

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE**

Andranette Tate,

Plaintiff,

vs.

CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ASTRAZENECA PHARMACEUTICALS LP  
and ASTRAZENECA LP,

Defendants.

\_\_\_\_\_ /

**COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff, Andranette Tate, alleges as follows:

**NATURE OF THE ACTION**

1. This is an action for personal injuries and economic damages suffered by Plaintiff as a direct and proximate result of the defendants' negligent and wrongful conduct in connection with the design, development, manufacture, testing, packaging, promoting, marketing, distribution, labeling, and/or sale of the proton pump inhibiting drug known as Nexium and/or other Nexium branded products herein collectively referred to as Nexium.

**PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

2. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C §1332(a)(1) because this case is a civil action where the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs, and is between citizens of different States.

3. Venue is properly set in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(b) since Defendants transact within this judicial district. Likewise, a substantial part of the events giving rise to the claim occurred within this judicial district.

4. Consistent with the Due Process Clause of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments.

The Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants, because Defendants are present in the State of Tennessee, such that requiring an appearance does not offend traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice. Further, Defendants have maintained registered agents in the State of Tennessee.

5. This court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants pursuant to and consistent with the Constitutional requirements of Due Process in that Defendants, acting through their agents or apparent agents, committed one or more of the following: the transaction of any business within the state; the making of any contract within the state; the commission of a tortious act within this state; and the ownership, use, or possession of any real estate situated within this state.

6. Requiring Defendants to litigate these claims in Tennessee does not offend traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice and is permitted by the United States Constitution. All of Plaintiff's claims arise in part from conduct Defendants purposefully directed to Tennessee. On information and belief, Defendants' Nexium products are sold at hundreds of local and national pharmacies, including but not limited to Walmart, Target, Walgreens, CVS, East Tennessee Discount Drugs, and Arnold Drug Company, throughout the State of Tennessee. On information and belief, Defendants avail themselves of numerous advertising and promotional materials regarding their defective Nexium products specifically intended to reach consumers in Tennessee, including but not limited to advertisements on local Tennessee television programs, advertisements on local Tennessee radio broadcasts, advertisements on billboards in Tennessee and advertisements in print publications delivered to consumers in the State of Tennessee.

7. Plaintiff's claims arise out of Defendants' design, marketing and sale of Nexium products in the State of Tennessee.

8. Defendants regularly conduct or solicit business and derive substantial revenue from goods used or consumed in, inter alia, the State of Tennessee.

9. Defendant AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP is, and at all times relevant to this action was, a Delaware corporation with its corporate headquarters in Wilmington, Delaware.

10. At all times relevant hereto, Defendant AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP was engaged in the business of designing, developing, manufacturing, testing, packaging, promoting, marketing, distributing, labeling, and/or selling Nexium products.

11. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times, Defendant AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP was present and doing business in the State of Tennessee.

12. At all relevant times, Defendant AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP transacted, solicited, and conducted business in the State of Tennessee and derived substantial revenue from such business.

13. At all times relevant hereto, Defendant AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP expected or should have expected that its acts would have consequences within the United States of America, and the State of Tennessee in particular.

14. Defendant AstraZeneca LP is, and at all times relevant to this action was, a Delaware corporation. Defendant AstraZeneca LP is the holder of approved New Drug Applications ("NDAs") 21-153 and 21-154 for Nexium (esomeprazole magnesium), and it manufactures and markets Nexium (esomeprazole magnesium) in the United States.

15. At all times relevant hereto Defendant AstraZeneca LP was engaged in the business of designing, developing, manufacturing, testing, packaging, promoting, marketing, distributing, labeling, and/or selling Nexium products.

16. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times, Defendant AstraZeneca LP was present and doing business in the State of Tennessee.

17. At all relevant times, Defendant AstraZeneca LP transacted, solicited, and conducted business in the State of Tennessee and derived substantial revenue from such business.

18. At all times relevant hereto, Defendant AstraZeneca LP expected or should have expected that its acts would have consequences within the United States of America, and the State of Tennessee in particular.

19. Defendants AstraZeneca LP and AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP shall herein be collectively referred to as “Defendants” or “AstraZeneca.”

20. On information and belief, each Defendant was the agent and employee of each other Defendant, and in doing the things alleged was acting within the course and scope of such agency and employment and with each other Defendant’s actual and implied permission, consent, authorization, and approval.

### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

21. Proton Pump Inhibitors (“PPIs”) are one of the most commonly prescribed medications in the United States.

22. More than 15 million Americans used prescription PPIs in 2013, costing more than \$10 billion.

23. However, it has been estimated that between 25% and 70% of these prescriptions have no appropriate indication. Further, twenty five percent of long-term PPI users could discontinue therapy without developing any symptoms.

24. AstraZeneca sold Nexium with National Drug Code (NDC) numbers 0186-5020, 0186-5022, 0186-5040, 0186-5042, 0186-40100186-4020, and 0186-4040.

25. Nexium is AstraZeneca's largest-selling drug and, in the world market, the third largest selling drug overall. In 2005, AstraZeneca's sales of Nexium exceeded \$5.7 billion dollars. In 2008, Nexium sales exceeded \$5.2 billion dollars.

26. Nexium (esomeprazole magnesium) is a PPI that works by reducing hydrochloric acid in the stomach.

27. Even if used as directed, Defendants failed to adequately warn against the negative effects and risks associated with this product including, but not necessarily limited to, long term usage and the cumulative effects of long term usage.

28. During the period in which Nexium has been sold in the United States, hundreds of reports of injury have been submitted to the FDA in association with ingestion of Nexium and other PPIs. Defendants have had notice of serious adverse health outcomes through case reports, clinical studies and post-market surveillance. Specifically, Defendants had received numerous case reports of kidney injuries in patients that had ingested Nexium by as early as 2004. These reports of numerous kidney injuries put Defendants on notice as to the excessive risks of kidney injuries related to the use of Nexium. However, Defendants took no action to inform Plaintiff or Plaintiff's physicians of this known risk. Instead, Defendants continued to represent that Nexium did not pose any risks of kidney injuries.

29. Since the introduction of PPIs to the U.S. market in 1990, several observational studies have linked PPI use to serious adverse health outcomes, including hip fracture, community acquired pneumonia, Clostridium difficile infection, acute interstitial nephritis and acute kidney injury (“AKI”). A study from 2015 shows that acute kidney injuries increased 250% in elderly patients that were newly prescribed PPIs. The acute kidney injuries occurred within 120 days of the patients starting PPIs.

30. Recent studies have shown the long term use of PPIs was independently associated with a 20% to 50% higher risk of incident chronic kidney disease (“CKD”), after adjusting for several potential confounding variables, including demographics, socioeconomic status, clinical measurements, prevalent comorbidities, and concomitant use of medications. In one of those studies, the use of PPIs for any period of time was shown to increase the risk of CKD by 10%.

31. CKD, also called chronic kidney failure, describes the gradual loss of kidney function. Kidneys filter wastes and excess fluids from the blood, which are then excreted. When chronic kidney disease reaches an advanced stage, dangerous levels of fluid, electrolytes and wastes can build up in the body.

32. In the early stages of CKD, patients may have few signs or symptoms. CKD may not become apparent until kidney function is significantly impaired.

33. Treatment for CKD focuses on slowing the progression of the kidney damage, usually by attempting to control the underlying cause. CKD can progress to end-stage kidney failure, which is fatal without artificial filtering, dialysis or a kidney transplant. Early treatment is often key to avoiding the most negative outcomes.

34. CKD is associated with a substantially increased risk of death and cardiovascular events.

35. CKD is identified by a blood test for creatinine, which is a breakdown product of muscle metabolism. Higher levels of creatinine indicate a lower glomerular filtration rate and as a result a decreased capability of the kidneys to excrete waste products.

36. Creatinine levels may be normal in the early stages of CKD, so the condition may also be discovered by urinalysis. To fully investigate the scope of the kidney damage, various forms of medical imaging, blood tests and a kidney biopsy are employed.

37. Screening of at-risk people is important because treatments exist that delay the progression of CKD.

38. Alternatives to PPIs are and were available that provide the same benefits but act through a different mechanism.

39. One alternative is H2 antagonists, also called H2 blockers, a class of medications that block the action of histamine at the histamine H2 receptors of the parietal cells in the stomach.

40. The higher risks of CKD are specific to PPI medications. The use of H2 receptor antagonists, which are prescribed for the same indication as PPIs, is not associated with CKD.

41. Similar findings were demonstrated for the outcome of AKI and collectively suggest that PPI use is an independent risk factor for CKD and for AKI.

42. In addition, a study has linked the acute kidney injuries caused by PPIs to a later increased risk of CKD. The study noted that as PPI induced acute kidney disease is often subtle and slowly diagnosed. The delay in diagnosis causes damage to the kidney to be increased and the patient has a higher risk of later developing CKD.

43. Defendants failed to adequately warn against the negative effects and risks associated with Nexium. Defendants have totally failed to provide any warnings regarding CKD.

44. In omitting, concealing, and inadequately providing critical safety information regarding the use of Nexium in order to induce its purchase and use, Defendants engaged in and continue to engage in conduct likely to mislead consumers including Plaintiff. This conduct is fraudulent, unfair, and unlawful.

45. Defendants knew or should known about the correlation between the use of Nexium and the significantly increased risk of CKD and acute kidney injuries.

46. Despite clear knowledge that Nexium causes a significantly increased risk of CKD and acute kidney injuries, Defendants continued to market and sell Nexium without warning consumers or healthcare providers of the significant risks of CKD and acute kidney injuries.

#### **PLAINTIFFS' USE OF NEXIUM**

47. Plaintiff, Andranette Tate, is and was at all times alleged herein a citizen of the state of Tennessee and currently resides in Davidson County, Madison, Tennessee.

48. Plaintiff, Andranette Tate, first began using Nexium on or about November 10, 2010 and used Nexium on numerous occasions up through approximately January 8, 2014 within Davidson County, Tennessee.

49. Plaintiff, Andranette Tate, used Nexium for treatment of peptic disorders which include gastroesophageal disease (“GERD”) and duodenal ulcer disease.

50. Plaintiff, Andranette Tate, read and followed the directions regarding the use of Nexium and would not have used Nexium had he been properly appraised of the risks associated with the use of Nexium.



51. On September 18, 2013, Plaintiff was diagnosed with severe, drug-induced, Chronic Kidney Disease, Stage III.

52. As a result of using Defendants' Nexium product, Plaintiff, Andranette Tate, was caused to suffer severe and permanent injuries requiring hospitalization, mental anguish, emotional distress, including diminished enjoyment of life as well as the need for lifelong medical treatment, monitoring and medications and fear of developing life-threatening illnesses.

53. The injuries and damages sustained by Plaintiff, Andranette Tate, were caused by Defendants' Nexium product.

### **TOLLING OF THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS**

54. Defendants negligently represented to the medical and healthcare community, the Food and Drug Administration ("FDA"), to plaintiff and the public in general, that Nexium had been tested and was found to be safe and/or effective for its indicated use when warning of safety and risks of Nexium.

55. Defendants concealed their knowledge of Nexium's defects, from Plaintiff, the FDA, the public in general and/or the medical community specifically.

56. Defendants made these representations with the intent of defrauding and deceiving Plaintiff, the public in general, and the medical and healthcare community in particular and were made with the intent of inducing the public in general, and the medical community in particular, to recommend, dispense and/or purchase Nexium for the treatment of gastroesophageal reflux disease ("GERD"), all of which evinced a callous, reckless, willful, depraved indifference to health, safety and welfare of the Plaintiff herein.

57. Defendants at all relevant times knew or should have known of the problems and defects with Nexium products, and the falsity and misleading nature of Defendants' statements, representations and warranties with respect to Nexium products. Defendants concealed and failed to notify Plaintiff and the public of such defects.

58. Any applicable statute of limitations has therefore been tolled by Defendants' knowledge, active concealment and denial of the facts alleged herein, which behavior is ongoing.

59. In light of recent studies published in medical journals, Plaintiff only recently discovered that his condition could be caused by Nexium.

**COUNT 1**  
**STRICT PRODUCT LIABILITY**

60. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference the allegations set forth in the paragraphs above as if fully set forth herein.

61. The Nexium manufactured and/or supplied by Defendants was unaccompanied by proper warnings regarding all possible adverse side-effects and the comparative severity and duration of such adverse effects; the warnings given did not accurately reflect the severity or duration of the adverse side effects or the true potential and/or likelihood or rate of the side effects.

62. Defendants failed to perform adequate testing in that adequate testing would have shown that Nexium possessed serious potential side effects with respect to which full and proper warnings accurately and fully reflecting symptoms, scope and severity should have been made. Had the testing been adequately performed, the product would have been allowed to enter the

market, if at all, only with warnings that would have clearly and completely identified the risks and dangers of the drug.

63. The Nexium manufactured and/or distributed and/or supplied by Defendants was defective due to inadequate post-marketing warning or instruction because Defendants failed to provide adequate warnings to users or consumers of Nexium and continued to aggressively promote Nexium.

64. Defendants are in violation of the Tennessee Products Liability Act, T.C.A. §§ 29-28-101 et seq.

65. As the proximate cause and legal result of the defective condition of Nexium as manufactured and/or supplied and/or distributed by Defendant, and as a direct and legal result of the conduct of Defendants described herein, Plaintiff has been damaged.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants for actual and compensatory damages in an amount in excess of \$75,000; for punitive or exemplary damages; for costs herein incurred; and for such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

**COUNT 2**  
**STRICT PRODUCT LIABILITY**

(Pursuant to Restatement Second of Torts 402a(1965))

66. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference the allegations set forth in the paragraphs above as if fully set forth herein.

67. The Nexium manufactured and/or distributed and/or supplied by Defendants was defective in design or formulation in that, when it left the hands of the manufacturers and/or suppliers and/or distributors, the foreseeable risks exceeded the benefits associated with the design and formulation of the drug.

68. Alternatively, the Nexium manufactured and/or distributed and/or supplied by Defendants was defective in design or formulation in that, when it left the hands of the manufacturers and/or suppliers and/or distributors, it was unreasonably dangerous, it was more dangerous than an ordinary consumer would expect and more dangerous than alternative drugs available for the treatment of Plaintiff's condition.

69. There existed, at all times material hereto, safer alternative medications.

70. Defendant did not perform adequate testing upon Nexium. Adequate testing would have revealed that Nexium causes serious adverse effects with respect to which full and proper warnings accurately and fully reflecting symptoms, scope and severity should have been made.

71. The Nexium manufactured, designed, marketed, distributed and/or sold by Defendants was unaccompanied by proper and adequate warnings regarding adverse effects associated with the use of Nexium, and the severity and duration of such adverse effects; the warnings given did not accurately reflect the symptoms, scope or severity of adverse effects and did not accurately relate the lack of efficacy.

72. Defendants did not warn the FDA of material facts regarding the safety and efficacy of Nexium, which facts Defendants knew or should have known.

73. The Nexium manufactured and/or distributed and/or supplied by Defendants was defective due to inadequate post-marketing warning or instruction because, after Defendants knew or should have known of the risk of injury from Nexium, Defendants failed to provide adequate warnings to users or consumers of Nexium and continued to promote Nexium.

74. As a result of the defective condition of Nexium, Plaintiff has suffered damage and injury.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants for actual and compensatory damages in an amount in excess of \$75,000; for punitive or exemplary damages; for costs herein incurred; and for such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

**COUNT 3**  
**INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS**

75. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference the allegations set forth in the paragraphs above as if fully set forth herein.

76. The acts, omissions, and representations of Defendants regarding the manufacturing, distribution and marketing of Nexium as described in the foregoing paragraphs were intentional, reckless, extreme and outrageous. Defendant intentionally engaged in extreme and outrageous conduct when it intentionally and/or recklessly marketed Nexium and then intentionally and/or recklessly concealed material information about Nexium's potential serious adverse effects from Plaintiff and Plaintiff's physicians, hospitals, and medical providers.

77. Defendants knew that Plaintiff would suffer mental distress and anxiety upon learning that Nexium possessed a likelihood of serious adverse effects and complications such as life-threatening kidney damage.

78. As a result of Defendants' misconduct, Plaintiff sustained and will continue to sustain emotional and mental distress and anxiety.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants for actual and compensatory damages in an amount in excess of \$75,000; for punitive or exemplary damages; for costs herein incurred; and for such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

**COUNT 4**

**NEGLIGENT INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS**

79. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference the allegations set forth in the paragraphs above as if fully set forth herein.

80. Defendants negligently and carelessly manufactured, sold, and distributed Nexium to Plaintiff which was defective.

81. Defendants negligently and carelessly concealed the defective nature of Nexium from Plaintiff, Plaintiff's physicians, hospitals, and medical providers.

82. Defendants negligently and carelessly misrepresented the usefulness, quality and safety of Nexium to Plaintiff, Plaintiff's physicians, hospitals, and medical providers.

83. Defendants' negligence and carelessness directly impacted Plaintiff in that Plaintiff was induced to purchase and ingest the defective and dangerous Nexium.

84. As a direct result of Defendants' misconduct alleged herein, Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer emotional and mental distress and anxiety from the fear of knowing there is a likelihood of serious adverse effects and complications of Nexium use such as life-threatening kidney damage.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants for actual and compensatory damages in an amount in excess of \$75,000; for punitive or exemplary damages; for costs herein incurred; and for such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

**COUNT 5**  
**COMMON LAW FRAUD**

85. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference the allegations set forth in the paragraphs above as if fully set forth herein.

86. Defendants made material representations that were false and that were either known to be false when made or were asserted without knowledge of their truth. Defendants had in their possession adverse drug event reports, drug studies, and other documentation about Nexium and yet made the following misrepresentations:

- a. Misrepresentations regarding the frequency of Nexium-related adverse event reports or occurrence in the Nexium label, package insert or PDR label;
- b. Misrepresentations as to the existence, occurrence and frequency of occurrences, severity and extent of the overall risks of Nexium;
- c. Misrepresentation as to the efficacy of Nexium;
- d. Misrepresentations as to the number of adverse events and deaths reported with the use of Nexium;
- e. Misrepresentations regarding the nature, seriousness and severity of adverse events reported with the use of Nexium.

87. Defendants intended that these misrepresentations be relied upon by physicians, including Plaintiff's physicians, healthcare providers and consumers. Plaintiff did rely upon the misrepresentations that caused Plaintiff's injuries.

88. Defendants' misrepresentations were the proximate and/or producing cause of Plaintiff's injuries.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants for actual and compensatory damages in an amount in excess of \$75,000; for punitive or exemplary damages; or costs herein incurred; and for such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

**COUNT 6**  
**NEGLIGENCE**

89. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference the allegations set forth in the paragraphs above as if fully set forth herein.

90. Defendants owed Plaintiff legal duties in connection with its development, manufacture, and distribution of Nexium. Defendants breached those duties, proximately causing Plaintiff's injuries. Specifically, Defendants failed to meet their duty to use reasonable care in the testing, creating, designing, manufacturing, labeling, packaging, marketing, selling, and warning of Nexium. Defendants are liable for acts and/or omissions amounting to negligence, gross negligence and/or malice including, but not limited to the following:

- a. Failure to adequately warn Plaintiff and Plaintiff's physicians of the known or reasonably foreseeable danger that plaintiff would suffer a serious injury or death by ingesting Nexium;
- b. Failure to adequately warn Plaintiff and Plaintiff's physicians of the known or reasonably foreseeable danger that Plaintiff would suffer a serious injury or death by ingesting Nexium in unsafe doses;
- c. Failure to use reasonable care in testing and inspecting Nexium so as to ascertain whether or not it was safe for the purpose for which it was designed, manufactured and sold;
- d. Failure to use reasonable care in implementing and/or utilizing a reasonably safe design in the manufacture of Nexium;
- e. Failure to use reasonable care in the process of manufacturing Nexium in a reasonably safe condition for the use for which it was intended;
- f. Failure to use reasonable care in the manner and method of warning Plaintiff and Plaintiff's physicians as to the danger and risks of using Nexium in unsafe doses; and
- g. Such further acts and/or omissions that may be proven at trial.

91. The above-described acts and/or omissions of Defendants were a direct and proximate cause of the severe, permanent and disabling injuries and resulting damages to Plaintiff.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants for actual and compensatory damages in an amount in excess of \$75,000; for punitive or exemplary damages;



for costs herein incurred; and for such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

**COUNT 7**  
**NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION**

92. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference the allegations set forth in the paragraphs above as if fully set forth herein.

93. Defendants failed to communicate to Plaintiff and/or the general public that the ingestion of Nexium could cause serious injuries after it became aware of such risks. Instead, Defendants represented in its marketing that Nexium was safe and effective.

94. Plaintiff brings this cause of action against Defendants under the theory of negligent misrepresentation for the following reasons:

- a. Defendants, individually, and through their agents, representatives, distributors and/or employees, negligently misrepresented material facts about Nexium in that it made such misrepresentations when it knew or reasonably should have known of the falsity of such misrepresentations
- b. The above misrepresentations were made to Plaintiff as well as the general public;
- c. Plaintiff and Plaintiff's healthcare providers justifiably relied on Defendants' misrepresentations; and
- d. Consequently, Plaintiff ingested Nexium to Plaintiff's detriment.

95. Defendants' negligent misrepresentations proximately caused Plaintiff's injuries and monetary losses.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants for actual and compensatory damages in an amount in excess of \$75,000; for punitive or exemplary damages; for costs herein incurred; and for such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

**COUNT 8**  
**FRAUDULENT MISREPRESENTATION**

96. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference the allegations set forth in the paragraphs above as if fully set forth herein.

97. Defendants are engaged in the business of selling Nexium. By their advertising, labels, or otherwise, Defendants have made a misrepresentation of a material fact concerning the character or quality of Nexium to Plaintiff and the public.

98. Plaintiff justifiably relied on Defendants' misrepresentations in purchasing Nexium. Plaintiff has suffered physical harm proximately caused by Defendants' misrepresentations regarding the character or quality of Nexium.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants for actual and compensatory damages in an amount in excess of \$75,000; for punitive or exemplary damages; for costs herein incurred; and for such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

**COUNT 9**  
**EXPRESS WARRANTY**

99. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference the allegations set forth in the paragraphs above as if fully set forth herein.

100. Defendants are merchants and/or sellers of Nexium. Defendants sold Nexium to consumers, including Plaintiff, for the ordinary purpose for which such drugs are used by consumers. Defendants made representations to Plaintiff about the quality or characteristics of Nexium by affirmation of fact, promise and/or description. The representations by Defendants became part of the basis of the bargain between Defendants and Plaintiff. Nexium did not comport with the representations made by Defendants in that it was not safe for the use for which

it was marketed. This breach of duty by Defendants was a proximate cause of the injuries and monetary loss suffered by Plaintiff.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants for actual and compensatory damages in an amount in excess of \$75,000; for punitive or exemplary damages; for costs herein incurred; and for such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

**COUNT 10**  
**IMPLIED WARRANTY**

101. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference the allegations set forth in the paragraphs above as if fully set forth herein.

**WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY**

102. Defendants are merchants and/or sellers of Nexium. Plaintiff purchased Nexium from Defendants and used Nexium for the ordinary purpose for which it is used by consumers. At the time it was purchased by Plaintiff, Nexium was not fit for the ordinary purpose for which such drugs are used. Nexium was not fit for the ordinary purpose for which such drugs are used because it was not manufactured, designed or marketed in a manner to accomplish its purpose safely. Defendants' breach of their implied warranty of merchantability caused Plaintiffs' injuries and monetary losses.

**WARRANTY OF FITNESS**

103. Defendants sold Nexium to Plaintiff with the knowledge that Plaintiff was purchasing Nexium for a particular purpose. Further, Defendants knew, or should have known, that Plaintiff was relying on Defendants' skill or judgment to select goods fit for Plaintiff's purpose.

104. Defendants delivered goods that were unfit for Plaintiff's particular purpose and thus breached their implied warranty of fitness. Defendants' failure to select and sell a product which was reasonably safe for its intended use proximately caused Plaintiff's injuries and monetary losses.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants for actual and compensatory damages in an amount in excess of \$75,000; for punitive or exemplary damages; for costs herein incurred; and for such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

**JURY TRIAL DEMAND**

Plaintiff demands a jury trial as to all claims and issues triable of right by a jury.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s Marshall McClarnon

Marshall McClarnon, BPR No. 26465

Michael D. Ponce & Associates

1000 Jackson Road, Suite 225

Goodlettsville, TN 37072

(615) 851-1776

Fax: (615) 859-7033

[marshall@poncelaw.com](mailto:marshall@poncelaw.com)

B. Kristian W. Rasmussen, III

(Will Seek Admission *Pro Hac Vice*)

W. Ryan Myers

(Will Seek Admission *Pro Hac Vice*)

CORY WATSON, P.C.

2131 Magnolia Avenue

Birmingham, Alabama 35205

Tel.: (205) 328-2200

Fax: (205) 324-7896

*Attorneys for Plaintiff*

# CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

**I. (a) PLAINTIFFS**  
**ANDRANETTE TATE**

**(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff** DAVIDSON  
*(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)*

**(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)**  
**Michael Ponce & Associates - (615) 851-1776**  
**1000 Jackson Road, Suite 225**  
**Goodlettsville, TN 37072**

**DEFENDANTS**  
**ASTRAZENECA PHARMACEUTICALS LP**  
**and ASTRAZENECA LP**

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant NEW CASTLE  
*(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)*

**NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.**

Attorneys (If Known)

**II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION** *(Place an "X" in One Box Only)*

1 U.S. Government Plaintiff

2 U.S. Government Defendant

3 Federal Question *(U.S. Government Not a Party)*

4 Diversity *(Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)*

**III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES** *(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)*

|   | PTF                                   | DEF                        |   | PTF                        | DEF                                   |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Citizen of This State                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State     | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4            |
| Citizen of Another State                | <input type="checkbox"/> 2            | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country | <input type="checkbox"/> 3            | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | Foreign Nation  | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6            |

**IV. NATURE OF SUIT** *(Place an "X" in One Box Only)*

[Click here for: Nature of Suit Code Descriptions.](#)

| CONTRACT  | TORTS  | FORFEITURE/PENALTY   | BANKRUPTCY  | OTHER STATUTES  |   |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance<br><input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine<br><input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act<br><input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument<br><input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment<br><input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act<br><input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans)<br><input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits<br><input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits<br><input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract<br><input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability<br><input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise | <b>PERSONAL INJURY</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane<br><input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability<br><input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander<br><input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability<br><input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine<br><input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability<br><input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle<br><input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability<br><input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury<br><input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice | <b>PERSONAL INJURY</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability<br><input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability<br><b>PERSONAL PROPERTY</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud<br><input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending<br><input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage<br><input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability | <input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881<br><input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other<br><b>LABOR</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act<br><input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Management Relations<br><input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act<br><input type="checkbox"/> 751 Family and Medical Leave Act<br><input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation<br><input type="checkbox"/> 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act<br><b>IMMIGRATION</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions | <input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158<br><input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157<br><b>PROPERTY RIGHTS</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights<br><input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent<br><input type="checkbox"/> 835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark<br><b>SOCIAL SECURITY</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff)<br><input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923)<br><input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI<br><input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g))<br><b>FEDERAL TAX SUITS</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)<br><input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609 | <input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act<br><input type="checkbox"/> 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a))<br><input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment<br><input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust<br><input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking<br><input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce<br><input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation<br><input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations<br><input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit<br><input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV<br><input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange<br><input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions<br><input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts<br><input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters<br><input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act<br><input type="checkbox"/> 896 Arbitration<br><input type="checkbox"/> 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision<br><input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes |
| <b>REAL PROPERTY</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation<br><input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure<br><input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment<br><input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land<br><input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability<br><input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property  | <b>CIVIL RIGHTS</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights<br><input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting<br><input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment<br><input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations<br><input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment<br><input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other<br><input type="checkbox"/> 448 Education   | <b>PRISONER PETITIONS</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Habeas Corpus:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 463 Alien Detainee<br><input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence<br><input type="checkbox"/> 530 General<br><input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other<br><input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights<br><input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition<br><input type="checkbox"/> 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement        |   |   |   |

**V. ORIGIN** *(Place an "X" in One Box Only)*

1 Original Proceeding

2 Removed from State Court

3 Remanded from Appellate Court

4 Reinstated or Reopened

5 Transferred from Another District *(specify)*

6 Multidistrict Litigation - Transfer

8 Multidistrict Litigation - Direct File

**VI. CAUSE OF ACTION**

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing *(Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):*  
28 U.S.C §1332(a)(1)

Brief description of cause:  
pharmaceutical injury products case

**VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:**

CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.

**DEMANDS**

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:  
**JURY DEMAND:**  Yes  No

**VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY** *(See instructions):*

JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_ DOCKET NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 06/26/2017

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD 

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

RECEIPT # \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_ APPLYING IFF \_\_\_\_\_ JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_ MAG. JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_