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9 Lead Counsel for Plaintiff

10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 11 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
 12 SOUTHERN DIVISION

13 HSINGCHING HSU, Individually and)
 14 on Behalf of All Others Similarly)
 Situated,)

15 Plaintiff,)

16 vs.)

17 PUMA BIOTECHNOLOGY, INC., et)
 18 al.,)

19 Defendants.)

Case No. 8:15-cv-00865-AG-JCG
CLASS ACTION
 FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT
 FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE
 FEDERAL SECURITIES LAWS

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

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1 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

2 1. The claims asserted herein arise under and pursuant to §§10(b) and 20(a)
3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”) (15 U.S.C. §§78j(b) and
4 78t(a)), and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder by the U.S. Securities and Exchange
5 Commission (“SEC”) (17 C.F.R. §240.10b-5).

6 2. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action under 28
7 U.S.C. §1331 and §27 of the Exchange Act.

8 3. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to §27 of the Exchange Act and
9 28 U.S.C. §1391(b) because a significant portion of Defendants’ actions, and the
10 subsequent damages, took place within this District.

11 4. In connection with the acts, conduct and other wrongs alleged in this
12 Complaint, Defendants, directly or indirectly, used the means and instrumentalities of
13 interstate commerce, including, but not limited to, the United States mail, interstate
14 telephone communications and the facilities of national securities exchanges.

15 **INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW**

16 5. Lead Plaintiff Norfolk County Council, as Administering Authority of
17 the Norfolk Pension Fund (“Norfolk Pension Fund” or “Plaintiff”), hereby brings this
18 action on behalf of itself and all persons or entities who purchased or otherwise
19 acquired the common stock of Puma Biotechnology, Inc. (“Puma” or the “Company”)
20 between July 22, 2014 (after 6:00 p.m., EDT) and May 29, 2015, inclusive (the “Class
21 Period”), and were damaged thereby. Excluded from the Class, as defined below, are
22 Defendants, present or former executive officers of Puma and their immediate family
23 members (as defined in 17 C.F.R. §229.404, Instructions (1)(a)(iii) and (1)(b)(ii)).
24 Plaintiff seeks to recover damages caused by Defendants’ violations of §§10(b) and
25 20(a) of the Exchange Act, and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder.

26 6. Plaintiff alleges the following based upon personal knowledge as to itself
27 and its own acts and upon information and belief as to all other matters. Plaintiff’s
28 information and belief is based on, *inter alia*, the independent investigation of its

1 counsel, Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP. This investigation included, but was
2 not limited to, a review and analysis of: (i) the results of Puma’s clinical trials of the
3 drug known as neratinib; (ii) Puma’s public filings with the SEC; (iii) transcripts of
4 Puma’s public conference calls; (iv) Puma’s press releases; (v) independent media
5 reports regarding Puma; (vi) economic analyses of Puma’s stock price movement and
6 pricing and volume data; (vii) consultations with relevant experts; (viii) other publicly
7 available material and data identified herein; and (ix) documents produced by
8 Defendants and relevant third parties.

9 7. Counsel’s investigation of the facts underlying this action continues, and
10 counsel further believes that relevant facts are known only by Defendants or are
11 exclusively within their custody or control. Plaintiff believes that additional
12 evidentiary support will exist for the allegations set forth herein after a reasonable
13 opportunity for additional discovery.

14 8. Puma is a development-stage pharmaceutical company formed in
15 September 2010 with a primary focus on acquiring and developing drug products.
16 Since its formation, the Company has not received marketing approval for any drug
17 product and has not produced any revenue. Puma’s primary focus has been on the
18 development of the drug PB272 (“neratinib”). Neratinib was initially developed by
19 Wyeth and Pfizer, and Puma acquired the rights to license the drug in 2011. As of
20 2015, neratinib was in various phases of clinical trials for the treatment of early- and
21 late-stage human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (“HER2”) breast cancer in the
22 adjuvant, metastatic, neoadjuvant and HER2 mutation settings.

23 9. Puma’s Phase III clinical trial for neratinib as an extended adjuvant
24 treatment for HER2-positive breast cancer, known as the ExteNET trial, was
25 completed in October 2013. The primary endpoint for the ExteNET trial was
26 improved disease-free survival (“DFS”) of patients taking the drug versus placebo at
27 two years. During the Class Period, Defendants made false and misleading statements
28 regarding the results of the ExteNET trial and the efficacy and safety of neratinib.

1 Specifically, beginning on July 22, 2014, Defendants publicly claimed that the
2 ExteNET trial demonstrated that the absolute difference in DFS rates between
3 neratinib patients versus placebo patients was 5% – approximately 91% compared to
4 86% – and, as a result, “treatment with neratinib resulted in a 33% improvement in
5 disease free survival versus placebo.” Defendants further claimed that the drug and
6 placebo DFS rates were “in line” with prior Herceptin Adjuvant Studies and that the
7 DFS Kaplan-Meier curves widened year-over-year, meaning that the absolute
8 difference between neratinib and placebo was actually improving over the course of
9 the trial. Defendants also told investors that they “ha[d] not seen the safety results
10 from the ExteNET trial,” but that the rate of diarrhea for neratinib patients was
11 expected to be approximately 30%, and the dropout rate due to adverse events was
12 only 5% to 10%.

13 10. At the same time Defendants were making their statements about
14 neratinib and the ExteNET trial, they reassured investors about the basis for their
15 positive claims. Defendant Auerbach, Puma’s Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”), not
16 only provided the summary of ExteNET DFS data, but also told investors that with
17 regard to the trial, he and the Company had the “*full safety results*” and “*full DFS*
18 *data . . . the Kaplan-Meier curves, all endpoints, the DFS rates, the whole nine*
19 *yards.*”

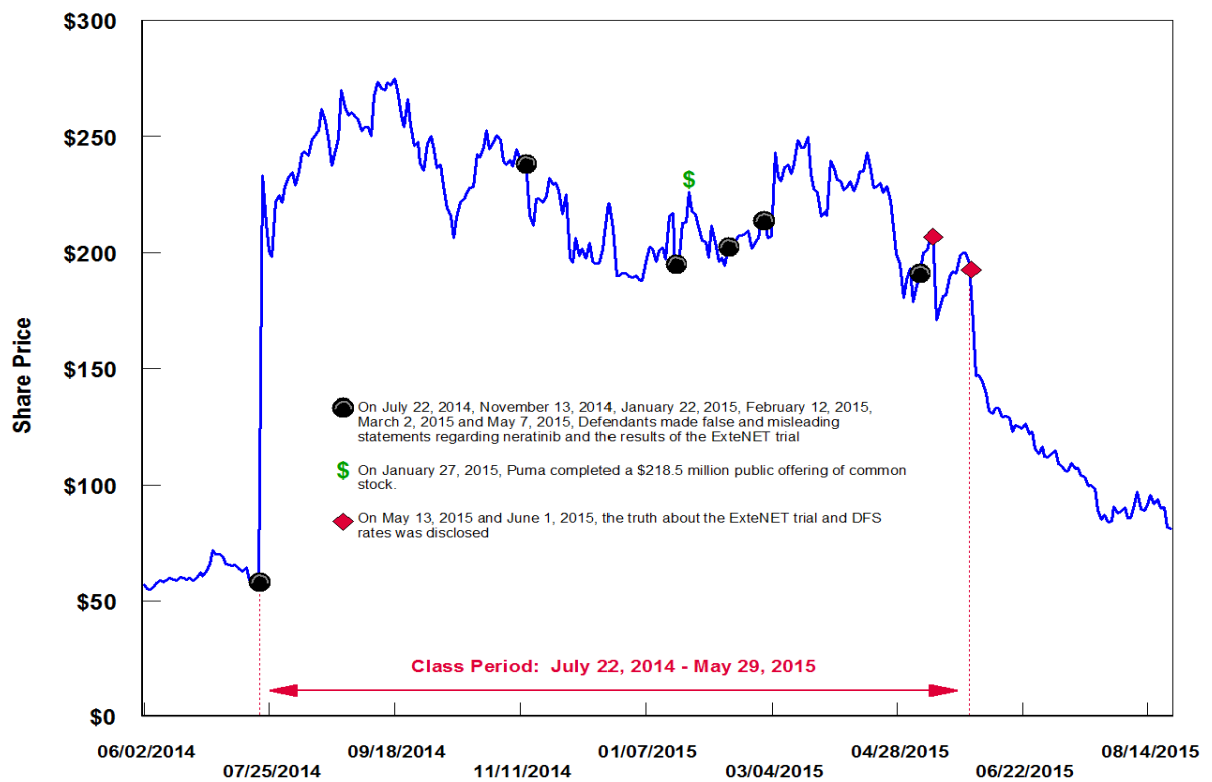
20 11. Defendants’ statements had their intended effect. On July 23, 2014
21 alone, Puma’s stock price more than quadrupled. Indeed, between July 22 and 23,
22 2014, the Company’s stock price increased \$174.40 per share, from \$59.03 to
23 \$233.43, as more than 8 million shares changed hands. Over the following months, as
24 Defendants repeated their statements about the purportedly positive ExteNET trial
25 results, Puma’s shares continued to trade at inflated levels up to and exceeding
26 \$250.00 per share. Taking advantage of this artificial inflation, in January 2015
27 Defendants sold 1.15 million shares of Puma stock for proceeds of \$218.5 million in
28 a secondary offering – money desperately needed to cover the Company’s escalating

1 overhead costs. The Individual Defendants also lined their own pockets, collecting
2 more than \$22.3 million in salary and bonuses that were predicated on the supposedly
3 positive ExteNET trial results and resulting stock price increase, and actively tried to
4 sell Puma so they could cash out of their stock and option holdings.

5 12. After Puma's secondary offering and after the Individual Defendants had
6 collected their bonuses, the true facts about neratinib and the ExteNET trial began to
7 be revealed. Following the close of the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") on May
8 13, 2015, it was announced that Abstract #508 for the ExteNET trial had been posted
9 on the American Society of Clinical Oncology ("ASCO") website. Abstract #508
10 revealed, for the first time, that the difference in DFS rates between ExteNET trial
11 patients on neratinib versus placebo was not 5%, but **only 2.3%**, and, therefore, there
12 was not a 33% improvement in DFS over placebo. Abstract #508 also revealed that
13 **39.9%** of the neratinib patients in the ExteNET trial suffered from grade 3 or 4
14 diarrhea. As *Reuters* reported on the evening of May 13, 2015, Abstract #508
15 disclosed that "**93.9 percent of neratinib patients were alive without their disease**
16 **progressing, compared with 91.6 percent of patents with a placebo,**" and "**Puma had**
17 **previously disclosed that treatment with neratinib had resulted in a significant 33**
18 **percent improvement in disease-free survival.**" The *Reuters* report continued: "**The**
19 **updated trial results also explained that 40 percent of patients in the trial**
20 **experienced diarrhea.**" Another article headlined that the disclosure left "Investors
21 Growling in Disbelief." The response of those investors was swift and severe. On
22 May 14, 2015 alone, Puma's stock price fell 18.6%, or \$39.05 per share, on extremely
23 heavy trading volume.

24 13. Two weeks later, at the ASCO conference, the false and misleading
25 nature of Defendants' statements was further revealed. In a June 1, 2015 presentation,
26 Dr. Arlene Chan disclosed that the Kaplan-Meier curves for the actual DFS rates from
27 the ExteNET trial did not widen year-over-year and that the DFS rates for ExteNET
28 were not close to being "in-line" with the Herceptin Adjuvant Studies. Dr. Chan's

1 presentation also revealed that the study discontinuation rate of neratinib patients due
 2 to grade 3 or 4 diarrhea alone was 16.8%, significantly higher than the total dropout
 3 rate of 5% to 10% Defendants had previously claimed. These disclosures were met
 4 with more investor disbelief and further declines in Puma’s stock price. Over June 1
 5 and 2, 2015, Puma’s stock price plummeted an additional \$48.80 per share, or over
 6 24%, on heavy trading volume. All told, Plaintiff and investors who purchased or
 7 acquired Puma stock during the Class Period suffered damages of up to \$87.85 per
 8 share and collectively suffered hundreds of millions of dollars in damages.



PARTIES

Plaintiff

24 14. **Norfolk Pension Fund:** Norfolk Pension Fund purchased Puma common
 25 stock during the Class Period on the NYSE and was damaged thereby. *See* Dkt. No.
 26 106-1.
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1 15. Norfolk Pension Fund is headquartered in Norwich, England. The
2 employees of more than 200 organizations, including colleges and town councils,
3 participate in the Fund. The Fund’s primary objective is to provide for the pensions
4 and benefits of members and their families following retirement or disability. Norfolk
5 Pension Fund is administered by the Norfolk County Council, which established the
6 Norfolk Pensions Committee. The Pensions Committee is responsible for the strategic
7 management of the assets of the Fund and the administration of benefits. Norfolk
8 County Council is empowered to act in the interests of all members and their
9 dependents within the Fund.

10 **Defendants**

11 16. **Puma:** Puma is a Delaware corporation that describes itself as a
12 development-stage pharmaceutical company that focuses on the acquisition,
13 development and marketing of drugs for the treatment of certain cancers. The
14 Company’s principal offices are located at 10880 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 2150, Los
15 Angeles, California 90024. During the Class Period, the Company’s stock traded on
16 the NYSE under the symbol “PBYI.”

17 17. **Alan H. Auerbach:** Defendant Alan H. Auerbach (“Auerbach”) served
18 as the Company’s CEO, President and Chairman of the Board at all relevant times.
19 Prior to founding Puma, Auerbach served as the founder and CEO of Cougar
20 Biotechnology, Inc. (“Cougar”) – a pharmaceutical company he sold to Johnson &
21 Johnson in 2009. Puma’s April 30, 2015 Proxy Statement emphasized Auerbach’s
22 “significant experience as an executive and research analyst in the biotechnology
23 industry.” In 2014, as a result of the fraudulent scheme alleged herein, Auerbach
24 received \$17.8 million in executive bonuses and compensation. During the Class
25 Period, Auerbach had knowledge of the actual results of the ExteNET trial, as set forth
26 in ¶48.

27 18. Prior to the Class Period, Auerbach was responsible for the content and
28 approval of Puma’s Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (“Code of Ethics”). The

1 Code of Ethics required that the Company’s officers and employees ensure “the
2 disclosure of accurate and complete information regarding the Company’s business,
3 financial condition and results of operations” and further warned that “[i]naccurate,
4 incomplete or untimely reporting will not be tolerated and can severely damage the
5 Company and result in legal liability.” In addition, in accordance with Puma’s Media
6 Relations Policies and Procedures, Auerbach was required to review and approve all
7 press releases, speeches, presentations and other communications to investors prior to
8 release.

9 19. Auerbach made or had authority over the content and dissemination of
10 the false statements and omissions set forth herein at ¶¶49-50, 52-54, 57, 59-63, and is
11 liable for those false statements and omissions. Auerbach is also a control person of
12 Puma within the meaning of §20(a) of the Exchange Act.

13 20. **Charles R. Eyler:** Defendant Charles R. Eyler (“Eyler”) served as the
14 Company’s Senior Vice President of Finance and Administration and Treasurer
15 (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer) at all relevant times. Prior to joining
16 Puma, Eyler served as Chief Financial Officer (“CFO”) and Chief Operating Officer
17 (“COO”) of Hayes Medical, Inc. In 2014, as a result of the fraudulent scheme alleged
18 herein, Eyler received \$4.5 million in executive bonuses and compensation. During
19 the Class Period, Eyler had or had access to the actual results of the ExteNET trial, as
20 set forth in ¶48.

21 21. Prior to the Class Period, Eyler was also responsible for the content and
22 approval of Puma’s Code of Ethics. The Code of Ethics required that the Company’s
23 officers and employees ensure “the disclosure of accurate and complete information
24 regarding the Company’s business, financial condition and results of operations” and
25 further warned that “[i]naccurate, incomplete or untimely reporting will not be
26 tolerated and can severely damage the Company and result in legal liability.” In
27 accordance with Puma’s Code of Ethics, Eyler was responsible for ensuring that the
28 Company’s financial reports were full, fair, accurate, timely and understandable.

1 22. Eyler made or had authority over the content and dissemination of the
2 false statements and omissions set forth herein at ¶¶49, 59, 61, and is liable for those
3 false statements and omissions. Eyler is also a control person of Puma within the
4 meaning of §20(a) of the Exchange Act.

5 23. Defendants Auerbach and Eyler are referred to herein, collectively, as the
6 “Individual Defendants.”

7 24. Defendants Puma, Auerbach and Eyler are referred to herein,
8 collectively, as “Defendants.”

9 **BACKGROUND AND PRE-CLASS PERIOD EVENTS**

10 **Puma and Neratinib**

11 25. Defendant Auerbach started Puma in 2010 with the intent to acquire,
12 develop and market pharmaceutical products for use in treating cancer. As of October
13 2015, the Company has no products for sale and only one drug – neratinib – which it
14 had acquired from Pfizer and was developing to sell as a treatment option for patients
15 with breast cancer and solid tumors.

16 26. Neratinib is intended to be an irreversible inhibitor of the HER2 receptor
17 tyrosine kinase with potential antineoplastic activity. The drug binds to the HER2
18 receptor irreversibly, thereby reducing what is known as “autophosphoylation” in
19 cells, apparently by targeting a cysteine residue in the ATP-binding pocket of the
20 receptor. Treatment of cells with neratinib is intended to result in inhibition of
21 downstream signal transduction events and cell cycle regulatory pathways, arrest of
22 the cell division cycle and, ultimately, decreased cellular proliferation.

23 27. At all relevant times, Puma was attempting to obtain regulatory approval
24 for the use and marketing of neratinib (in oral and intravenous form) for the treatment
25 of HER2-positive breast cancer and other forms of advanced cancer.

26 **The Market for Neratinib as a Cancer Treatment**

27 28. Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths among
28 women, with approximately 230,000 new cases reported each year in the United

1 States. Between 20% and 25% of breast cancer tumors show “over-expression” of the
2 HER2 protein and women with these tumors are at a greater risk for disease
3 progression and death than women with tumors that do not over-express HER2. Most
4 patients with HER2-positive breast cancer develop resistance to the drugs currently
5 approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) – e.g., trastuzumab
6 (Herceptin), pertuzumab and T-DM1 – thereby limiting treatment options. As a
7 result, there is a recognized need for alternative treatments to block HER2 signaling
8 pathways.

9 29. According to the Company’s 2014 Form 10-K, neratinib has a large
10 potential market with approximately 36,000 patients in the United States and 34,000
11 patients in the European Union diagnosed with HER2-positive breast cancer per year.
12 Given the size of the potential market and the drug’s potential to replace FDA-
13 approved drugs on the market when a resistance develops, neratinib was expected to
14 be a blockbuster drug if it could demonstrate a meaningful clinical benefit and
15 ultimately be approved for use and marketing. Based on conversations with
16 Defendants, analysts expected Puma would charge patients \$6,500 a month, or
17 \$78,000 a year, for neratinib, a premium of over 40% over the cost of Herceptin.
18 Defendant Auerbach, in a January 12, 2015 conference call with JP Morgan Chase
19 analysts, touted that “neratinib will basically have the extended adjuvant setting all to
20 itself with no competitive threats” and “[c]urrently Herceptin in year one of the
21 adjuvant setting does approximately \$4.3 billion, and all of those patients would be
22 eligible for neratinib in year two.” As *Bloomberg* reported, at the prices Puma
23 intended to charge, neratinib could reap \$2.5 billion in annual sales by 2020. The
24 investment banking firm Cowen and Company also estimated that neratinib could
25 generate total global sales for Puma of up to \$6.0 billion by 2028.

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1 **Relevant Results and Statistics Discussed by Defendants**
2 **and Market Participants During the Class Period**

3 30. **Survival Rates:** In the context of studying cancer treatments, one of the
4 most important endpoints to demonstrate is the improved chance of survival and
5 recovery. Survival statistics describe the percentage of people with a certain type of
6 cancer who are alive and whose cancer remains in remission after a cancer treatment
7 is commenced. DFS is a specific survival statistic used in evaluating cancer
8 treatments and refers to the percentage of people who survive and show no sign of the
9 disease after finishing a treatment regimen.

10 31. The key metric in evaluating DFS rates across studies is the absolute
11 benefit or absolute difference between the treatment arm and placebo arm in each
12 study – the difference between the DFS rates for those on the drug and those on
13 placebo. As a Leerink Partners equity analyst explained following Defendants’ July
14 22, 2014 statements: “the magnitude of benefit (HR=0.63-0.67 depending on how
15 disease-free survival [DFS] is measured, likely 4% absolute improvement in DFS on
16 top of 1-year Herceptin) is among best-case scenarios that could be envisioned.”
17 Echoing Auerbach’s statements, the analyst reported that “DFS for the control arm
18 was in line with historical Herceptin adjuvant studies, likely in the range of 86-87%,
19 which suggests a ~91% DFS in the drug arm, or absolute difference of ~4%.” Leerink
20 Partners also reported that in a conference call with key opinion leaders discussing
21 Defendants’ statements regarding the ExteNET trial results, the medical consultants
22 “were enthusiastic about the magnitude of benefit seen for neratinib, and commented
23 that the study could be practice-changing.”

24 32. Following the disclosure of the actual ExteNET trial results, analysts
25 again focused on the difference between DFS rates for patients on neratinib versus
26 those on placebo. A Cowen and Company pharmaceutical analyst, for example,
27 explained why the difference in absolute DFS benefit was so meaningful:
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1 Given prior comments from PBYI, investors had expectation of at least a
2 3% absolute benefit, and perhaps a benefit as high as 4-5%. In addition,
3 some physicians are focused on absolute benefits as much as relative risk
4 reductions. Given neratinib is associated with significant tolerability
5 issues, some consultants have commented that they would like to see at
6 least 3-4 women cured per 100 treated. Hence the 2.3% figure could
7 lead to lower penetration in the marketplace.

8 A later Cowen and Company analyst report reiterated the importance of the DFS
9 absolute benefit and why the truth about neratinib and the ExteNET trial was negative:

10 Neither of our consultants were enthusiastic about the ExteNET
11 dataset. They noted that the prognosis for HER2+ early stage patients is
12 already very good with currently available therapies, therefore even
13 though the hazard ratio targets were met, *the absolute magnitude of*
14 *difference in DFS was “trivial.” Neratinib’s use is likely to be limited*
15 *to a small subset, most likely in ER/PR+ node positive disease.*

16 * * *

17 *Both consultants believe that the market share for this drug is likely to*
18 *be “very small” in the extended adjuvant setting* because (1) patients do
19 very well on existing therapies, (2) neratinib has significant tolerability
20 issues, even with imodium prophylaxis, [and] (3) the vast majority [of
21 patients] (~80%) are node negative, where the drug is likely to only
22 show a modest benefit

23 **33. Kaplan-Meier Curves:** In 1958, Edward L. Kaplan and Paul Meier
24 published a seminal paper describing how “Kaplan-Meier curves” deal with differing
25 survival times (“times-to-event”) when not all study participants continue to the end of
26 a clinical study. See E.L. Kaplan & P. Meier, *Nonparametric Estimation from*
27 *Incomplete Observations*, J. Amer. Stat. Assoc. (1958, vol. 53:457-81). Kaplan and
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1 Meier’s academic research provided important examples of when survival times are
2 key to certain studies, such as in cancer treatment trials.

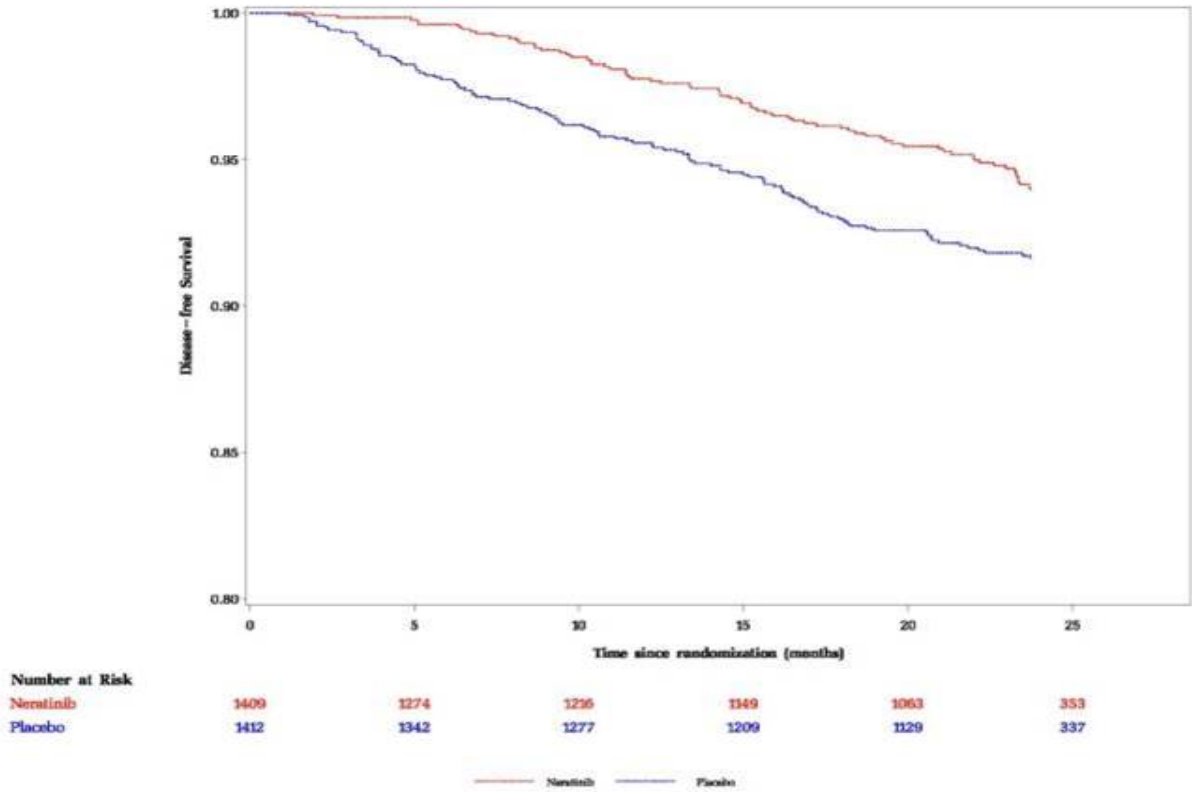
3 34. In order to graph Kaplan-Meier curves, it is necessary to have the study
4 data concerning the number of patients in the treatment arm that have and have not
5 relapsed over pre-defined time intervals. The same holds true for the placebo arm.
6 The DFS rate is calculated from this data. For example, if at the end of the first
7 period, 0 out of 10 individuals that received the medication have relapsed, while 1 out
8 of 10 individuals that received placebo have relapsed, the DFS rates at the end of the
9 first period would be 100% for those patients receiving the drug and 90% for placebo.
10 If, at the end of the second period, 1 out of 10 patients receiving the medication
11 relapsed, while 2 out of 9 remaining placebo patients relapsed, the DFS rate would
12 then be 90% for treatment and 78% for placebo. Under this hypothetical set of facts,
13 it appears that it is more probable that patients who take the cancer drug will not
14 experience an “event” or relapse.

15 35. Further, the distance between the Kaplan-Meier curves in the above-
16 noted hypothetical can be said to be increasing or “widening” over time because at the
17 end of the first period, the DFS rate for treatment versus placebo was 100% and 90%
18 (an absolute difference of 10%), respectively, and at the end of the second period, the
19 DFS rate for treatment versus placebo was 90% and 78% (an absolute difference of
20 12%). A widening of the Kaplan-Meier curves would be seen as a key, positive result
21 in a trial like ExteNET. A pharmaceutical analyst at UBS Securities explained
22 following Defendants’ July 22, 2015 statements: “[C]ommentary on the call adds to
23 our confidence: the DFS curves apparently widen over time, and neratinib appears
24 active in all subgroups examined, suggesting broad utilization.”

25 36. Below is a graphical depiction of the Kaplan-Meier curves for the
26 ExteNET study provided to Auerbach and Puma executives on July 17, 2014:

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37. **Adverse Events: Grade 3 or 4 Diarrhea:** In clinical trials, the analysis of safety is generally done by reporting and tracking incidences of adverse events of interest. An adverse event is any unfavorable change in health that occurs in trial participants during the clinical trial or within a specified period following the trial. Adverse events are generally characterized as “serious adverse events” or “other adverse events.” Diarrhea adverse events are measured on a scale from grade 1 (minor change in bowel movements) to grade 5 (death). A patient is deemed to have grade 3 diarrhea when they suffer from an increase of greater than seven bowel movements a day over baseline and/or hospitalization as a result of diarrhea. A patient suffering from grade 4 diarrhea has life-threatening consequences, including extremely low blood pressure as a result of severe dehydration.

The ExteNET Trial and License Agreement with Pfizer

38. Neratinib, like other pharmaceutical products, is subject to a series of clinical trials to evaluate its effectiveness and safety for particular treatments prior to

1 obtaining marketing approval. Clinical trials progress through distinct phases, and
2 Phase III trials are the most significant for testing the efficacy and safety of a drug.
3 The Phase III clinical trial of neratinib for the extended adjuvant treatment of HER2-
4 positive breast cancer, the ExteNET trial, was conducted between April 2009 and
5 October 2013.

6 39. Originally initiated by Wyeth before its merger with Pfizer, the ExteNET
7 trial was transferred to Puma as an ongoing “legacy trial” when Puma agreed to
8 license neratinib from Pfizer in 2011. Under the terms of the agreement, Puma
9 assumed sole responsibility for global development and commercialization of
10 neratinib, while Pfizer remained entitled to receive royalties and other payments upon
11 Puma’s achievement of certain development milestones for neratinib. The original
12 agreement also transferred financial responsibility for ExteNET and the legacy trials
13 to Puma, but required Pfizer to reimburse the Company for all expenses above a pre-
14 determined limit.

15 40. The ExteNET trial enrolled 2,821 patients with HER2-positive breast
16 cancer. All of the patients had undergone surgery and one year of adjuvant treatment
17 with Herceptin. After Herceptin treatment, patients were randomized to receive either
18 extended adjuvant treatment with neratinib or placebo for one year. Patients were
19 then followed for a period of two years after randomization. Other than the HERA
20 trial – which failed to show that two years of Herceptin is better than one – the
21 ExteNET trial was the only trial that tested the efficacy of a HER2 cancer drug in the
22 extended adjuvant setting.

23 41. The primary endpoint for the ExteNET trial was the DFS of patients
24 taking the drug versus placebo. On July 22, 2014, Defendants announced that the
25 ExteNET trial had hit its primary endpoint. Specifically, Defendants claimed that
26 treatment with neratinib demonstrated a 33% improvement in DFS over placebo –
27 based on DFS rates of roughly 91% and 86% and an absolute difference of 5% – and
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1 that the Kaplan-Meier curves continued to widen year after year. These purported
2 results were enthusiastically greeted by investors and practitioners.

3 42. On July 22, 2014, the same day that Defendants made their
4 announcement about the ExteNET DFS results, Puma also disclosed that it had
5 reached an agreement with Pfizer to amend the licensing agreement. According to
6 Puma, under the new terms, Pfizer would no longer be obligated to fund the legacy
7 clinical trials – including post-trial expenses with ExteNET – in consideration for
8 lowering its royalties from “10-20%” to a fixed rate of in the “low- to mid-teens.”
9 The terms of the amendment were agreed to before Pfizer and Defendants were aware
10 of the ExteNET trial results announced on July 22, 2014.

11 **The Herceptin Adjuvant Studies –**
12 **HERA, NSABP, NCCTG and BCIRG**

13 43. Several key breast cancer treatment studies had been conducted prior to
14 the completion of the ExteNET trial in 2013. The current standard of care drug –
15 Herceptin – underwent four major clinical trials in the adjuvant setting: Herceptin
16 Adjuvant (“HERA”); National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project
17 (“NSABP”) B-31; North Central Cancer Treatment Group (“NCCTG”) N9831; and
18 Breast Cancer International Research Group (“BCIRG”) 006 (collectively, the
19 “Herceptin Adjuvant Studies”). The primary efficacy endpoint for each of the
20 Herceptin Adjuvant Studies was DFS. In all four studies, the DFS rates from one year
21 of Herceptin treatment ranged from 85.8% to 88.0%, with a median absolute
22 difference between treatment and control groups of **6.65%**.

23 44. The HERA study was designed to compare one and two years of
24 Herceptin treatment following surgery and chemotherapy in patients with HER2-
25 positive early breast cancer (“EBC”). At two years follow-up, HERA demonstrated
26 that one year of Herceptin resulted in an absolute benefit of **7.6%** over placebo. Long-
27 term follow-up established that two years of Herceptin was no more effective than one
28 year of the drug.

1 45. The NSABP B-31 and NCCTG N9831 studies were designed primarily
2 to investigate the clinical efficacy of combining Herceptin with the drug paclitaxel
3 following AC chemotherapy. Because of the similar design of the two studies, both
4 sets of data from the studies were analyzed jointly after discussion with the FDA. At
5 three and a half years follow-up, the joint analysis found that one year of Herceptin
6 resulted in an absolute benefit of **15.3%** over AC chemotherapy followed by just
7 paclitaxel.

8 46. The BCIRG 006 study was designed to investigate the clinical utility of
9 Herceptin treatment in post-surgery patients with HER2-positive EBC in two different
10 settings: (i) following AC chemotherapy in combination with the drug docetaxel; or
11 (ii) in combination with the drugs docetaxel and carboplatin. At three years follow-
12 up, both settings demonstrated that Herceptin had an absolute benefit of **5.7%** and
13 **4.0%**, respectively, over AC chemotherapy followed by just docetaxel.

14 47. Combined, the Herceptin Adjuvant Studies were considered the gold
15 standard of breast cancer research and development. Due to the magnitude of absolute
16 benefit demonstrated in these studies, one year of Herceptin treatment has become the
17 standard of care for early stage breast cancer patients. However, because two years of
18 Herceptin provides no added benefit from one year of treatment and is often not a
19 viable treatment due to developing resistance, a drug that could demonstrate a similar
20 magnitude of benefit in year two (*i.e.*, extended adjuvant) would have the potential to
21 profit enormously from the Herceptin patient market. Thus, during the Class Period,
22 Defendants compared the results of the ExteNET against the results of completed
23 Herceptin studies in order to stoke investor interest in the effectiveness and
24 marketability of neratinib.

25 **Defendants' Knowledge and Access to Material, Undisclosed Facts**
26 **Concerning ExteNET Trial Results**

27 48. On July 17, 2014, Puma's Senior Director of Clinical Science, Alvin
28 Wong ("Wong"), emailed Auerbach and Puma executives a document entitled

1 “Neratinib Protocol 3144A2-3004-WW Top-Line Efficacy Analysis Part A (2 years +
2 28 days)” (the “ExteNET Top-Line Efficacy Analysis”). The ExteNET Top-Line
3 Efficacy Analysis identified that: (a) the DFS rates for the primary endpoint in the
4 ExteNET trial were 93.9% in the treatment arm and 91.6% in the placebo arm for an
5 absolute difference of 2.3%; and (b) the Kaplan-Meier curves were essentially flat
6 with no trend of separation between the treatment and placebo arms from one year
7 after randomization to two years after randomization and were narrowing at the end of
8 the two-year period. The next day, on July 18, 2014, Wong emailed Auerbach and
9 other Puma executives a PowerPoint presentation entitled “3004 Executive Summary
10 of Safety 18JUL2014” and the ExteNET top-line safety tables, which identified that:
11 (a) 39.9% of patients in the treatment arm experienced grade 3 or 4 diarrhea; and (b)
12 the discontinuation rate for neratinib patients due to grade 3 or 4 diarrhea was 16.8%,
13 and the overall dropout rate for neratinib patients due to adverse events was 27.6%.

14 **DEFENDANTS’ MISLEADING STATEMENTS**
15 **AND MATERIAL OMISSIONS**

16 49. After the market closed on July 22, 2014, Puma issued a press release and
17 thereafter filed a Form 8-K, signed by defendant Auerbach and attaching the press
18 release, with the SEC. The press release, reviewed and approved for publication by
19 Auerbach and Eyler, was entitled “Puma Biotechnology Announces Positive Top-line
20 Results from Phase III PB272 Trial in Adjuvant Breast Cancer (ExteNET Trial):
21 Neratinib Achieves Statistically Significant Improvement in Disease Free Survival
22 Company Plans to File for Regulatory Approval in First Half of 2015.” The press
23 release reported: “*The results of the trial demonstrated that treatment with neratinib*
24 *resulted in a 33% improvement in disease free survival versus placebo.*”

25 50. Immediately after the Company issued its July 22, 2014 press release,
26 Puma held a conference call with analysts and investors to further discuss the top-line
27 results of the ExteNET trial. Auerbach participated in the conference call. During the
28

1 call, Auerbach engaged in the following exchange with Yaron Werber, a Citi Research
2 equity analyst:

3 [WERBER:] Congrats on this fantastically and, in many ways,
4 unexpected data. So I have a ton of questions. Maybe I'll just take two,
5 if you don't mind. One is, give us a little bit of a sense, what was the
6 DFS on the control arm, first. And then second, help us understand,
7 what do you know about the safety profile?

8 [AUERBACH:] Okay. *So in terms of the DFS of the placebo*
9 *arm of the trial, it was in line with other reported trials. So it's inline*
10 *with the Herceptin adjuvant studies. And then in terms of the safety*
11 *profile, we haven't yet fully validated the safety database.*

12 * * *

13 [WERBER:] *You're thinking that, if I'm correct, the DFS is*
14 *probably around mid to high 80s, around 86% or so in the control*
15 *arm?*

16 [AUERBACH:] *I would be comfortable with that number.*

17 [WERBER:] *And one would imagine you probably had to show*
18 *around 90% or 91% [in the treatment arm]? Is that reasonable?*

19 [AUERBACH:] *Yes. I think you can do a 33% improvement in*
20 *DFS and come up with that calculation, given the numbers we gave.*

21 51. With these statements, Auerbach asserted that the DFS of the placebo
22 arm was "in line" with the Herceptin Adjuvant Studies at roughly 86%. Auerbach
23 also confirmed that the treatment arm demonstrated a DFS of 90%-91%. As a result,
24 analysts and investors understood the 33% improvement claim was based on an
25 absolute DFS benefit of approximately 5% – a magnitude of benefit that would
26 support widespread clinical use of neratinib.

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1 52. During the July 22, 2014 conference call, Auerbach also made the
2 following statements during an exchange with Leerink Partners equity analyst Howard
3 Liang regarding the Kaplan-Meier curves for the ExteNET trial:

4 [LIANG:] Congratulations, Alan, and your team. So can you – *I*
5 *assume you have seen the curves for the two arms*. Can you give us a
6 sense as to whether the separation is widening over time? Or how would
7 you describe the curve separation?

8 [AUERBACH:] *Yes*, Thanks for that question, Howard. Okay, so
9 the [ExteNET] trial started in April of 2009, and this data cut is as of
10 October 2013. So that’s essentially the last patient was followed for 2
11 years. So from those numbers, you can see we have a lot of patients who
12 have been in for much more than that 2-year cutoff. *If we look at the*
13 *curves going out beyond that, it looks like the curves are continuing to*
14 *separate*.

15 *And to give a little more detail on that, if you look at the curves*
16 *in the Herceptin adjuvant trials – so the HERA study, the BCIRG*
17 *study, et cetera – the absolute difference in disease-free survival*
18 *increases as you go out year over year. So, for instance, in the BCIRG*
19 *trial, the DFS difference was 6% at 2 years and 7% at 3 years, then 8%*
20 *at 4 years*

21 *We’re seeing the same preliminary trend in the ExteNET trial,*
22 *where the curves appear to be continuing to separate as you go out*
23 *year over year, and the absolute DFS difference is increasing year over*
24 *year as well*.

25 53. Also at the July 22, 2014 conference call, Auerbach made the following
26 statement in his opening remarks:
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1 *From a safety perspective, the Company has not yet seen the*
2 *safety results from the ExteNET trial for neratinib, as the data is still*
3 *being validated.*

4 * * *

5 Prior to Puma licensing the drug, neratinib monotherapy was
6 previously tested in two Phase II trials in patients with HER2-positive
7 metastatic breast cancer, the results of which were published in European
8 Journal of Cancer in December 2013 and the Journal of Clinical
9 Oncology in 2010. *In those studies, grade 3 or higher diarrhea was*
10 *seen in 29% and 30% of the patients, respectively.*

11 The ExteNET trial was started in April of 2009, prior to Puma
12 licensing the drug in 2011. Neratinib was given as a monotherapy, and
13 no prophylaxis to prevent neratinib-related diarrhea was used.
14 *Therefore, the Company anticipates that the grade 3 diarrhea rates in*
15 *the ExteNET trial are likely to be in line with what was previously*
16 *published in the prior Phase II trials that were published in the*
17 *European Journal of Cancer and the Journal of Clinical Oncology.*

18 54. At the same July 22, 2014 conference call, Auerbach had the following
19 exchanges with analysts Yaron Werber of Citi Research, Eric Schmidt of Cowen &
20 Co. and Matt Roden of UBS Securities regarding the diarrhea and dropout rates in the
21 ExteNET trial:

22 [WERBER:] Congrats on this fantastically and, in many ways,
23 unexpected data. So I have a ton of questions. Maybe I'll just take two,
24 if you don't mind. One is, give us a little bit of a sense, what was the
25 DFS on the control arm, first. And then second, help us understand,
26 what do you know about the safety profile?

27 [AUERBACH:] Okay. So in terms of the DFS of the placebo arm
28 of the trial, it was in line with other reported trials. So it's inline with the

1 Herceptin adjuvant studies. And then in terms of the safety profile, we
2 haven't yet fully validated the safety database. Our anticipation is the
3 main AE we're going to see is what we've historically seen with
4 neratinib, which is the diarrhea. *And again, we would anticipate that*
5 *the diarrhea rate, the grade 3 diarrhea rate, would be in line with the*
6 *29% to 30% that's been seen in the prior studies of neratinib as a*
7 *monotherapy.*

8 * * *

9 [SCHMIDT:] Thanks. And lastly, I think you probably do know
10 the dropout rate from the trial. Could you remind us of that?

11 [AUERBACH:] Dropout rates due to side effects?

12 [SCHMIDT:] Sure, or anything, if you have it.

13 [AUERBACH:] *I don't have that. I apologize. That's part of the*
14 *stuff being validated, but we anticipate, typically in the neratinib*
15 *studies – the legacy ones that were done before, when Pfizer was*
16 *running it without any prophylaxis – it was usually in the 5% to 10%*
17 *range was the dropout rate due to AEs. So we'd anticipate it's in that*
18 *same vein.*

19 * * *

20 [RODEN:] I just wanted to clarify an earlier answer to a question.
21 So you were asked about the dropout rate, and I think you wanted to
22 defer to dropouts due to – discontinuations due to adverse events. But
23 can you just mention, or maybe I missed it, how many patients actually
24 completed the year of therapy? Or another way of saying it is how much
25 missing data is there from the DFS analysis?

26 [AUERBACH:] *Yes, so in terms of patients who dropped out due*
27 *to AEs, like I said, historically with neratinib, that should be*
28 *somewhere in the 5% to 10% range.*

1 [RODEN:] Okay, but do you have a sense for dropouts for any
2 reason across the study?

3 [AUERBACH:] *No*, the main one we would expect is due to AEs.
4 And obviously, if they progressed or died.

5 55. In response to the Company's press release and conference call
6 concerning the results in the ExteNET trial, Puma's stock price skyrocketed,
7 increasing \$174.37 per share by the close of the market on July 23, 2014, a one day
8 increase of over 295%.

9 56. Media reports flagged Puma's stock price increase and tied it to
10 Defendants' statements regarding the ExteNET trial results. For example, on July 23,
11 2014, an *MTNewswires* article entitled "Puma Biotechnology Up More Than 220% in
12 Early Pre-Market on Results of Cancer Drug Trial," reported "[t]he results of the trial
13 demonstrated that treatment with neratinib resulted in a 33% improvement in disease
14 free survival, the primary endpoint, versus placebo." Similarly, a *MarketWatch* article
15 entitled "Puma Biotech's blast-off is not a typical short squeeze," reported the
16 Company's stock "soared \$170.83, or 289%, to \$229.86 in midday trading [on July
17 23, 2014] The blast-off follows the company's announcement late Tuesday of
18 positive results from a Phase 3 trial of its breast cancer treatment."

19 57. Approximately four months later, following the close of trading on
20 November 13, 2014, Puma held a conference call with analysts and investors to
21 discuss the top-line results of a different Phase III trial of neratinib for the treatment of
22 metastatic breast cancer. During the call, Auerbach also spoke about the ExteNET
23 trial and reiterated that: "***The primary endpoint of this trial was disease-free survival
24 and neratinib demonstrated a 33% improvement in disease-free survival.***"

25 58. Following the close of trading on December 2, 2014, Puma held a
26 conference call with analysts and investors for the purpose of updating the market
27 regarding the filing of the New Drug Application ("NDA") for neratinib as an
28 extended adjuvant treatment for breast cancer. During the call, Auerbach confirmed

1 that the FDA had requested Puma to submit the results of the two-year DFS data from
2 the ExteNET trial and again acknowledged that the Company maintained and had
3 direct knowledge of the DFS rates for the treatment and placebo arms: In response to a
4 question about the efficacy data discussed with the FDA, Auerbach stated: “*That’s*
5 *correct. The data that was provided [to the FDA] was the full DFS data – so the*
6 *Kaplan-Meier curves, [all the] endpoints, the DFS rates, the whole nine yards.*” In
7 response to a separate question, “did you share with the [a]gency the full safety
8 results” from the ExteNET trial, Auerbach confirmed “Yes.”

9 59. On January 20, 2015, Defendants filed a Form S-3ASR Registration
10 Statement with the SEC for a follow-on offering of securities, including common
11 stock, debt securities and warrants. On January 22, 2015, Defendants filed a Form
12 424B2 Prospectus with the SEC for the sale of 1.15 million shares of Puma stock.
13 Defendants Auerbach and Eyler signed the Form S-3ASR Registration Statement and
14 wrote, adopted and approved of the contents of the Form 424B2 Prospectus. With
15 regard to the ExteNET trial, the Form 424B2 Prospectus stated that “*[t]he results of*
16 *the trial demonstrated that treatment with neratinib resulted in a 33% improvement*
17 *in disease free survival versus placebo.*” The January 2015 Registration Statement,
18 moreover, incorporated by reference the Company’s July 22, 2014 press release
19 announcing the top-line results of the ExteNET trial.

20 60. On February 12, 2015, Puma held a conference call with analysts and
21 investors for the purpose of updating the market regarding the Company’s product
22 pipeline. Auerbach led the call and again claimed that the top-line results of the
23 ExteNET trial demonstrated that “*[t]here was a 33% improvement in disease-free*
24 *survival*” for patients on neratinib.

25 61. On March 2, 2015, the Company filed its 2014 Form 10-K with the SEC.
26 Defendants Auerbach and Eyler signed the Form 10-K and, pursuant to §302 of the
27 Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, certified that the Form 10-K “does not contain any
28 untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make

1 the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were
2 made, not misleading.” With regard to the ExteNET trial, Defendants stated in the
3 Form 10-K that “[t]he results of the trial demonstrated that treatment with neratinib
4 *resulted in a 33% improvement in disease free survival versus placebo.*”

5 62. On March 3, 2015, Puma held another conference call with analysts and
6 investors for the purpose of updating the market regarding the status and results of the
7 Company’s clinical trial programs. During the call, Auerbach stated: “*So we*
8 *announced the results in July of 2014, where we announced that the trial hit the*
9 *primary endpoint. So, 33% improvement in disease free survival*”

10 63. On May 7, 2015, Puma held another conference call with analysts and
11 investors for the purpose of updating the market regarding the regulatory and clinical
12 status of neratinib. During the call, Auerbach reiterated: “*In July last year, we*
13 *announced the trial hit its primary endpoint. We saw a 33% improvement in*
14 *invasive disease-free survival*”

15 64. As a result of Defendants’ false and misleading statements between
16 November 2014 and May 2015, Puma stock continued to trade at artificially inflated
17 levels, reaching more than \$250 a share, and Defendants completed the sale of \$218.5
18 million in stock.

19 65. Defendants’ Class Period statements, set forth in ¶¶49-50, 52-54, 57, 59-
20 63, which succeeded in artificially inflating Puma’ stock price, were false and
21 misleading when made. With regard to the efficacy results of the ExteNET trial,
22 Defendants falsely informed investors that the absolute difference in DFS rates
23 between neratinib and placebo was approximately 5%, purportedly demonstrating a
24 33% improvement in disease-free survival, and that the Kaplan-Meier curves (the
25 difference between drug and placebo DFS rates) were separating. The true facts, that
26 Defendants knew but failed to disclose during the Class Period, were that the actual
27 absolute difference in DFS rates was only 2.3%, which did not represent a 33%
28 improvement and was not in line with the Herceptin Adjuvant Studies, and that at the

1 end of the two-year ExteNET trial the Kaplan-Meier curves were not separating and
2 were actually narrowing. With regard to the safety results of the ExteNET trial,
3 Defendants falsely informed investors that approximately 29% to 30% of patients
4 treated with neratinib suffered grade 3 or 4 diarrhea, and that the dropout rate due to
5 adverse events would be 5% to 10%. The true facts, that Defendants knew but failed
6 to disclose during the Class Period, were that 39.9% of patients treated with neratinib
7 experienced grade 3 or 4 diarrhea, 27.6% of neratinib patients dropped out of the
8 ExteNET trial due to adverse events, and that 16.8% of patients taking the drug
9 discontinued treatment as a result of experiencing grade 3 or 4 diarrhea.

10 **DISCLOSURE OF THE TRUTH ABOUT THE EXTENET TRIAL**

11 66. After the market closed on May 13, 2015, it was announced that Puma
12 had released Abstract #508, the summary of a journal reprint regarding the ExteNET
13 trial, on the ASCO website, www.abstract.asco.org. Abstract #508 revealed that the
14 DFS for patients in the treatment arm of ExteNET was 93.9%, while the DFS for
15 patients receiving placebo was 91.6%. This difference in DFS – **only 2.3%** – was
16 materially lower than what the market had been led to believe by Defendants’ false
17 and misleading statements. Abstract #508 also revealed that **40%** of patients in the
18 treatment arm of ExteNET experienced grade 3 or grade 4 diarrhea, materially higher
19 than what the market had been led to believe by Defendants’ false and misleading
20 statements.

21 67. As *Reuters* reported in a May 13, 2015 article entitled “Puma Biotech
22 breast cancer trial detailed, shares fall 25 pct”:

23 Puma shares slid 25 percent after hours following release of the
24 findings on Wednesday by the American Society of Clinical Oncology
25 ahead of its annual meeting later this month.

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1 It found that after two years, 93.9 percent of neratinib patients
2 were alive without their disease progressing, compared with 91.6 percent
3 of patients treated with a placebo.

4 Puma had previously disclosed that treatment with neratinib had
5 resulted in a significant 33 percent improvement in disease-free survival.

6 The updated trial results also explained that 40 percent of patients
7 in the trial experienced diarrhea.

8 68. On May 14, 2015, *FierceBiotech* published an article entitled “The
9 ASCO roundup: Thumbs down for Puma, up for Roche, mixed for Bristol-Meyers.”
10 The article referenced the ASCO abstract, noting it scored “the percentage of women
11 who were free of invasive disease [and] the neratinib group hit 93.9% compared to
12 91.6% in the placebo arm. *Analysts did a double take on the meager 2.3% difference*
13 *and quickly turned thumbs down on the data.*” The article continued, “[a]bout four
14 of 10 patients in the drug arm experienced severe diarrhea, which will likely have
15 physicians looking to think twice before prescribing it”

16 69. As a result of investors learning the truth about the results of the
17 ExteNET trial, Puma’s stock priced dropped by \$39.05 per share on May 14, 2015.
18 This 18.6% decline came on massive volume, as the number of shares traded
19 increased to 3.1 million, a 948% increase over Puma’s average daily trading volume
20 for the prior 90 days.

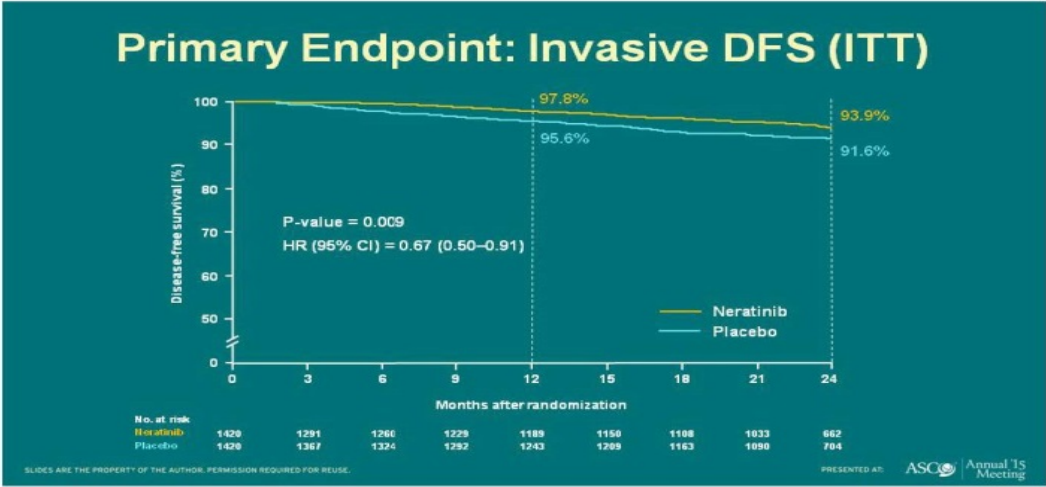
21 70. On May 28, 2015, in an article entitled “Puma Bio Restricting Access to
22 Breast Cancer Event at ASCO Chicago,” *TheStreet.com* reported that certain securities
23 analysts with bearish positions on Puma stock were being excluded by the Company
24 from attending the ASCO event. *TheStreet.com* noted “[r]estricting access to a
25 corporate event might not be such a big deal if not for Puma’s penchant for
26 selectively disclosing important information” to investors concerning the ExteNET
27 trial.

1 71. On June 1, 2015, the full data from the ExteNET trial was revealed in an
2 oral presentation by Dr. Arlene Chan at ASCO. As previously disclosed in Abstract
3 #508, the results showed that the absolute difference in DFS rates at two years was
4 only 2.3%. The data presented also revealed, for the first time, the Kaplan-Meier
5 curves for the ExteNET trial. This newly disclosed data showed essentially flat curves
6 between the neratinib and placebo arms, with no trend of separation. In fact, one-year
7 follow-up from randomization showed an absolute DFS difference of only **2.2%**
8 (97.8% vs. 95.6%). Thus, between years one and two of observation, the absolute
9 benefit experienced by study participants increased by only **0.1%**, and the curves were
10 actually narrowing by the end of year two – inconsistent with Auerbach’s prior claims
11 that “the curves are continuing to separate” and “the absolute DFS difference is
12 increasing year over year.” The actual trajectory of the DFS curves, as presented at
13 ASCO, is set forth below:¹

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25 ¹ The difference in appearance between the chart of Kaplan-Meier curves
26 presented at the ASCO conference and the chart internally circulated at Puma on July
27 17, 2014, as set forth in ¶36, is the result of a change to the scale of the y-axis. While
28 the Kaplan-Meier curves chart from July 2014 used a scale of 0.80 to 1.00 for the y-
axis, for the ASCO presentation the scale was changed at the instruction of Auerbach
to 0.50 to 1.00, minimizing the visual representation of the narrowing curves.

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Presented By Arlene Chan at 2015 ASCO Annual Meeting

72. Dr. Chan’s June 1, 2015 presentation at ASCO also confirmed that 39.9% of ExteNET patients treated with neratinib experienced grade 3 or 4 diarrhea and disclosed that 16.8% of patients taking the drug discontinued treatment as a result of experiencing grade 3 or higher diarrhea. This disclosure revealed that the percentage of patients taking neratinib in the ExteNET trial who dropped out and/or discontinued treatment was far in excess of the 5% to 10% Auerbach claimed during the Class Period.

73. On June 1, 2015, *TheStreet* published an article entitled “Puma Bio Breast Cancer Drug Given Rough Treatment at ASCO ‘15.” Quoting Dr. Harold Burnstein, a breast cancer expert from the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, the article noted that “[t]he benefit for breast cancer patients treated with Puma’s neratinib was ‘awfully small’ for a drug that causes ‘a lot of diarrhea.’” The article also reported that as a result of the ExteNET presentation “Puma shares are down more than 9% to \$177.04 in Monday trading.”

74. On June 4, 2015, *TheStreet* published an article entitled “Top-Performing Biotech and Drug Stocks During ASCO ‘15.” The article stated that “Puma Biotech

1 (PBYI) was the worst-performing biotech and drug stock during the ASCO period,
2 falling 28% due to the underwhelming efficacy and high rate of side effects seen with
3 the company’s breast cancer drug neratinib.”

4 75. In response to the disclosures about neratinib and the ExteNET trial at the
5 ASCO meeting, Puma’s stock price dropped \$21.98 per share on June 1, 2015, from
6 an opening price of \$191.95 down to \$169.97. The following day, on June 2, 2015,
7 Puma’s stock price continued falling and dropped an additional \$23.32 during trading
8 hours, closing at \$146.65. This two-day 23.6% decline came on massive volume, as
9 the number of shares traded increased to 2.9 million and 3.6 million over June 1 and 2,
10 2015, respectively – representing increases of 647% and 818% over Puma’s average
11 trading volume for the prior 90 days. The stock price continued falling after
12 disclosure of the truth about neratinib and the ExteNET trial and currently trades for
13 less than \$85 per share.

14 **DEFENDANTS’ MOTIVE AND OPPORTUNITY**
15 **TO DEFRAUD INVESTORS**

16 **Puma’s \$218.5 Million in Stock Sales**

17 76. After going public in February 2012, Puma repeatedly informed investors
18 that the Company would need to continue to raise capital because it was a
19 development-stage organization, produced no revenues and would incur significant
20 expenses while pursuing clinical testing. Puma’s 2013 Form 10-K revealed the
21 Company’s expenses for drug development and various clinical trials for neratinib
22 resulted in net losses of \$74.5 and \$54.7 million in 2012 and 2013, respectively.
23 While Puma had completed a follow-on offering of common stock in February 2014,
24 raising approximately \$138 million, the Company continued to spend heavily on
25 research, development and overhead, including executive compensation.

26 77. In addition, as a result of the licensing amendment with Pfizer signed
27 July 2014 – which obligated Puma to accept full financial responsibility for all
28 ongoing legacy trials with neratinib – Puma began realizing even greater net losses.

1 Puma incurred losses of \$19.8 million, \$38.8 million and \$35.8 million through the
2 first three fiscal quarters of 2014, respectively. At year's end, Puma had burned
3 through \$142 million, and only had \$149.4 million remaining in total current assets.
4 At the rate Puma was burning through its cash and liquid assets, the Company's
5 operations could barely last another year without an injection of capital.

6 78. With no revenue for the foreseeable future and increased R&D expenses
7 from the licensing renegotiation, Puma's very existence as a company was (and
8 continues to be) contingent on the amount of working capital it can raise through
9 public and private offerings – a measure wholly dependent on the Company's stock
10 price. As Puma admitted in its Form 10-Q filed November 10, 2014, “[t]he
11 Company's continued operations will depend on its ability to raise funds through
12 various potential sources such as equity and debt financing.” The ultimate success of
13 the Company thus “depends not only on the safety and efficacy of [its] product
14 candidates, but also on [its] ability to finance product development.”

15 79. As a result, following their July 22, 2014 false statements, Defendants
16 launched an additional follow-on offering of Puma common stock to continue funding
17 the Company's operations. This offering took place in January 2015. As stated in
18 Puma's Prospectus Supplement Form 424B5, Defendants had to raise the funds to pay
19 “for the overall development of our drug candidates, including, but not limited to,
20 research and development and clinical trial expenditures, and for general corporate
21 and working capital purposes.”

22 80. According to the Company's 2014 Form 10-K, Defendants sold 1.15
23 million shares of Puma common stock – at an artificially inflated price of \$190 per
24 share – for total proceeds of \$218.5 million in the January 2015 offering. This
25 funding was vital for Puma to continue its operations, as the Company continued to
26 report increased losses in 2015 – more than \$117 million in net losses in the first two
27 quarters alone. But for Defendants' deliberate decision to misstate and withhold the
28 actual efficacy and safety results associated with the ExteNET trial, Puma's Class

1 Period stock price would have been substantially lower, and Puma would have been
2 unable to obtain the \$218.5 million in funds.

3 **Defendants' Class Period Compensation**

4 81. The Individual Defendants were also highly motivated to materially
5 misstate the efficacy and safety results of neratinib in the ExteNET trial by the terms
6 of their employment agreements with Puma. The Individual Defendants'
7 compensation was directly tied to Puma's "performance on both a short-term and
8 long-term basis," including "results intended to create value for stockholders" such as
9 share price and clinical results – the very measures that were improperly manipulated
10 by the Individual Defendants during the Class Period. The personal wealth of each of
11 the Individual Defendants was enhanced by the repeated dissemination of materially
12 misleading statements regarding the ExteNET study results.

13 82. According to the Company's April 30, 2015 DEF 14A Proxy Statement,
14 Puma's executive compensation package consisted of: (a) base salary; (b) cash bonus
15 awards; and (c) stock option awards. Puma's Compensation Committee determined
16 each of the Individual Defendants' compensation package based on the "achievement
17 of near-term corporate targets and longer term business objectives and strategies."
18 Specifically, Puma highlighted the following factors as the bases for the increases in
19 Auerbach and Eyler's executive compensation during 2014: (a) "[T]he price of our
20 common stock increased approximately 82.8%," from \$103.53 on December 31, 2013
21 to \$189.27 on December 31, 2014; and (b) "In July 2014, we announced positive
22 topline results" for the ExteNET trial. Yet, these factors were manipulated by the
23 Individual Defendants' Class Period misrepresentations.

24 83. As a result of their false and misleading statements, the Individual
25 Defendants personally profited. For 2014, Auerbach received \$17.8 million in
26 executive compensation – an increase of more than 229% from the \$5.4 million he
27 earned in 2013. Similarly, Eyler pocketed \$4.5 million in 2014, an increase of 246%
28 over the \$1.3 million he received in 2013. In total, Auerbach and Eyler received

1 nearly \$22.3 million in salary and incentive-based annual compensation in 2014 alone,
2 all materially enhanced as a result of deceiving the investing public about the very
3 performance measures for which they were being rewarded.

4 **Defendants' Efforts to Sell Puma Before the Disclosure of the Truth**

5 84. Following the false and misleading statements on July 22, 2014 that
6 artificially inflated Puma's stock price, Auerbach actively sought to have Puma
7 acquired by a larger pharmaceutical company. Pursuant to Auerbach and Eyler's
8 contracts with Puma, the sale of the Company would trigger a change of control
9 provision. Under that provision, Auerbach and Eyler's options would immediately
10 vest and all of their shares, totaling at least 4,690,000 and 175,500, respectively,
11 would be cashed in at the acquisition price. In addition, a change of control would
12 allow Auerbach to exercise a warrant to acquire an additional 2,116,250 shares of
13 Puma common stock at \$16.00/share and cash those in at the acquisition price. As of
14 December 31, 2014, a sale of Puma would also have triggered change of control
15 payments to Auerbach in excess of \$27 million, largely due to accelerated equity
16 awards.

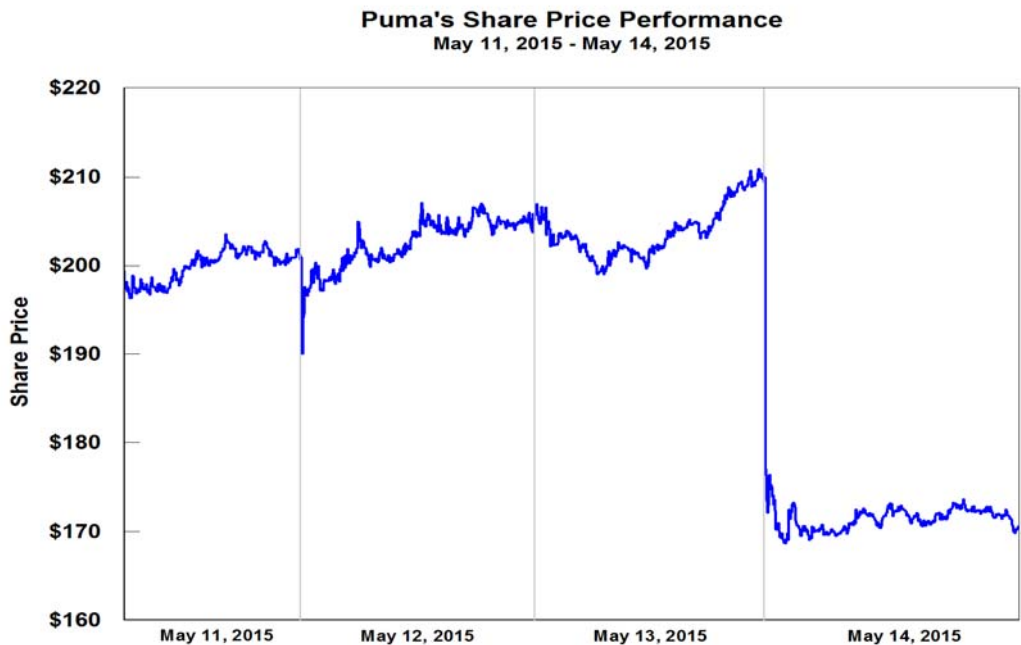
17 **LOSS CAUSATION/ECONOMIC LOSS**

18 85. During the Class Period, as detailed herein, Defendants engaged in a
19 scheme to deceive investors and the market and a course of conduct that artificially
20 inflated the price of Puma stock and operated as a fraud or deceit on Class Period
21 purchasers of Puma stock by misrepresenting and omitting material information about
22 neratinib and the ExteNET trial. When Defendants' prior misrepresentations and
23 omissions were disclosed to the market, beginning on the evening of May 13, 2015,
24 Puma's stock price fell precipitously, as the prior artificial inflation came out of the
25 price. As a result of their purchases of Puma stock during the Class Period, Plaintiff
26 and other members of the Class suffered economic loss, *i.e.*, damages, under the
27 federal securities laws.

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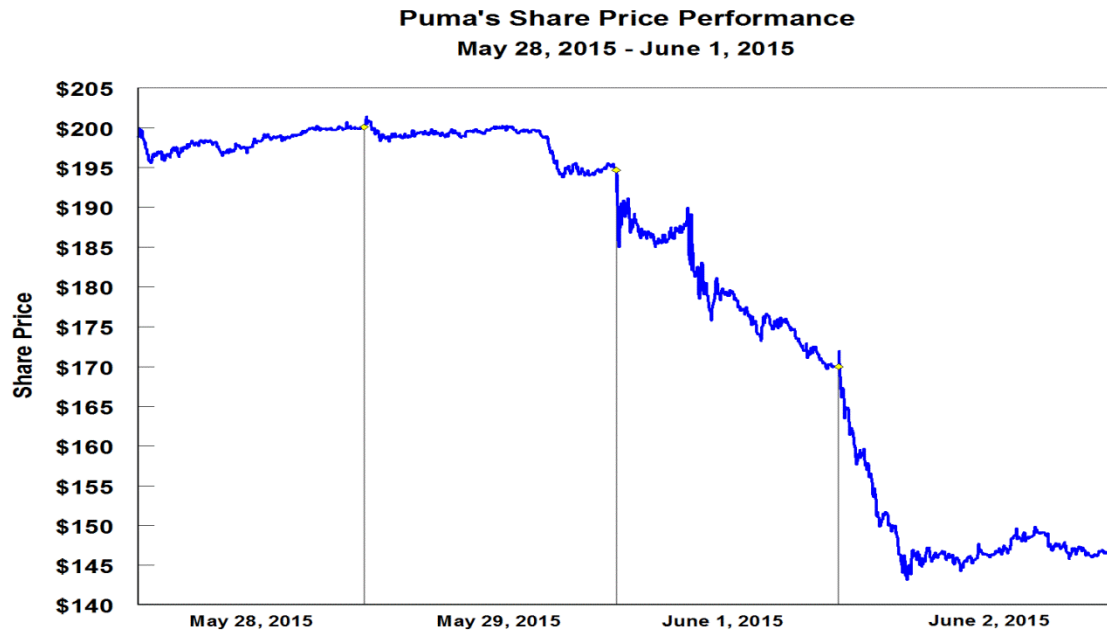
1 86. Defendants’ misleading statements and omissions, identified herein at
 2 ¶¶49-50, 52-54, 57, 59-63, had the intended effect and caused Puma’s stock to trade at
 3 artificially inflated levels during the Class Period.

4 87. As a direct result of the disclosures that began the evening of May 13,
 5 2015 and are detailed in ¶66, Puma’s stock price suffered a significant decline. As set
 6 forth in the chart below, on May 14, 2015, the price of Puma stock traded on the
 7 NYSE plunged \$39.05 per share:



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 19 88. The disclosures on June 1, 2015, detailed in ¶¶71-72, also had a direct
 20 impact on Puma’s stock price. As set forth in the chart below, the price of Puma stock
 21 fell \$21.98 per share on June 1, 2015 and an additional \$23.32 on June 2, 2015 in
 22 response to the disclosure of the truth about neratinib and the results of the ExteNET
 23 trial:

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89. The declines in Puma's stock price on May 14, 2015 and June 1-2, 2015 were a direct result of the nature and extent of Defendants' prior misstatements and omissions being revealed to investors and the market. The timing and magnitude of Puma's stock price decline negates any inference that the losses suffered by Plaintiff and other Class members was caused by changed market conditions, macroeconomic or industry factors or Company-specific factors unrelated to Defendants' fraudulent conduct. Indeed, on May 14, 2015, the Dow Jones Industrial Average ("DJIA") was up 1.0% and the Dow Jones U.S. Pharmaceuticals Index ("DJUSPR") was up 0.9%, and over June 1-2, 2015, the DJIA had virtually no net change and the DJUSPR was down a mere 0.002%.

90. The economic losses suffered by Plaintiff and other members of the Class were a direct result of Defendants' fraudulent scheme to inflate Puma's stock price and the subsequent decline in the value of that stock when Defendants' prior misrepresentations and omissions were revealed.

APPLICABILITY OF THE PRESUMPTION OF RELIANCE

91. Plaintiff and the Class are entitled to a presumption of reliance pursuant to *Basic Inc. v. Levinson*, 485 U.S. 224 (1988), and the fraud-on-the-market doctrine

1 because, during the Class Period, Puma stock traded in an efficient market on the
2 NYSE, the material misstatements and omissions alleged herein would induce a
3 reasonable investor to misjudge the value of Puma stock and without knowledge of
4 the misrepresented or omitted material facts, Plaintiff and other members of the Class
5 purchased or acquired Puma stock between the time Defendants misrepresented and
6 failed to disclose material facts about neratinib and the ExteNET trial and the time the
7 true facts were disclosed. Accordingly, Plaintiff and other members of the Class
8 relied, and are entitled to have relied, upon the integrity of the market for Puma
9 common stock, and are entitled to a presumption of reliance on Defendants' materially
10 false and misleading statements and omissions during the Class Period.

11 92. Plaintiff and the Class are also entitled to a presumption of reliance under
12 *Affiliated Ute Citizens v. United States*, 406 U.S. 128 (1972), because the claims
13 asserted herein against Defendants are predicated upon omissions of material fact for
14 which there was a duty to disclose.

15 **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

16 93. Plaintiff brings this action as a class action pursuant to Rule 23 of the
17 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure on behalf of all persons or entities who purchased or
18 otherwise acquired the common stock of Puma between July 22, 2014 (after 6:00
19 p.m., EDT) and May 29, 2015, inclusive (the "Class"). Excluded from the Class are
20 Defendants and their families, the officers and directors of Puma, members of their
21 immediate families and their legal representatives, heirs, successors or assigns, and
22 any entity in which Defendants have or had a controlling interest.

23 94. The members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all members is
24 impracticable. The disposition of their claims in a class action will provide substantial
25 benefits to the parties and the Court. Throughout the Class Period, Puma common
26 stock was actively traded on the NYSE, the largest stock exchange in the world.
27 While the exact number of Class members is unknown to Plaintiff at this time and can
28 only be ascertained through appropriate discovery, Plaintiff believes that there are

1 thousands of members in the proposed Class. During the Class Period, there were
2 more than 30 million shares of Puma common stock outstanding and the average daily
3 trading volume was over 403,000 shares. Record owners and other members of the
4 Class may be identified from records maintained by Puma or its transfer agent(s) and
5 may be notified of the pendency of this action using the form of notice similar to that
6 customarily used in securities class actions.

7 95. There is a well-defined community of interest in the questions of law and
8 fact involved in this case. Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members
9 of the Class and predominate over any questions solely affecting individual members
10 of the Class. Among the questions of law and fact common to the Class are:

11 (a) Whether the federal securities laws were violated by Defendants'
12 acts and omissions as alleged herein;

13 (b) Whether statements made by Defendants to the investing public
14 during the Class Period misrepresented and omitted material facts about neratinib and
15 the ExteNET trial; and

16 (c) To what extent the members of the Class have sustained damages
17 and the proper measure of damages.

18 96. Plaintiff's claims are typical of those of the Class because Plaintiff and
19 the Class sustained damages as a result of Defendants' wrongful conduct.

20 97. Plaintiff will adequately protect the interests of the Class and has retained
21 counsel who is experienced in securities and class action litigation. Plaintiff has no
22 interests which conflict with those of the Class.

23 98. A class action is superior to all other available methods for the fair and
24 efficient adjudication of this controversy since joinder of all members is
25 impracticable. Furthermore, as the damages suffered by individual Class members
26 may be relatively small, the expense and burden of individual litigation makes it
27 impossible for all members of the Class to individually redress the wrongs done to
28 them. There will be no difficulty in the management of this action as a class action.

COUNT I

**For Violation of §10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5
Against All Defendants**

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99. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained above as if fully set forth herein. Count I is brought pursuant to §10(b) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. §78j(b), and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder, 17 C.F.R. §240.10b-5.

100. During the Class Period, Puma, through its officers, management and agents, including defendants Auerbach and Eyler, made or were responsible for the statements specified in ¶¶49-50, 52-54, 57, 59-63, which they knew or recklessly disregarded were misleading in that they failed to disclose material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

101. Defendants and the Company's officers, management and agents directly and indirectly, by the use of means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce, the mails and/or the facilities of a national securities exchange: (a) employed devices, schemes and artifices to defraud; (b) made misleading statements and omitted to state material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; or (c) engaged in acts, practices and a course of business that operated as a fraud or deceit upon Plaintiff and others similarly situated in connection with their purchases of Puma common stock during the Class Period. All Defendants are sued as primary participants in the wrongful and illegal conduct charged herein and as controlling persons as alleged below.

102. Defendants and the Company's officers, management and agents did not have a reasonable basis for their alleged false statements and engaged in transactions, practices and a course of business which operated as a fraud and deceit upon the purchasers of Puma common stock during the Class Period.

1 103. Puma is liable for all materially false and misleading statements and
2 omissions made during the Class Period, as alleged above, including the false and
3 misleading statements made by the Company's officers and agents, as alleged above,
4 as the maker of such statements and under the principle of *respondent superior*.

5 104. Defendants and the Company's officers, management and agents,
6 individually and in concert, directly and indirectly, engaged and participated in a
7 continuous course of conduct to conceal adverse material information about the results
8 of the ExteNET trial.

9 105. The allegations above establish a strong inference that Puma, as an entity,
10 acted with corporate scienter throughout the Class Period, as its officers and agents
11 had actual knowledge of the misrepresentations and omissions of material facts set
12 forth herein, or acted with reckless disregard for the truth because they failed to
13 ascertain and to disclose such facts, even though such facts were available to them.
14 Such material misrepresentations and omissions were done knowingly or with
15 recklessness, and without a reasonable basis, for the purpose and effect of concealing
16 the truth about neratinib and the results of the ExteNET trial. By concealing these
17 material facts from investors, Puma's share price was artificially inflated during the
18 Class Period.

19 106. Defendants had actual knowledge of the misrepresentations and
20 omissions of material facts set forth herein, or acted with reckless disregard for the
21 truth in that they failed to ascertain and to disclose such facts, even though such facts
22 were available to them. Defendants' material misrepresentations and/or omissions
23 were done knowingly or recklessly and for the purpose and effect of concealing the
24 truth about the results of the ExteNET trial and artificially inflating the price of Puma
25 common stock.

26 107. Plaintiff and the Class have suffered damages in that, in reliance on the
27 integrity of the market, they paid artificially inflated prices for Puma common stock.
28 Plaintiff and the Class would not have purchased Puma common stock at the prices

1 they paid, or at all, if they had been aware that the market prices had been artificially
2 and falsely inflated by Defendants' misleading statements and omissions.

3 108. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' wrongful conduct,
4 Plaintiff and the other members of the Class suffered damages in connection with their
5 purchases of Puma common stock during the Class Period.

6 **COUNT II**

7 **For Violation of §20(a) of the Exchange Act**
8 **Against All Defendants**

9 109. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained above
10 as if fully set forth herein. Count II is brought pursuant to §20(a) of the Exchange
11 Act, 15 U.S.C. §78t(a).

12 110. Defendants Auerbach and Eyler acted as controlling persons of Puma
13 within the meaning of §20(a) of the Exchange Act. Puma controlled all of its
14 employees and Auerbach and Eyler. By virtue of their high-level positions, and their
15 ownership and contractual rights, participation in and awareness of the ExteNET trial,
16 as well as their intimate knowledge of the false statements and omissions made by the
17 Company and disseminated to the investing public, defendants Auerbach and Eyler
18 had the power to influence and control and did influence and control, directly or
19 indirectly, the Company's decision-making, including the content and dissemination
20 of the various statements which Plaintiff contends are false and misleading.
21 Defendants Auerbach and Eyler participated in the conference calls with investors and
22 analysts, described herein at ¶¶50, 52-54, 57-58, 60, 62-63, and/or prepared and
23 approved the Company's SEC filings and press release, described herein at ¶¶49, 59,
24 61, alleged by Plaintiff to be misleading.

25 111. In particular, Defendants had direct and supervisory involvement in the
26 Company's day-to-day operations and, therefore, are presumed to have had the power
27 to control or influence the particular transactions giving rise to the securities violations
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1 as alleged herein, and exercised the same. By reason of such conduct, Defendants are
2 liable pursuant to §20(a).

3 112. As set forth above, Defendants each violated §10(b) and Rule 10b-5 by
4 their acts and omissions as alleged in this Complaint. By virtue of their positions as
5 controlling persons, Defendants are liable pursuant to §20(a) of the Exchange Act. As
6 a direct and proximate result of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff and other
7 members of the Class suffered damages in connection with their purchases of Puma
8 common stock during the Class Period.

9 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

10 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays for relief and judgment, as follows:

11 A. Determining that this action is a proper class action, and certifying
12 Plaintiff as Class representative under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23 and
13 Plaintiff's counsel as Class counsel;

14 B. Awarding compensatory damages in favor of Plaintiff and the other
15 members of the Class against all Defendants, jointly and severally, for all damages
16 sustained as a result of Defendants' violations of the federal securities laws, in an
17 amount to be proven at trial, including interest thereon;

18 C. Awarding Plaintiff and the Class their reasonable costs and expenses
19 incurred in this action, including counsel fees and expert fees; and

20 D. Such equitable, injunctive or other and further relief as the Court may
21 deem just and proper, including, but not limited to, rescission.

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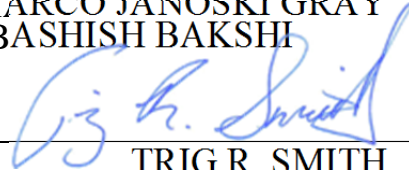
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JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.

DATED: June 6, 2017

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& DOWD LLP
TOR GRONBORG
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