

QUEBEC OPIOIDS CLASS ACTION
(Superior Court no. 500-06-001004-197)

PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY AS IT MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS

I. THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE CLASS ACTION

The Superior Court rendered a judgment on April 10, 2024, authorizing a class action (the “**Opioid Class Action**”) against several pharmaceutical companies (“**Defendants**”) who manufactured, marketed, distributed and/or sold prescription opioids in Quebec between 1996 and the present day and appointed Mr. Jean-François Bourassa (the “**Plaintiff**”) as the Class Members’ Representative (as rectified, the “**Authorization Judgment**”). The full text of the Authorization Judgment [is available here](#). The common questions authorized by the Court and the conclusions sought by the Opioid Class Action are included in that Authorization Judgment and are attached to this notice as **Schedule 1**.

The Opioid Class Action seeks to compensate all Quebec residents who consumed certain prescription opioids and who were diagnosed by a physician with an opioid use disorder (the “**Members**”).

The Authorization Judgment is a preliminary step that allows the Class Action to commence; it does not determine liability of the Defendants. It is only after the trial that the Court will decide whether the Defendants should be ordered to compensate Members and, if so, the amount of the compensation.

II. THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS

Since May 2025, the following settlement agreements have been reached with the following eight (8) Defendants (together, the “**Settling Defendants**”), which respectively provide for a full and final release of all claims against them in exchange for payment of the following amounts (collectively, the “**Settling Amounts**”) (the full text of the Agreements [are available here](#)):

- 1) Laboratoire Atlas Inc., payment of CAD \$232,500;
- 2) Pfizer Canada Inc., payment of CAD \$375,000;
- 3) Pro Doc Ltée, payment of CAD \$700,000;
- 4) Bristol-Myers Squibb Canada Co., payment of \$800,000;
- 5) Ethypharm Inc., payment of \$950,000;
- 6) Abbott Laboratoires, Co., payment of US \$875,000;
- 7) Apotex Inc., payment of CAD \$2,125,000; and
- 8) Purdue Pharma and Purdue Frederick Inc. (collectively, “**Purdue Canada**”), payment of CAD \$23,500,000.

(collectively, the “**Settlement Agreements**”)

In order to settle the litigation against them, the Settling Defendants entered into the Settlement Agreements without any admission of liability.

A. THE SETTLEMENT FUND, CLASS COUNSEL'S FEES AND DISTRIBUTION PROTOCOL

If these Settlement Agreements are approved, the total amount that will be in the settlement fund, including those settlements that were previously approved by the Court, is estimated to be **\$31,416,857.77** (the “**Settlement Fund**”).

Class Counsel will also request that the Court authorize that legal fees and disbursements (“**Class Counsel Fees**”) in the amount of approximately \$7.5 million, plus applicable taxes, be deducted from the Settlement Fund and paid to them (the Motion for fees [will be available here](#)).

As well, Class Counsel will seek Court approval of the proposed plan for distribution of the Settlement Fund to Members (the “**Distribution Protocol**”, [is available here](#)). The Distribution Protocol provides that all eligible Members will share equally in the Settlement Fund (after deduction of Class Counsel Fees, disbursements and costs of claims administration). In order to prove their eligibility, Members will have to submit a claim (electronically or by mail) to the claims administrator before the claims deadline, and provide extracts of medical and pharmacy records proving that they: (i) were prescribed and consumed one or more of the opioids found in the List of Eligible Opioid for Claims Process only (see list below), and (ii) were diagnosed with, or treated for, opioid use disorder. Once the Distribution Protocol is approved by the Court, information about the claims process will be sent to all Members.

The Plaintiff will continue the Class Action against the remaining Defendants and attempt to obtain additional compensation for Members from them, over and above the compensation to be paid out of the Settlement Fund.

B. APPROVAL OF THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS, CLASS COUNSEL'S FEES AND THE DISTRIBUTION PROTOCOL

Plaintiff and Class Counsel believe that the Settlement Agreements and the Distribution Protocol are in the best interests of the Members considering a number of factors, including the Settlement Amounts, the extent of the Settling Defendants' respective roles in the opioid market in Quebec during the Class Period and the possibility of a timely distribution of the Settlement Fund to Members.

The Settlement Agreements, if approved by the Court, will bind the Members who will lose any right to individually sue the Settling Defendants in relation to the Released Claims (as defined in the Settlement Agreements).

The Plaintiff's Applications to approve the Settlement Agreements as well as the Distribution Protocol will be heard by the Honourable Justice Nollet of the Superior Court of Quebec on **December 12, 2025 at 9:30am in room 15.04** of the Montreal courthouse and by means of a digital hearing. On this same date, the Court will also be asked to determine whether the fees requested by Class Counsel are fair and reasonable. The date and time of the hearing may be subject to change by the Court; if so, an update will be posted on [Class Counsel's website](#).

C. OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS, CLASS COUNSEL'S FEES OR THE DISTRIBUTION PROTOCOL

Members have the right to object to the Court's approval of the Settlement Agreements, Class Counsel's Fees or the Distribution Protocol. They will remain a Class Member even if they object. The presiding judge will take into consideration the objections before approving the Settlements, Class Counsel's Fees and/or the Distribution Protocol.

If you wish to object, you must send a written objection no later than **December 5, 2025** by e-mail (info@tjl.quebec) or fax to Class Counsel (514) 871-8800. A written objection must include:

- ✓ The name of the lawsuit and court file number, being: *Bourassa v. Abbott Laboratories*

Co. et. al. No. 500-06-001004-197;

- ✓ your full name, address, e-mail and telephone number;
- ✓ a brief statement of the reasons for your objection; and
- ✓ whether you plan to attend the hearing in person or through a lawyer and, if by lawyer, the name, address, e-mail address and telephone number of the lawyer.

Class Counsel will provide the Court with a copy of all objections received before **December 12, 2025**. Any attempt to object after this time will not be valid.

Members who do not make an objection do not need to take any further action at this time.

III. GENERAL INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

A. WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA TO BE A MEMBER?

You are a Member of the Opioid Class Action if you meet the following criteria:

- 1) Between 1996 and the present day, as a Quebec resident you were prescribed and consumed one or more opioid products (a list of the opioid products will be available on Class Counsel's [website](#)); and
- 2) You have been diagnosed with an opioid use disorder.

The Class also includes the direct heirs of deceased persons who meet these criteria.

You are **not** a Class Member:

- 1) If you **only took** the opioid drugs **OxyContin** or **OxyNeo**; or
- 2) If you **only took** opioid drugs that were solely and exclusively available for use in a hospital setting and not prescribed for use in the home.

B. WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO TAKE PART IN THE CLASS ACTION AND RECEIVE COMPENSATION?

If you meet the criteria set out above, you are automatically a Member of the Class Action and will be bound by any judgment rendered in connection with the Class Action.

Please take the necessary steps to collect and preserve (i) your pharmaceutical records indicating the prescription opioids dispensed to you, (ii) the medical records relating to the initial prescription of each of those opioid medicines, as well as (iii) any medical records documenting your opioid use disorder diagnosis, as those records may be destroyed by the healthcare professionals that hold them. This will help you when you submit your claim for the distribution of the Settlement Fund. You may also be required to provide those records at a later stage, if ordered by the Court. **Failure to preserve the records may prejudice any claim you have at a later stage.**

C. YOU CAN SEEK PERMISSION TO INTERVENE

A Class Member may apply to the Court to intervene in the Opioid Class Action. The Court may authorize such intervention if it deems it useful to the members.

D. WHO REPRESENTS MEMBERS?

The law firms Fishman Flanz Meland Paquin and Trudel Johnston & Lespérance (the “**Class Counsel**”) represent Members.

Class Counsel Fees will be paid based on the retainer agreement entered with the Plaintiff and only after the fees have been approved by the Court. **Members do not have to pay any Class Counsel's fees or any other related legal costs.**

E. STAY INFORMED ABOUT THE OPIOID CLASS ACTION

To receive information on the progress of the case, subscribe to Class Counsel's mailing list by filling the form that [is available here](#).

PLEASE NOTE. Your subscription to this mailing list is not a claim! Further notices will be published to inform Members of any claims process that is approved by the Court and will then be asked to complete and file a claim form.

You can also consult the Class Actions Registry (*Registre des actions collectives*), where all proceedings must be published: <https://www.registredesactionscollectives.quebec/>.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Class Counsel:

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SCHEDULE 1

The issues to be determined collectively and the orders sought by the Class Action

ISSUES TO BE DETERMINED COLLECTIVELY

1. Did and/or do the opioid products manufactured, marketed, distributed and/or sold during the Class Period by the Defendants, as identified at Schedule I, cause opioid use disorder in class members and pose other serious health risks to them due to, inter alia, their addictive nature?
2. Do the opioid products manufactured, marketed, distributed and/or sold by the Defendants offer the safety that Class Members could normally expect and do they have a safety defect within the meaning of articles 1468-1469 CCQ?
3. Did the Defendants provide sufficient information on the risks and dangers of using their opioid products?
4. Did the Defendants trivialize or deny the risks and dangers associated with the use of opioids?
5. Did the Defendants employ marketing strategies which conveyed false or misleading information, including by omission, about the characteristics of the opioid products they were selling?
6. Did the Defendants fail to properly monitor the safety of their opioid products and/or take appropriate corrective action to adequately inform users of such safety risks, as knowledge evolved as to such safety risks and side effects?
7. Have the Class Members suffered damages as a result of their Opioid Use Disorders?
8. What is the amount of non-pecuniary damages suffered by the Class Members?
9. Are the Class Members legally entitled to collective recovery of their non-pecuniary damages?
10. Did the Defendants intentionally interfere with the right to life, personal security and inviolability of the Class Members?
11. Did the Defendants knowingly put a product on the market that creates addiction and Opioid Use Disorder?
12. Are the Defendants liable for punitive damages as a result of their egregious conduct, and if so, in what amount?

THE ORDERS SOUGHT

GRANT the Plaintiff's Class Action;

CONDEMN the Defendants solidarily to pay to each of the Class Members the amount of \$30,000 in non-pecuniary damages with interest and additional indemnity since the service of the application for leave to institute a class action;

CONDEMN each of the Defendants to pay the sum of \$25,000,000 in punitive damages with interest and additional indemnity since the service of the application for leave to institute a class action;

CONDEMN the Defendants to pay to each Class Member a sum as pecuniary damages to be determined on an individual basis, increased by interest at the legal rate and the additional indemnity provided for in [article 1619](#) of the [Civil Code of Quebec](#), since service of the *application for leave to institute a class action*, and to be recovered individually;

CONDEMN the Defendants to pay the Plaintiff's full costs of investigation in connection with the misrepresentations made by the Defendants;

ORDER the collective recovery of these awards;

DETERMINE the appropriate measures for distributing the amounts recovered collectively and the terms of payment of these amounts to the Class Members;

ORDER the liquidation of the individual claims for any other damage sustained by the Class Members;

DETERMINE the process of liquidating the individual claims and the terms of payment of these claims pursuant to articles 599 to 601 C.C.P.

THE WHOLE WITH COSTS, including experts' fees and notice costs.

Defendants' Opioids

LIST OF ELIGIBLE OPIOIDS FOR CLAIMS PROCESS ONLY			
1) ABBOTT LABORATORIES, LIMITED			
Dilaudid (tablets)	Kadian		
2) APOTEX INC.			
Apo-Fentanyl Matrix	Apo-Hydromorphone CR	Apo-Oxycodone/Acet	Apo-Hydromorphone
Apo-Oxycodone CR	Apo-Tramadol/Acet	<u>APO-Butorphanol</u>	<u>APO-Methadone</u>
<u>APO-Oxycocet</u>	<u>APO-Tramadol</u>		
3) BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB CANADA CO.			
Endocet	Numorphan	Percocet-Demi	Percodan-Demi
Endodan	Percocet	Percodan	<u>Hycodan</u>
<u>Hycomine</u>	<u>Hycomine S</u>		
4) ETHYPHARM INC.			
M-Ediat	M-Eslon		
5) JANSSEN INC.			
Duragesic	Nucynta Extended-Release	Tramacet	Tylenol With Codeine No. 3
Jurnista	Nucynta IR	Tylenol With Codeine Elixir	Tylenol With Codeine No. 4
Nucynta CR	PAT-tramadol/Acet	Tylenol With Codeine No. 2	Ultram
6) LABORATOIRE ATLAS INC.			
Codeine Phosphate Syrup	Doloral	Linctus Codeine Blanc	<u>Dalmacol</u>
7) LABORATOIRE RIVA INC.			
Codeine 15	Codeine 30	Rivacocet	Triatec-30
RIVA-Tramadol/Acet			
8) LABORATOIRE TRIANON INC.			
Codeine 15	Codeine 30	Triatec-30	
9) PFIZER CANADA ULC			
Robaxisal C 1/2	Robaxisal C 1/4		
10) PHARMASCIENCE INC.			
282 Tablets	Acet-Codeine 60	pms-Butorphanol	pms-Opium and Belladonna SUP
292 Tablets	Exdol-15	pms-Codeine	pms-Oxycodone

Defendants' Opioids

Acet 2	Exdol-30	pms-Fentanyl MTX	pms-Oxycodone CR
Acet 3	Metadol	pms-Hydromorphone	pms-Oxycodone-Acetaminophen
Acet-Codeine 30	pms-Acetaminophen With Codeine Elixir	pms-Morphine Sulfate SR	pms-Tramadol-Acet
11) PRO DOCTÉE			
Fentanyl Patch	Procet-30	Tramadol-Acet	Oxycodone (tablets)
Oxycodone-Acet	Pronal-C 1/2	Pronal-C 1/4	
12) PURDUE PHARMA AND PURDUE FREDERICK INC.			
Belbuca	Codeine Contin	Oxy.IR	
BuTrans 5	Hydromorph Contin	Palladone XL	
BuTrans 10	Hydromorph.IR	Targin	
BuTrans 15	MS Contin	Zytram XL	
BuTrans 20	MS.IR	Dilaudid (tablets)	
13) SANDOZ CANADA INC.			
HYDROmorphone Hydrochloride Suppositories	Sandoz Morphine SR	Sandoz Oxycodone/Acetaminophen	
Sandoz Fentanyl Patch	Sandoz Opium & Belladonna [also: as Sab-Opium & Belladonna]	Supeudol	
14) SANOFI-AVENTIS CANADA INC.			
Demerol (tablets)	M-Eslon	Talwin (tablets)	
15) SUN PHARMA CANADA INC.			
RAN-Fentanyl Matrix Patch	RAN-Fentanyl Transdermal System	RAN-Tramadol/Acet	
16) TEVA CANADA LIMITED			
Act Oxycodone CR	Methoxisal-C 1/2	ratio-Lenoltec No. 2	Teva-Lenoltec No. 2
ACT Tramadol/Acet	Methoxisal-C 1/4	ratio-Lenoltec No. 3	Teva-Lenoltec No. 3
CO Fentanyl	Novo-gesic C15	ratio-Lenoltec No. 4	Teva-Lenoltec No. 4
Codeine Tab 15MG	Novo-gesic C30	ratio-Morphine SR	Teva-Morphine SR
Coryphen Codeine	Oxycocet	ratio-Oxycocet	Teva-Oxycocet
Emtec-30	Oxycodan	ratio-Oxycodan	Teva-Oxycodan
Fentora	Paveral	Teva-Codeine	Teva-Tramadol/Acetaminophen

Defendants' Opioids

Lenoltec with Codeine No. 2	ratio-Codeine	Teva-Emtec-30	
Lenoltec with Codeine No. 3	ratio-Emtec-30	Teva-Fentanyl	
Lenoltec with Codeine No. 4	ratio-Fentanyl	Teva-HYDROmorphine	
17) <u>ARALEZ PHARMACEUTICALS CANADA INC.</u>			
<u>Fiorinal-C ¼</u>	<u>Fiorinal-C ½</u>	<u>Durela</u>	
18) <u>BGP PHARMA ULC</u>			
<u>Kadian</u>			
19) <u>BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM (CANADA) LTD. AND ROXANE LABORATORIES, INC. / HIKMA LABS INC.</u>			
<u>Hydromorphone HCL (tablets)</u>	<u>Oramorph SR</u>	<u>Roxicet</u>	
20) <u>CHURCH & DWIGHT</u>			
<u>Atasol 15 mg</u>	<u>Atasol 30 mg</u>		
21) <u>GLAXOSMITHKLINE INC.</u>			
<u>Empracet-30;</u>	<u>Empracet-60</u>	<u>Opium and Belladonna Suppositories</u>	<u>Robaxisal C ½</u>
<u>Robaxisal C ¼</u>	<u>Robitussin AC</u>	<u>Coactified (in various tablet and syrup forms)</u>	
22) <u>MERCK FROSST CANADA & CO.</u>			
<u>282 Mep Tab</u>	<u>282 Tab</u>	<u>292 Tab</u>	<u>Exdol-15</u>
<u>Exdol-30</u>	<u>642 Tab</u>	<u>692 Tab</u>	<u>Leritin (tablets)</u>
23) <u>MYLAN PHARMACEUTICALS ULC</u>			
<u>Mylan-Fentanyl Matrix Patch</u>	<u>Mylan-Tramadol/Acet</u>		
24) <u>NOVARTIS PHARMACEUTICALS CANADA INC.</u>			
<u>Fiorinal-C ¼</u>	<u>Fiorinal-C ½</u>		
25) <u>SANIS HEALTH INC.</u>			
<u>Morphine Sulf SR</u>	<u>Oxycodone/Acet</u>	<u>Tramadol/Acet</u>	
26) <u>VALEANT CANADA LIMITED, VALEANT CANADA LP AND 4490142 CANADA INC., A.K.A. MEDA VALEANT PHARMA CANADA INC.</u>			
<u>M.O.S. products</u>	<u>Onsolis</u>	<u>Ralivia</u>	<u>Kadian</u>
<u>Cophylac</u>			