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15 **SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
16 **COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO**

17 PATRICIA YOUNG,

18 Plaintiff,

19 vs.

20 BAYER HEALTHCARE  
21 PHARMACEUTICALS INC.; BAYER  
22 PHARMA AG; BAYER CORPORATION;  
23 BAYER HEALTHCARE LLC; McKESSON  
24 CORPORATION; McKESSON MEDICAL-  
25 SURGICAL INC.; MERRY X-RAY  
26 CHEMICAL CORPORATION; and DOES 1  
27 through 50, inclusive,

28 Defendants.

Case No. **CGC-17-563332**

**COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES**

- 1) STRICT PRODUCTS LIABILITY;  
FAILURE TO WARN;
- 2) NEGLIGENCE

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

**BY FAX**

COMES NOW Plaintiff, Patricia Young (hereinafter "Plaintiff"), and allege as follows:

**PARTIES**

***Plaintiff***

1. Plaintiff Patricia Young is a resident of the City of San Rafael, within Marin County, in the State of California.

2. Because Plaintiff and three of the Defendants are residents of the State of California (no diversity jurisdiction), and because there is no federal question involved, this case should not be removed to federal court.

1           3.       Because two of the Defendants are residents of San Francisco County, this court is the  
2 appropriate venue for this case.

3           4.       Plaintiff suffers from Gadolinium Deposition Disease (“GDD”). GDD is an incurable,  
4 painful disease. Plaintiff contracted GDD because of receiving MRIs/MRAs using intravenous  
5 injections of a gadolinium-based contrast agent known as Magnevist.

6                   ***Manufacturing Defendants***

7           5.       Defendants Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals Inc., Bayer Pharma AG, Bayer  
8 Corporation, Bayer Healthcare LLC, and DOES 1 through 20, inclusive (collectively referred to as the  
9 “Manufacturing Defendants”), manufacture, market, and sell Magnevist, a gadolinium-based contrast  
10 agent (“GBCA”) that was injected into Plaintiff’s body.

11          6.       Defendant Bayer Pharma AG is a foreign company domiciled in Germany. Bayer  
12 Pharma AG is engaged in the business of designing, licensing, manufacturing, distributing, selling,  
13 marketing, and/or introducing Magnevist into interstate commerce, either directly or indirectly through  
14 third parties or related entities. This court has personal jurisdiction over said Defendant under the  
15 doctrine of specific jurisdiction because said Defendant purposefully availed itself of the benefits and  
16 protections of California’s state laws, and Plaintiff’s claim arises out of Defendant’s forum-related  
17 activities. Specifically, Defendant conducted clinical trials of Magnevist within California, which  
18 became part of an unbroken chain of events leading to Plaintiff’s injury. See *Dubose v. Bristol-Myers*  
19 *Squibb Co.*, No. 17- cv-00244, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 99504 (N.D. Cal. June 27, 2017).

20          7.       Defendant Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals Inc. is a Delaware corporation with its  
21 principal place of business in New Jersey. Defendant Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals Inc. is the  
22 United States pharmaceuticals unit of Bayer Healthcare LLC. Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals Inc. is  
23 engaged in the business of designing, licensing, manufacturing, distributing, selling, marketing, and/or  
24 introducing Magnevist into interstate commerce, either directly or indirectly through third parties or  
25 related entities. This court has personal jurisdiction over said Defendant under the doctrine of specific  
26 jurisdiction because said Defendant purposefully availed itself of the benefits and protections of  
27 California’s state laws, and Plaintiff’s claim arises out of Defendant’s forum-related activities.  
28 Specifically, Defendant conducted clinical trials of Magnevist within California, which became part of

1 an unbroken chain of events leading to Plaintiff's injury. See *Dubose v. Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.*, No.  
2 17- cv-00244, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 99504 (N.D. Cal. June 27, 2017).

3 8. Defendant Bayer Corporation is an Indiana corporation with its headquarters located in  
4 Pennsylvania. Defendant Bayer Corporation is engaged in the business of designing, licensing,  
5 manufacturing, distributing, selling, marketing, and/or introducing Magnevist into interstate commerce,  
6 either directly or indirectly through third parties or related entities. This court has personal jurisdiction  
7 over said Defendant under the doctrine of specific jurisdiction because said Defendant purposefully  
8 availed itself of the benefits and protections of California's state laws, and Plaintiff's claim arises out of  
9 Defendant's forum-related activities. Specifically, Defendant conducted clinical trials of Magnevist  
10 within California, which became part of an unbroken chain of events leading to Plaintiff's injury. See  
11 *Dubose v. Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.*, No. 17- cv-00244, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 99504 (N.D. Cal. June  
12 27, 2017). Defendant Bayer Corporation is duly authorized to conduct business in the State of California  
13 and does business in San Francisco County. Said Defendant has elected to establish an agent for service  
14 of process in the State of California.

15 9. Defendant Bayer HealthCare LLC is a Delaware LLC with its headquarters located in  
16 New Jersey. Bayer HealthCare LLC is engaged in the business of designing, licensing, manufacturing,  
17 distributing, selling, marketing, and/or introducing Magnevist into interstate commerce, either directly  
18 or indirectly through third parties or related entities. This court has personal jurisdiction over said  
19 Defendant under the doctrine of specific jurisdiction because said Defendant purposefully availed itself  
20 of the benefits and protections of California's state laws, and Plaintiff's claim arises out of Defendant's  
21 forum-related activities. Specifically, Defendant conducted clinical trials of Magnevist within  
22 California, which became part of an unbroken chain of events leading to Plaintiff's injury. See *Dubose*  
23 *v. Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.*, No. 17- cv-00244, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 99504 (N.D. Cal. June 27, 2017).  
24 Defendant Bayer HealthCare LLC is duly authorized to conduct business in the State of California and  
25 does business in San Francisco County. Said Defendant has elected to establish an agent for service of  
26 process in the State of California.

27 10. At all times relevant to this complaint, the Manufacturing Defendants advertised,  
28 promoted, marketed, distributed, and sold Magnevist in California and nationwide.

1           11.     The true names and capacities of those Defendants designated as DOES 1-50 are  
2 unknown to Plaintiff. Plaintiff alleges on information and belief that DOES 1-20 manufactured  
3 gadolinium-based contrast agents that were injected into Plaintiff and/or manufactured MRI/MRA  
4 machines with which MRIs/MRAs were performed on Plaintiff using gadolinium-based contrast agents.  
5 Plaintiff alleges on information and belief that each of these fictitiously named defendants bears some  
6 legal responsibility for the events and damages set forth in this complaint.

7           12.     Plaintiff alleges on information and belief that DOES 1-20 were and are companies  
8 authorized to do and doing business in the State of California and have regularly conducted business in  
9 the County of San Francisco, State of California.

10          13.     Plaintiff will amend this Complaint if necessary to show the identity of each fictitiously  
11 named Defendant when they have been ascertained.

12          14.     The Manufacturing Defendants, along with DOES 1-20, are collectively referred to as  
13 the Manufacturing Defendants.

14                   ***Distributor Defendants***

15          15.     Defendant McKesson Corporation (“McKesson”) distributes Magnevist and other  
16 gadolinium-based contrast agents in California and elsewhere. Plaintiff alleges that McKesson  
17 distributed the Magnevist and/or other gadolinium-based contrast agents that were injected into Plaintiff.

18          16.     Defendant McKesson Corporation is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of  
19 business and headquarters at One Post Street, San Francisco, San Francisco County, California.

20          17.     McKesson Corporation is duly authorized to conduct business in the State of California  
21 and does business in San Francisco County.

22          18.     At all times relevant to this complaint, McKesson Corporation sold Magnevist and/or  
23 other gadolinium-based contrast agents in San Francisco County and elsewhere.

24          19.     Defendant McKesson Medical-Surgical, Inc. distributes Magnevist and other  
25 gadolinium-based contrast agents in California and elsewhere. Plaintiff alleges that McKesson Medical-  
26 Surgical, Inc. distributed the Magnevist and/or other gadolinium-based contrast agents that were injected  
27 into Plaintiff.

28          20.     Defendant McKesson Medical-Surgical, Inc. is a Virginia corporation with its principal

1 place of business and headquarters at One Post Street, San Francisco, San Francisco County, California.

2 21. Defendant McKesson Medical-Surgical, Inc. is duly authorized to conduct business in  
3 the State of California and does business in San Francisco County.

4 22. At all times relevant to this complaint, Defendant McKesson Medical-Surgical, Inc. sold  
5 Magnevist and/or other gadolinium-based contrast agents in San Francisco County and elsewhere.

6 23. Defendant Merry X-Ray Chemical Corporation (“Merry X-Ray”) distributes Magnevist  
7 and/or other gadolinium-based contrast agents in California and elsewhere. Plaintiff alleges that Merry  
8 X-Ray distributed the Magnevist and/or other gadolinium-based contrast agents that were injected into  
9 Plaintiff.

10 24. Defendant Merry X-Ray Chemical Corporation is a California corporation with its  
11 principal place of business and headquarters at 4444 Viewridge Avenue, San Diego, California.

12 25. Merry X-Ray Chemical Corporation is duly authorized to conduct business in the State  
13 of California and does business in San Francisco County.

14 26. At all times relevant to this complaint, Merry X-Ray sold Magnevist and/or other  
15 gadolinium-based contrast agents in San Francisco County.

16 27. The true names and capacities of those Defendants designated as DOES 21-30 are  
17 unknown to Plaintiff. Plaintiff alleges on information and belief that DOES 21-30 distributed  
18 gadolinium-based contrast agents that were injected into Plaintiff. Plaintiff alleges on information and  
19 belief that each of these fictitiously named Defendants bear some legal responsibility for the events and  
20 damages set forth in this Complaint.

21 28. Plaintiff alleges on information and belief that DOES 21-30 were and are companies  
22 authorized to do and doing business in the State of California and have regularly conducted business in  
23 the County of San Francisco, State of California.

24 29. Plaintiff will amend this Complaint if necessary to show the identity of each fictitiously  
25 named defendant when they have been ascertained.

26 30. McKesson, McKesson Medical-Surgical, Inc., and Merry X-Ray, along with DOES 21-  
27 30, are collectively referred to as the Distributor Defendants.

28 31. The Manufacturing Defendants and the Distributor Defendants are collectively referred

1 to as Defendants.

2 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

3 32. Jurisdiction and venue are both proper in San Francisco County Superior Court, in the  
4 State of California.

5 33. This Court has personal jurisdiction over all parties named herein, as described above.

6 34. Plaintiff is a resident of the State of California. Three of the Defendants are residents of  
7 the State of California.

8 35. Many of the acts and omissions related to the liability of the Defendants occurred in  
9 California.

10 36. Diversity jurisdiction, as is required in federal district court for a case of this nature, does  
11 not exist here. Diversity jurisdiction requires “complete diversity,” which does not exist if any plaintiff  
12 is from the same State as any defendant. 28 U.S.C. § 1332. Here, Plaintiff is a California resident.  
13 Defendants McKesson Corporation, McKesson Medical-Surgical, Inc., and Merry X-Ray are also  
14 California residents. Therefore, there is not complete diversity of the parties and diversity jurisdiction  
15 does not apply.

16 37. Removal of this case to federal court would be improper due to the lack of diversity.

17 38. Furthermore, this venue (particularly the San Francisco Superior Court Complex Civil  
18 Litigation Department which handled the previous gadolinium litigation) is convenient to the parties and  
19 is an appropriate venue for a multiple party product liability action.

20 **FACTS**

21 39. Plaintiff Patricia Young had normal kidney function prior to developing Gadolinium  
22 Deposition Disease (“GDD”). Plaintiff Patricia Young, was subjected to one or multiple MRIs/MRAs.  
23 At the time of these procedures, Plaintiff was injected with the gadolinium-based contrast agent,  
24 Magnevist. Unbeknownst to her, she developed GDD soon thereafter. Plaintiff Patricia Young’s  
25 symptoms of GDD include but are not limited to the following: numbness and tingling sensation  
26 throughout body, severe fatigue, anemia, a restless leg-type syndrome, memory loss, and cognitive  
27 impairment.

28 40. Gadolinium Deposition Disease (“GDD”) is the name for a disease process observed in

1 people with normal or near-normal renal function who develop persistent symptoms that arise hours to  
2 months after the administration of gadolinium-based contrast agents like Magnevist. In these cases, no  
3 preexistent disease or subsequently developed disease of an alternate known process is present to  
4 account for the symptoms. People suffering from GDD experience symptoms consistent with the known  
5 toxic effects of retained gadolinium. Typical clinical features of GDD include persistent headaches,  
6 bone and joint pain, and clouded mental activity. People with GDD often experience subcutaneous soft-  
7 tissue thickening that clinically appears somewhat spongy or rubbery. Tendons and ligaments in a  
8 comparable distribution may also be painful and have a thickened appearance. People with GDD often  
9 experience excruciating pain, typically in a distal distribution, of the arms and legs but may also be in  
10 the torso or generalized in location. This pain is often described as feeling like sharp pins and needles,  
11 cutting, or burning. GDD often progresses to painful inhibition of the ability to use the arms, legs, hands,  
12 feet and other joints. GDD is a progressive disease for which there is no known cure.

13 41. GDD is a man-made disease. It only occurs in patients who have received a gadolinium-  
14 based contrast agent for an MRI or an MRA.

15 42. Gadolinium is a highly toxic heavy metal. It does not occur naturally in the human body.  
16 The only known route for gadolinium to enter the human body is injection of a gadolinium-based  
17 contrast agent.

18 43. Because gadolinium is toxic, it must be coated to keep it from coming into contact with  
19 human tissue when used in connection with MRIs or MRAs. This coating process is called chelation.

20 44. The gadolinium-based contrast agents (including Magnevist) injected into Plaintiff were  
21 manufactured by the Manufacturing Defendants and distributed by the Distributor Defendants.

22 45. During the years that Defendants have manufactured, marketed, distributed, sold and  
23 administered gadolinium-based contrast agents, there have been numerous case reports, studies,  
24 assessments, papers, peer reviewed literature, and other clinical data that have described and/or  
25 demonstrated GDD in connection with the use of gadolinium-based contrast agents. In addition, there  
26 has been a significant number of publicized complaints and comments from those individuals afflicted  
27 with GDD and others seeking to help these individuals. This information was all available to the  
28 Defendants several years ago, and put them on notice of the issues that give rise to Plaintiff's causes of

1 action alleged herein.

2 46. Plaintiff received MRIs/MRAs utilizing gadolinium-based contrast agents, including  
3 Magnevist.

4 47. During the time period when Plaintiff received injections of the Manufacturing  
5 Defendants' gadolinium-based contrast agents, Defendants knew or should have known that the use of  
6 gadolinium-based contrast agents created a risk of serious bodily injury in patients with normal or near-  
7 normal kidney function.

8 48. Defendants failed to warn Plaintiff and her healthcare providers about the serious health  
9 risks associated with gadolinium-based contrast agents, including Magnevist, and failed to disclose the  
10 fact that there were safer alternatives.

11 49. As a direct and proximate result of receiving injections of gadolinium-based contrast  
12 agents manufactured, distributed, marketed, and/or sold by Defendants, including Magnevist, Plaintiff  
13 developed GDD.

14 50. Defendants have repeatedly and consistently failed to advise consumers and/or their  
15 healthcare providers of the causal relationship between gadolinium-based contrast agents and GDD.  
16 Defendants knew or should have known of the risk of GDD posed by gadolinium-based contrast agents,  
17 including Magnevist, to individuals with normal or near-normal kidney function.

18 51. Had Plaintiff and/or her healthcare providers been warned about the risks associated with  
19 gadolinium-based contrast agents, including Magnevist, she would not have been administered  
20 gadolinium-based contrast agents and would not have been afflicted with GDD.

21 52. As a direct and proximate result of Plaintiff's being administered gadolinium-based  
22 contrast agents, including Magnevist, she has suffered severe physical injury and pain and suffering,  
23 including, but not limited to, the effects of GDD.

24 53. As a direct and proximate result of being administered gadolinium-based contrast agents,  
25 including Magnevist, Plaintiff suffered and continues to suffer significant mental anguish and emotional  
26 distress and will continue to suffer significant mental anguish and emotional distress in the future.

27 54. As a direct and proximate result of being administered gadolinium-based contrast agents,  
28 including Magnevist, Plaintiff has also incurred medical expenses and other economic damages and will



1 continue to incur such expenses in the future.

2 **APPLICATION OF THE DISCOVERY RULE AND THE HISTORY OF**  
3 **DEFENDANTS' CONCEALMENT OF INFORMATION**

4 55. The nature of Plaintiff's injuries and damages, and their relationship to gadolinium-based  
5 contrast agents used in conjunction with MRIs and MRAs, including Magnevist, was not discovered,  
6 and through reasonable care and due diligence could not have been discovered, by Plaintiff, until less  
7 than two years before the filing of this Complaint. On or about December 23, 2015, Plaintiff became  
8 aware that she had retained gadolinium from the Magnevist gadolinium-based contrast agent that was  
9 injected into her.

10 56. Plaintiff became aware of the disease, GDD, in August 2016 upon publication of  
11 "Gadolinium in Humans: A Family of Disorders," in volume 207:2 of the American Journal of  
12 Roentgenology.

13 57. In 1984--prior to FDA approval-- the inventors of gadolinium-based contrast agents  
14 claimed that their product Gd-DTPA did not cross the blood-brain barrier and that the bonds between  
15 the toxic gadolinium and its protective coating did not break inside the body. Additionally, they claimed  
16 that there would be no toxic gadolinium residue left behind to cause illness.

17 58. Magnevist was the first gadolinium-based contrast agent to reach the market after  
18 receiving FDA approval in 1988. There are two basic types of contrast agents differentiated by their  
19 chemical structure which include linear agents and macrocyclic agents. The main difference is that the  
20 linear agents do not fully surround the gadolinium ion, whereas the macrocyclic agents form a complete  
21 ring around gadolinium ion which creates a much more difficult bond to break. The linear agents  
22 include: Magnevist (manufactured by Manufacturing Defendants) along with Omniscan (manufactured  
23 by GE Healthcare), Optimark (manufactured by Guerbet), and Multihance (manufactured by Bracco).  
24 Greater safety due to the stronger bonds of the macrocyclic contrast agents as compared to their linear  
25 contrast counterparts has been well established by scientists. (Huckle, et al. 2016).

26 59. Also in 1988 it was recognized that gadolinium was breaking free from the bonds in the  
27 linear based contrast agents and this was in part due to the competition for its protective layer (chelate)  
28 by other essential metals in the body such as zinc, copper, and iron. (Huckle, et al. 2016). Furthermore,

1 emerging science showed that the bond between toxic gadolinium and its chelate or cage (Gd-DTPA)  
2 became very weak and separates easily in low pH conditions such as those found in many compartments  
3 of the human body including extracellular fluid spaces.

4         60. Stability differences among gadolinium contrast agents have long been recognized in  
5 laboratory (in vitro), and deposition of toxic gadolinium in tissues has been described in animal models  
6 since at least 1984. The first major study that showed deposition in humans appeared in 1998 regarding  
7 patients with renal failure and later in 2004 in patients with normal renal function. (Huckle, et al. 2016).

8         61. The laboratory (in vitro) studies assessing the stability of each gadolinium-based contrast  
9 agent in human blood were performed and demonstrated that, over time, greater percentages of  
10 gadolinium were released from linear agents as compared to the macrocyclic agents which showed  
11 superior stability. The lack of stability seen within the linear agents was not considered to be a problem  
12 as long as the contrast agent was excreted out of the body according to the claimed drug's half-life,  
13 before the chelate could release the toxic gadolinium. However, it was later noted that other conditions  
14 could cause prolonged retention of the contrast agents, thus allowing more toxic gadolinium to be  
15 released in the bodies of patients. In addition, a delayed elimination phase of the gadolinium-based  
16 contrast agents would later be discovered.

17         62. Peer-reviewed articles on the deposition of gadolinium in animals with normal renal  
18 function, some illustrating deleterious consequences, have been published as early as 1984.

19         63. Three months after the FDA approval of Omniscan (a linear contrast agent with a similar  
20 structure to Magnevist) the preclinical safety assessment and pharmacokinetic data were published  
21 describing its pharmacokinetics in rats, rabbits, and cynomolgus monkeys. These studies demonstrated  
22 that while toxic gadolinium was no longer detectable in the blood 7-days after administration,  
23 quantifiable concentrations of gadolinium were persistent in both the renal cortex and areas around bone  
24 cartilage.

25         64. The first report of toxic gadolinium retention in humans may have been presented in  
26 September 1989, a little over 1 year after the approval of Magnevist. Authors Tien, et al. reported that  
27 intracerebral masses "remained enhanced on MRI images obtained 8 days after injection of gadolinium  
28 DTPA dimeglumine (Magnevist)." Subsequent chemical analysis revealed that a high concentration of

1 gadolinium remained in the tissue. After this report, however, there was no further mention of  
2 gadolinium retention in humans until 1998.

3 65. Manufacturing Defendants knew that their product, Magnevist, did not have very stable  
4 bonds and could come apart easily causing significant toxicity in humans.

5 66. Over the next 18 years, more evidence was forthcoming, and research began to flourish  
6 regarding the release of toxic gadolinium from the linear contrast agents such as Magnevist, and its long-  
7 term retention in the bodies of animals and humans. Nephrologists and other scientists connected the  
8 administration of linear gadolinium-based contrast agents including Magnevist, to a rapidly progressive  
9 debilitating and often fatal condition called gadolinium induced Nephrogenic Systemic Fibrosis (NSF),  
10 prompting the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to issue a black box warning on all gadolinium  
11 based contrast agents in 2006. NSF is a horrible disease where patients' skin and vital organs fibrose,  
12 becoming wood-like. There were over 500 NSF cases reported and estimated to be well over a thousand  
13 non-reported. Over 500 lawsuits were filed against gadolinium-based contrast manufacturers. All of  
14 them settled before trial except *Decker vs. GE (Omniscan)*, which resulted in a multi-million-dollar  
15 verdict for Mr. Decker. Unfortunately, Mr. Decker passed away from his gadolinium-triggered disease  
16 before the verdict was reached.

17 67. Because obvious signs of clinical pathology associated with NSF were only seen in  
18 patients who had severely reduced renal function, it was widely (and wrongly) assumed by the public  
19 that people with normal renal function were not getting sick and there were no other concerns. However,  
20 research continued to report evidence that toxic gadolinium was being stored in people with normal  
21 renal function.

22 68. Although many patients with debilitating symptoms who had normal renal function that  
23 received injections with gadolinium-based contrast agents had already been reporting adverse reactions  
24 for years to the FDA, manufacturers, and poison control, no link between gadolinium and their  
25 symptoms were ever officially made publicly. This is partially because blood and urine testing for  
26 gadolinium only became available recently. Additionally, most doctors were not aware of any disease  
27 that was associated with gadolinium other than NSF, which is said to only occur in patients with renal  
28 failure. Gadolinium Toxicity is an underreported and underdiagnosed condition. Over the past several

1 years (since the link between gadolinium-based contrast agents and NSF was acknowledged) patients  
2 with normal renal function have been forming advocacy groups and coming forward to create awareness  
3 for their condition. Symptomatic patients often have documentation of high levels of gadolinium in  
4 their blood and urine several days, weeks, months and even years after their exposure to gadolinium-  
5 based contrast agents. Many patients even had tissue biopsies of various parts of their body that showed  
6 additional evidence of retained gadolinium years after their exposure.

7 69. Patients sent several strongly worded letters with scientifically-supported research data  
8 to the FDA, warning about the occurrence of gadolinium toxicity in those with normal renal function  
9 following injections of gadolinium-based contrast agents. Correspondence was confirmed in 2012.

10 70. In 2013, while examining non-contrast enhanced MRI images, Japanese researchers  
11 found evidence of retained gadolinium in the brains of patients with normal renal function that had  
12 previously received one or more injections of gadolinium-based contrast agents up to several years prior.  
13 They found that the brain had hyperintense signals in critical areas of the brain. These were very  
14 alarming findings.

15 71. These findings were confirmed by scientists at the Mayo Clinic in 2014 when autopsy  
16 studies were performed on 13 deceased individuals, all of whom had normal or near normal renal  
17 function and who had received six or more injections of gadolinium-based contrast agents in the years  
18 prior. Up to 56 mcg of gadolinium per gram of desecrated tissue were found within the brains of these  
19 patients.

20 72. As these new findings emerged, the entire radiology community was put on high alert,  
21 with several large universities conducting research to further address this concern.

22 73. In July of 2015, and in direct response to the Mayo Clinic study's findings, the FDA  
23 issued a new public safety alert. The FDA is evaluating the risk of brain deposits from repeated use of  
24 Gadolinium-based contrast agents use in MRI's and they now have their National Center for  
25 Toxicological Research team working on determining the exact consequences of these new findings.

26 74. In September 2017, the FDA's medical advisory committee voted 13 to 1 in favor of  
27 adding a warning on labels that gadolinium can be retained in some organs, including in the brain, even  
28 in patients with healthy kidneys.



1 to inadequate warnings or instruction for use, both prior to marketing and post-marketing. Defendants  
2 knew or should have known that their products created significant risks of serious bodily harm to  
3 consumers. Defendants failed to adequately warn consumers and their healthcare providers of such  
4 risks.

5 82. Because of Defendants' failure to provide adequate warnings with their products,  
6 Plaintiff was injected with gadolinium-based contrast agents, including Magnevist, which the  
7 Defendants manufactured, designed, sold, supplied, marketed, or otherwise introduced into the stream  
8 of commerce. Those gadolinium-based contrast agents, including Magnevist, are the legal cause of  
9 Plaintiff's serious physical injuries, harm, damages, and economic loss. Plaintiff will continue to suffer  
10 such harm, damages, and economic loss in the future.

11 83. Defendants knew that their product was unsafe and would cause death or serious physical  
12 injury to those who were exposed to the product yet failed to warn those who would be exposed to the  
13 product of the serious safety risks of the product. This allegation is sufficient to show despicable conduct  
14 carried on with a willful and conscious disregard of the rights and safety of others per California Civil  
15 Code Section 3294(c)(1).

16 84. The foregoing acts, conduct and omissions of Defendants were vile, base, willful,  
17 malicious, wanton, oppressive and fraudulent, and were done with a conscious disregard for the health,  
18 safety and rights of Plaintiff and other users of Defendants' products, and for the primary purpose of  
19 increasing Defendants' profits. As such, Plaintiff is entitled to exemplary damages.

## 20 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

21 **(Against All Defendants)**

### 22 **NEGLIGENCE**

23 85. Plaintiff incorporates by reference and realleges each paragraph set forth above.

24 86. Defendants had a duty to exercise reasonable care in the design, formulation, testing,  
25 manufacture, labeling, marketing, sale and/or distribution of gadolinium-based contrast agents,  
26 including Magnevist. They had a duty to ensure that their products did not pose an unreasonable risk of  
27 bodily harm and adverse events.

28 87. Defendants failed to exercise reasonable care in the design, formulation, manufacture,

1 sale, testing, marketing, or distribution of gadolinium-based contrast agents, including Magnevist, in  
2 that they knew or should have known that the products could cause significant bodily harm or death and  
3 were not safe for use by certain types of consumers.

4 88. Defendants failed to exercise ordinary care in the labeling of gadolinium-based contrast  
5 agents, including Magnevist, and failed to issue to consumers and their health care providers adequate  
6 warnings concerning the risks of serious bodily injury due to the use of gadolinium-based contrast  
7 agents, including Magnevist.

8 89. Even though Defendants knew or should have known that gadolinium-based contrast  
9 agents, including Magnevist, posed a serious risk of bodily harm to consumers, Manufacturing and  
10 Distributor Defendants unreasonably continued to manufacture and market gadolinium-based contrast  
11 agents, including Magnevist, and failed to exercise reasonable care with respect to post-sale warnings  
12 and instructions for safe use.

13 90. At all relevant times, it was foreseeable to Defendants that consumers like Plaintiff would  
14 suffer injury as a result of their failure to exercise ordinary care as described above.

15 91. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligence, Plaintiff has suffered  
16 physical injuries, harm, damages and economic loss and will continue to suffer such harm, damages and  
17 economic loss in the future.

18 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

19 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for relief as follows:

20 1. Compensatory damages more than the jurisdictional amount, including, but not limited  
21 to pain, suffering, emotional distress, loss of enjoyment of life, and other non-economic damages in an  
22 amount to be determined at trial of this action;

23 2. Past and future medical expenses, income, and other economic damages in an amount to  
24 be determined at trial of this action;

25 3. Punitive damages as to the First Cause of Action in an amount to be determined at trial  
26 of this action;

27 4. Pre-judgment and post-judgment interest;

28 5. Attorneys' fees, if applicable, expenses, and costs; and

