 2014), experiencing “positive organic growth” for all promoted brands (Q1 2015), and “outperforming” (Q2 and Q3 2015). From time to time, Valeant referred to an alternative fulfillment channel, but it did not provide details about its relationship with Philidor or explain how sales to Philidor contributed to dermatology performance.

16. Valeant failed to disclose requisite material information about Philidor in Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (“MD&A”) in its quarterly report on Form 10-Q for Q3 2014, annual report on Form 10-K for 2014, and quarterly reports on Forms 10-Q for Q1, Q2, and Q3 2015. Item 303(b)(2) requires issuers to disclose in quarterly reports “any material changes in the registrant’s results of operations ... with respect to that fiscal quarter and the corresponding fiscal quarter in the preceding fiscal year.” Item 303(b)(2) of Regulation S-K, 17 C.F.R. § 229.303(b)(2). Regulation S-K also requires that the discussion of material changes in results of operations during the quarter “shall identify any significant elements of the registrant’s income or loss from continuing operations which do not arise from or are not necessarily representative of the registrant’s ongoing business.” 17 C.F.R. § 229.303(b), Instruction 4. Additionally, reporting companies must disclose in the MD&A section of Form 10-K information “necessary to an understanding of [the company’s] financial condition, changes in financial condition and results of operations” and “any known trends or uncertainties” or “any unusual or infrequent events or transactions” that materially affected a company’s operations. Item 303(a) of Regulation S-K, 17 C.F.R. § 229.303(a).

- a. *Relationship with Philidor:* Valeant sold to Philidor dermatology drugs facing eroding market share or reimbursement blocks, or newly launched products to boost prescription volume. Valeant’s MD&A made no mention of its unique relationship with Philidor, even as Valeant’s sales to Philidor increased each quarter.
- b. *Risks related to Philidor:* Valeant’s MD&A contained no discussion of the risks arising from its relationship with Philidor, particularly beginning in Q1 2015, when it learned that three pharmacy benefit managers had informed Philidor that it was in violation of certain terms of its pharmacy network agreements.

17. Valeant improperly recognized revenue and net income relating to Philidor sales for the second half of 2014 by \$58 million and \$33 million, respectively, for which Valeant issued a restatement in April 2016. Rule 4.01 of Regulation S-X states that financial statements filed with the Commission that are not prepared in accordance with GAAP are presumed to be misleading or inaccurate. Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 605, “Revenue Recognition,” states that revenue should not be recognized until it is realized or realizable and earned. One criteria generally necessary for revenue to be realizable is for collectability to be reasonably assured. During Q3 and Q4 2014, Valeant approved increases to Philidor’s credit limit to process the

orders. These approvals did not comport with Valeant's SOPs for credit limit increases and Valeant knew or should have known that collectability was not reasonably assured.

18. On October 26, 2015, Valeant gave an investor presentation concerning Philidor. In this presentation, Valeant did not fully disclose its Philidor relationship or explain how sales to Philidor had impacted certain GAAP and non-GAAP measures Valeant presented in earlier quarters. Valeant also claimed that disclosure of the Philidor purchase option was not required under its pre-established internal disclosure threshold. Valeant increased its disclosure thresholds on an ad hoc basis as the company grew, and it did so in early December 2014, shortly before the purchase option closed.

### **Price Appreciation Credits**

19. Valeant's largest customers are major U.S. drug wholesalers, who enter into distribution service agreements ("DSAs") that, among other things, set the fees Valeant pays wholesalers for their distribution and inventory management services. Through at least 2015, these DSAs contained price appreciation clauses whereby Valeant was entitled to credits from such wholesalers for price increases on products currently held by the wholesalers. This PAC was calculated based on the wholesaler's inventory of the product subject to a price increase, multiplied by the amount of the price increase. Pursuant to the terms of the DSAs, PACs offset the DSA fees Valeant owed to wholesalers. Valeant recorded the net revenue impact of PACs at the time customers were notified of the price increase.

20. Valeant acquired a diabetes drug called Glumetza on April 1, 2015, through its acquisition of Salix Pharmaceuticals, Ltd. Valeant initially planned to raise Glumetza's price by 50% effective May 15, 2015. Throughout Q2 2015, Valeant forecasted the net revenue to be generated by the corresponding Glumetza PAC, which was based on the projected amount of Glumetza inventory held by wholesalers.

21. On June 3, 2015, Valeant management approved a price increase for Glumetza of 500% and notified customers of the price increase approximately two weeks later. Valeant's accounting practice was to record PACs to the product whose price increase generated the PAC, thereby offsetting DSA fees accrued on sales of that product and increasing net revenue attributable to that product. In this instance, however, most of the wholesalers' Glumetza inventory had been purchased from Salix, which had accrued no DSA fees to offset the Glumetza PAC. Rather than record the \$110.4 million Glumetza PAC as revenue to Glumetza, Valeant allocated the entire PAC generated by the Glumetza price increase as revenue to 106 other products. Valeant did not record any of the Glumetza PAC as revenue attributable to Glumetza, even though Valeant had sold at least \$26 million of Glumetza to wholesalers and accrued corresponding DSA fees in Q2 2015.

22. On July 31, 2015, Valeant raised Glumetza's price again by 50%, which generated \$21.5 million in net PAC revenue. In October 2015, Valeant allocated \$11.9 million of the Q3 2015 Glumetza PAC to 27 other products. This allocation was based on the amount of wholesaler's Glumetza inventory that had been purchased from Salix rather than Valeant. The two Glumetza PAC allocations in Q2 2015 and Q3 2015 were the only instances in which Valeant allocated PACs as revenue to products other than the one that generated the PAC.

### **Valeant's Disclosures Regarding the Glumetza PAC and Its Allocation**

23. Valeant reported its results for the quarter ended June 30, 2015 in an earnings call, presentation, and Form 8-K on July 23, 2015 and filed its Form 10-Q on July 28, 2015. Valeant, through its management, knew or should have known that its Q2 2015 disclosures did not reveal the material impacts of the \$110.4 million in net revenue from the Glumetza PAC and that PAC's allocation to 106 other products to several GAAP and non-GAAP financial measures:

- a. *Cash EPS*: Valeant's earnings presentation and Form 8-K reported Cash EPS of \$2.56. Absent the Glumetza PAC, Cash EPS for the quarter would have been \$2.34, falling short of Valeant's guidance for the quarter (\$2.40 – \$2.50) and analyst's consensus estimate (\$2.46).
- b. *Same Store Organic Growth*: Valeant's earnings presentation and Form 8-K reported 19% same store organic growth for Q2 2015, but failed to disclose that this calculation included \$85 million of the Glumetza PAC allocated from a recent acquisition (Salix) to businesses owned for one year or more. Without the Glumetza PAC allocation, same store organic growth for the quarter would have been 14%.
- c. *Top 20 Brands*: Valeant's earnings presentation reported Glumetza as the company's #18 product based on revenue of \$26 million. Had Glumetza's PAC been recorded entirely as Glumetza's revenue, as was Valeant's practice, Glumetza would have been Valeant's #2 product based on revenue of \$136 million.
- d. *Revenues by Business Unit*: Valeant's Form 8-K reported business unit revenues but did not disclose the impact of the Glumetza PAC allocation, which resulted in an increase in reported revenue to Valeant's neurology (\$62.2 million), dermatology (\$32.6 million), and ophthalmology (\$15.1 million) business units and a reduction in gastrointestinal (Salix) revenue (\$110.4 million) because of the Glumetza PAC's allocation to other products.
- e. *Incremental Revenues and Profits from Acquisitions and Existing Business*: Valeant's Form 10-Q did not disclose the impact of the Glumetza PAC allocation on reported incremental revenues and profits. The allocation resulted in a reduction in the reported incremental revenue and profit from



acquisitions by \$85 million, and an increase in the reported revenue and profits from existing business by the same amount.

- f. *MD&A*: Valeant's Q2 2015 Form 10-Q did not disclose the existence of PACs generally or the material impact of the \$110.4 million in net revenue recorded from the Glumetza PAC to Q2 2015 results. In Q2 2015, the Glumetza PAC alone represented 32% of Valeant's operating income that quarter.

24. Valeant reported its results for the quarter ended September 30, 2015 in an earnings call, presentation, and Form 8-K on October 19, 2015 and filed its Q3 2015 Form 10-Q on October 26, 2015. Similar to the prior quarter, Valeant, through its management, knew or should have known that its Q3 2015 disclosures did not reveal the material impacts of the Q2 Glumetza PAC and the Q2 and Q3 PAC allocations to certain GAAP and non-GAAP financial measures for the nine months ended September 30, 2015.

25. On April 29, 2016, Valeant filed its Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015. In this filing, Valeant disclosed the existence of PACs, which had a net revenue impact of \$171 million in 2015. Valeant, though its management, knew or should have known that the 2015 Form 10-K did not disclose that two price increases on Glumetza accounted for \$132 million (or 77%) of total PACs or that \$122 million from the two Glumetza PACs were allocated to other products. Although the report stated that \$130 million in PACs came from pricing actions in Valeant's existing business, that amount included \$96 million in PACs from pricing actions on Glumetza, a recent acquisition. The 2015 Form 10-K also included \$96 million in Glumetza PACs as incremental revenue and profits from Valeant's existing business rather than from acquisitions.

### **Valeant's Internal Accounting Control Failures**

26. Valeant did not design and maintain sufficient internal accounting controls. Valeant failed to implement accounting controls with respect to the Philidor sales transactions and PACs, sufficient to provide reasonable assurances that transactions were recorded as necessary to, among other things, permit the preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP and to maintain the accountability of assets. Valeant did not have sufficient controls relating to non-standard journal entries and manual price changes. Valeant's existing controls also were not sufficient to address how exceptions to policies and procedures should be documented and approved, which made it possible for management to override internal accounting controls when they approved the Philidor credit limit increases to facilitate sales to Philidor during Q3 and Q4 of 2014.

### **Valeant's Restatement, Internal Investigation, and Cooperation**

27. On October 21, 2015, following media reports discussing Valeant's relationship with Philidor, Valeant formed an ad hoc committee of its board to review allegations related to the company's business relationship with Philidor and related matters. On October 30, 2015, Valeant announced it had terminated its relationship with Philidor.

28. On April 29, 2016, Valeant filed its 2015 Form 10-K, which restated its audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2014 and certain unaudited quarterly results related to the three months ended December 31, 2014, the three months ended March 31, 2015, the six months ended June 30, 2015 and the nine months ended September 30, 2015. The restatement reduced previously-reported fiscal year 2014 revenue by approximately \$58 million, net income attributable to Valeant by approximately \$33 million, and basic and diluted earnings per share by \$0.09, although a substantial part of the earnings impact of these misstatements was reversed in Q1 2015.

29. The 2015 Form 10-K also disclosed management's determination that internal control over financial reporting, as well as the company's disclosure control and procedures, were not effective due to the existence of material weaknesses. Separately, Valeant announced that the ad hoc committee's review was complete and had not identified any additional items that would require restatements beyond those required by matters previously disclosed.

30. Valeant cooperated in the staff's investigation and undertook extensive remedial efforts, including: (a) replacing its executive management team; (b) conducting a review of its existing accounting policies, which resulted in substantial revisions to those policies; (c) revising existing or implementing new controls; and (d) providing to employees accounting training conducted by outside consultants. Valeant also voluntarily formed an ad hoc committee of its board to review the relationship between Valeant and Philidor and reported to the staff on the results of that review. In addition, Valeant conducted its own investigation, met with staff on multiple occasions, and voluntarily provided information of interest to the staff.

### **Offer and Sale of Securities**

31. Valeant offered and sold securities throughout the relevant time period. On March 18, 2015, Valeant issued and sold 7.3 million shares of common stock pursuant to a prospectus supplement to a Form S-3 registration statement filed on June 10, 2013. During Q1 2015, Valeant also issued four senior notes with the total par value of \$9.5 billion. From Q3 2014 through Q4 2015, Valeant also offered and sold 59,075 shares of common stock to its employees pursuant to the company's employee stock purchase plan.

### **Violations**

32. As a result of the conduct described above:
- a. Respondent violated Sections 17(a)(2) and 17(a)(3) of the Securities Act, which prohibit any person in the offer or sale of securities from directly or indirectly obtaining money or property by means of any untrue statement of a material fact or any omission to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, or engaging in any transaction, practice, or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon the purchaser. Claims under Sections 17(a)(2) and 17(a)(3) of the Securities Act do not require a showing of scienter; instead, a showing of

negligence is sufficient. *Aaron v. SEC*, 446 U.S. 680, 697 (1980); *SEC v. Hughes Capital Corp.*, 124 F.3d 449, 453-54 (3d Cir. 1997).

- b. Respondent violated Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act and Rules 12b-20, 13a-1, 13a-11, and 13a-13 thereunder, which require issuers of securities registered pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act file with the Commission information, documents, and annual, current, and quarterly reports as the Commission may require, and mandate that periodic reports contain such further material information as may be necessary to make the required statements not misleading.
- c. Respondent violated Section 13(b)(2)(A) of the Exchange Act, which requires reporting companies to make and keep books, records, and accounts which, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect their transactions and dispositions of their assets.
- d. Respondent violated Section 13(b)(2)(B) of the Exchange Act, which requires all reporting companies to devise and maintain a system of internal accounting controls sufficient to provide reasonable assurances that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP.
- e. Respondent violated Rule 100(b) of Regulation G, which prohibits a registrant, or a person acting on its behalf, from making public a non-GAAP financial measure that, taken together with the information accompanying that measure and any other accompanying discussion of that measure, contains an untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact necessary in order to make the presentation of the non-GAAP financial measure, in light of the circumstances under which it is presented, not misleading. By its express terms, scienter is not required in order to violate Regulation G.

#### **Respondent's Remedial Efforts and Cooperation**

In determining to accept the Offer, the Commission considered remedial acts promptly undertaken by Respondent and cooperation afforded the Commission staff.

#### **IV.**

In view of the foregoing, the Commission deems it appropriate to impose the sanctions agreed to in Respondent's Offer.

Accordingly, pursuant to Section 8A of the Securities Act and Section 21C of the Exchange Act, it is hereby ORDERED that:

A. Respondent cease and desist from committing or causing any violations and any future violations of Sections 17(a)(2) and 17(a)(3) of the Securities Act and Sections 13(a), 13(b)(2)(A), and 13(b)(2)(B) of the Exchange Act and Rules 12b-20, 13a-1, 13a-11, and 13a-13 and Rule 100(b) of Regulation G thereunder.

B. Respondent shall, within 30 days of the entry of this Order, pay a civil money penalty in the amount of \$45,000,000.00 to the Securities and Exchange Commission. If timely payment is not made, additional interest shall accrue pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717.

Payment must be made in one of the following ways:

- (1) Respondent may transmit payment electronically to the Commission, which will provide detailed ACH transfer/Fedwire instructions upon request;
- (2) Respondent may make direct payment from a bank account via Pay.gov through the SEC website at <http://www.sec.gov/about/offices/ofm.htm>; or
- (3) Respondent may pay by certified check, bank cashier's check, or United States postal money order, made payable to the Securities and Exchange Commission and hand-delivered or mailed to:

Enterprise Services Center  
Accounts Receivable Branch  
HQ Bldg., Room 181, AMZ-341  
6500 South MacArthur Boulevard  
Oklahoma City, OK 73169

Payments by check or money order must be accompanied by a cover letter identifying Bausch Health as a Respondent in these proceedings, and the file number of these proceedings; a copy of the cover letter and check or money order must be sent to Alka Patel, Associate Regional Director, Division of Enforcement, Securities and Exchange Commission, Los Angeles Regional Office, 444 South Flower Street, Suite 900, Los Angeles, CA 90071.

C. Pursuant to Section 308(a) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, a Fair Fund is created for the penalties referenced in paragraph IV.B above. Amounts ordered to be paid as civil money penalties pursuant to this Order shall be treated as penalties paid to the government for all purposes, including all tax purposes. To preserve the deterrent effect of the civil penalty, Respondent agrees that in any Related Investor Action, it shall not argue that it is entitled to, nor shall it benefit by, offset or reduction of any award of compensatory damages by the amount of any part of Respondent's payment of a civil penalty in this action ("Penalty Offset"). If the court in any Related Investor Action grants such a Penalty Offset, Respondent agrees that it shall, within 30 days after entry of a final order granting the Penalty Offset, notify the Commission's counsel in this action and pay the amount of the Penalty Offset to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Such a payment shall not be deemed an additional civil penalty and shall not be deemed to change the amount of the civil penalty imposed in this proceeding. For purposes of this paragraph, a “Related Investor Action” means a private damages action brought against Respondent by or on behalf of one or more investors based on substantially the same facts as alleged in the Order instituted by the Commission in this proceeding.

By the Commission.

Vanessa A. Countryman  
Secretary