

CANADA
PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC
DISTRICT OF MONTRÉAL

SUPERIOR COURT OF QUÉBEC
(CLASS ACTION)

No.: 500-06-000543-104

BEN WAINBERG, residing and domiciled at
[REDACTED];

Petitioner

vs.

ZIMMER INC., a legal person duly constituted according to the law, with offices being situated at [REDACTED];

and

ZIMMER GMBH, a legal person duly constituted according to the law, with offices being situated at [REDACTED];

and

ZIMMER HOLDINGS, INC., a legal person duly constituted according to the law, with offices being situated at [REDACTED];

and

ZIMMER OF CANADA LIMITED., a legal person duly constituted according to the laws of Canada, with offices being situated at [REDACTED];

Respondents

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE BRINGING OF A CLASS ACTION AND TO ASCRIBE
THE STATUS OF REPRESENTATIVE
(Art. 1002 C.C.P. and following)

TO ONE OF THE HONOURABLE JUSTICES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF QUÉBEC, SITTING IN AND FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTRÉAL, THE PETITIONER STATES THE FOLLOWING:

INTRODUCTION:

1. Petitioner wishes to institute a class action on behalf of the following Group of which Petitioner is a member:

- All persons in Canada (including their estates, executors, personal representatives, their dependants and family members), who were implanted with a Zimmer Durom Cup Acetabular Hip Implant;

ALTERNATELY (OR AS A SUBCLASS):

- All persons in Québec (including their estates, executors, personal representatives, their dependants and family members), who were implanted with a Zimmer Durom Cup Acetabular Hip Implant;

(hereinafter referred to as the “**Class Members**”, the “**Class**”, the “**Group Members**”, the “**Group**”, “**Consumers**” or “**Users**” or “**Patients**”);

2. Respondents including their past and present related companies (hereinafter referred to collectively as “**Respondents**”), are companies that research, develop, design, test, manufacture, distribute, label, package, supply, market, advertise and sell various healthcare products;

3. At all material times the Respondents, Zimmer Inc., Zimmer Holdings, Inc., Zimmer GMBH and Zimmer of Canada Limited (hereinafter collectively referred to as “**Zimmer**”), carried on business inextricably interwoven with each other, and thus each Respondent is vicariously liable for the acts and omissions of the

others. At all material times, the Zimmer Respondents carried on business and sold their products worldwide, including Québec and Canada;

4. Respondents sold and/or sell hip replacement systems, such as Zimmer Durom Cup Acetabular Hip Implant, (hereinafter collectively referred to as the “**Hip Implants**” or the “**Hip Implant Systems**” or the “**Hip Replacement Systems**” or the “**Zimmer Device**”), for the purpose of surgical procedures in which the hip joints are replaced by one of their prosthetic implants;
5. The Hip Implants are used to repair parts of the hip that are worn or weakened;
6. The Zimmer Device was introduced in Canada in 2005;
7. The Respondents individually and collectively participated in one or more of: having researched, developed, designed, tested, manufactured, labeled, packaged, marketed, imported, distributed, promoted, and sold the Hip Implants;
8. The Hip Implants are Class III medical devices under the *Food and Drugs Act*, R.S.C. 1985, F-27;
9. After having one or more of the Hip Replacement Systems surgically implanted, numerous class members have reported chronic pain, repetitive clicking, popping, frequent swelling, a feeling that the implant has loosened, implant dislocation, bone fractures and fractures of the Hip Replacement Systems. Many of the class members have had to go back to have the Hip Replacement Systems surgically removed and replaced with models that are safer and more reliable. In some cases it has taken class members years to recover from having to undergo additional surgery;

10. The Zimmer Device was designed to bond to the patient's hip bone. The outside of the Zimmer Device is porous and has been sprayed with a highly engineered substance that is intended to facilitate the device's acceptance by the human body. It is purportedly intended that the patient's own bone will grow into the exterior shell of the cup. This bone in-growth into the porous shell is what is intended to hold the cup in place;
11. Rather than functioning in the intended manner, the Zimmer Device implant resists bone growth and as a result, instead of adhering to the bone, it comes loose and/or pops free from the hip, which can cause damage to the pelvic bone. As a result, extreme and devastating pain is caused to Patients and they necessitate revision surgery to remove the failed Zimmer Device and replace it with a product that functions properly;
12. The Zimmer Device is part of a metal-on-metal hip implant system which was widely sold as being more durable;
13. The Zimmer Device was supposed to provide greater range of motion and less wear on the bearing than traditional hip replacement implant components, thus making it an ideal product for younger, more active patients. However, the Zimmer Device is prone to an unprecedented failure rate for hip replacement implant components;
14. The Zimmer Device clearly failed to contain adequate information, instructions and warnings concerning implantation of the product and the true risks of the Zimmer Device loosening and separating from the acetabulum, or hip socket, in patients;

15. Since the Zimmer Device was approved for use in Canada, a number of doctors have encountered problems where the artificial hip parts loosened or otherwise failed, requiring additional surgical revisions;
16. Despite the Respondents' knowledge of the serious injuries associated with the use of the Zimmer Device, the Respondents falsely sought to create the image and impression that the use of the Zimmer Device was safe;
17. In May 2008, Zimmer advised healthcare providers indicating that they were initiating an investigation into the complaints of Zimmer Device complications;
18. On July 22, 2008, after reviewing data on over 3,100 cases and after receiving hundreds of complaints, Respondents suspended sales of the Zimmer Device in the United States (but not in Canada), the whole as more fully appears from a copy of a letter dated July 22, 2008 from the Zimmer Respondents(http://www.zimmer.com/web/enUS/pdf/DUROM_SURGEON_LETTER_07-22-08_FINAL1.pdf), communicated herewith, as **Exhibit R-1**;
19. Despite having knowledge of unacceptably high failure rates, serious injuries associated with the Zimmer Device and suspending sales of the device in the United States, Respondents continued to manufacture, market, sell and distribute the device in Canada until November 15, 2009, when Respondents recalled the Zimmer Device;
20. There is no excuse for Respondents suspending the sales of the Zimmer Device in the United States but continuing to sell the devices in Canada for approximately sixteen (16) additional months. Respondents were clearly negligent in this regard;

FACTS GIVING RISE TO AN INDIVIDUAL ACTION BY THE PETITIONER

21. The Petitioner, **BEN WAINBERG**, is 76 years old and resides in the City of Laval, Québec;
22. On or about July 22, 2006, the Petitioner had a first Zimmer Device surgically inserted in his left hip at the Sacré Coeur Hospital, in Montréal, Québec;
23. The Petitioner subsequently developed general pain and many times thereafter, over a period of six months, Petitioner was forced to visit his doctor due to the constant pain;
24. The Petitioner received cortisone injections to attempt to relieve his pain, but the pain remained;
25. On his doctor's orders, on or about January 19, 2007, Petitioner was forced to undergo a revision surgery whereby the first Zimmer Device was removed and replaced by a second Zimmer Device (again at the Sacré Coeur Hospital);
26. Following the surgery to insert said second Zimmer Device, the Petitioner contracted the MRSA bacteria while in hospital (which he is not fully cured as of the date of these presents). This MRSA infection has caused Petitioner to be admitted into hospitals for extended periods of time (up to two (2) months) on several occasions. Petitioner still continued to feel pain in his left hip;
27. Petitioner's pain continued until early 2009. Petitioner consulted his doctors who examined him and ordered another revision surgery in order to replace the Zimmer Hip again;

28. Therefore, on or about April 8, 2009, Petitioner's second Zimmer Device was surgically removed and replaced with a Prostalac hip prosthesis (at the Jewish General Hospital in Montréal, Québec). Petitioner's surgeon also informed him that when they had opened him up during the surgery, they found the said Zimmer Hip in question to be dislocated;
29. Respondents failed to warn the Petitioner (and other Class Members), prior to the surgery, of the health risks posed by the Hip Implants;
30. Had the Respondents issued warnings, the Petitioner (and other Class Members) would not have used the Hip Implants;

FACTS GIVING RISE TO AN INDIVIDUAL ACTION BY EACH OF THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

31. Respondents researched, designed, tested, manufactured, marketed, labeled, distributed, promoted and sold Hip Implants in many countries including Canada;
32. At all material times, Respondents have marketed that Hip Implants are safe and beneficial, which is not true;
33. Respondents warranted and represented that the Hip Implants were fit for their use by Consumers and posed no significant health risks to those Users;
34. The Hip Implants are associated with increased negative health effects including but not limited to increased risk for hip revision surgery, decreased mobility, back pain, leg pain, hip pain, groin pain, and/or other risks or side effects mentioned hereinabove;

35. The Class Members have incurred injuries and losses from the use of the Hip Implants, including expenses relating to medical treatment sought and received, physical injuries, opportunity costs incurred as a result of illness or visits to medical facilities, loss of employment income, loss of enjoyment of life, pain and suffering, and anticipated future medical and health costs;
36. The Class Members have suffered and will continue to suffer physical injuries and other losses, or damages due to the Hip Implants, and claim damages as a result;
37. Had the Respondents done appropriate scientific research and testing, as well as carried out reviews of related medical journals or studies, they should have known that Hip Implants materially contribute to the risk of serious adverse medical events as described above and should have fully informed the medical professionals and Consumers, including the Petitioner and putative Class Members, of such risks in a timely manner;
38. Respondents knew or should have known of the risks from the use of the Hip Implants but portrayed Hip Implants as a safe and effective solution to helping those with weak or worn hips;
39. Had the true facts been disclosed that Hip Implants are associated with devastating side effects, Consumers would not have used the Hip Implants;
40. Respondents misled or deceived Class Members by representing that Hip Implants do not pose the aforesaid risks to them during normal use;
41. Respondents warranted that Hip Implants were safe and fit for their intended and foreseeable purpose. However, Hip Implants were not, and are not, safe for

their intended use in that they pose an undue risk of harm to the Members of the Class;

42. At all material times, Respondents failed to provide the medical community and the general public with a clear, complete, and current warning of the risks associated with Hip Implants' use, or failed to provide such warning in a timely manner, and Respondents were negligent in that regard;
43. Furthermore, or in the alternative, Respondents did inferior research, design, and tests on Hip Implants and therefore made defective products;
44. Had the true facts been disclosed that the Hip Implants are associated with increased negative health effects including but not limited to increased risk for hip revision surgery, decreased mobility, back pain, leg pain, hip pain, groin pain, and/or other risks or side effects, the use of said Hip Implants on an objective Class wide basis would not have occurred and the Class Members would not have experienced the aforementioned injuries or health risks;
45. Consumers reasonably relied and rely upon the Respondents to ensure that the Hip Implants were safe for their intended use;
46. Respondents are liable for the damages suffered by the Petitioner and the Class Members in that Respondents failed to use sufficient quality control, to conduct adequate testing, and to perform proper manufacturing, production, or processing, or failed to take sufficient measures to prevent harmful Hip Implants from being offered for sale, sold or used by Consumers, when they knew or ought to have known about the serious health risks but still sold and distributed their Hip Implants in Canada;

47. As a direct and proximate result of the Respondents' negligence, the Class Members suffered pain, damages, injuries and risks for which the Respondents are solely liable;
48. Through their recall, Respondents have admitted the defects affecting the Hip Implants;
49. Each Member of the Group is entitled to claim damages because of the faults and/or negligence of the Respondents, which include but are not limited to personal injuries suffered, economic and financial losses (i.e. loss of income and earning capacity), pain and suffering, loss of amenities and enjoyment of life, costs of past and future care and related expenses, such further and other damages, the particular of which may be proven at trial on the merits;
50. Moreover, the Respondents' conduct, through actions, omissions, wrongdoings, and their awareness of the serious hazards of said Hip Implants, and their failure to fully, clearly, and in a timely way disclose and publicize the serious health effects resulting from the use of the Hip Implants (all detailed hereinabove), subject the Respondents to punitive and/or exemplary damages;

CONDITIONS REQUIRED TO INSTITUTE A CLASS ACTION

51. The composition of the Group makes the application of Article 59 or 67 C.C.P. impractical for the following reasons:
 - a) The number of potential Group Members is so numerous that joinder of all Members is impracticable. While the exact number of Group Members is unknown to Petitioner at the present time and can only be ascertained from sales and distribution records maintained by the Respondents and

their agents, it can be reasonably estimated that there are thousands of potential Group Members located throughout Canada;

- b) Based on the number of potential Group Members, it is impossible for the Petitioner to identify all potential Group Members and obtain a mandate from each of them. Petitioner does not possess the names and addresses of potential Group Members;

52. The recourses of the members raise identical, similar or related questions of fact or law, namely:

- a) Do the Hip Implants cause an increase in negative health effects, and to what extent?
- b) Were the Hip Implants unsafe, or unfit for the purpose for which they were intended as designed, developed, manufactured, sold, distributed, marketed or otherwise placed into the stream of commerce by the Respondents?
- c) Were Respondents negligent or did they commit faults in the designing, developing, testing, manufacturing, marketing, distributing, labelling or selling of the Hip Implants?
- d) Did Respondents fail to inform the Class Members of the health risks associated with the use of Hip Implants?
- e) Are Respondents liable to pay damages to the Group Members as a result of their faults, negligence, or misrepresentations made in manufacturing, marketing, distributing or selling of the Hip Implants, or as a result of the use of Hip Implants?
- f) Are Respondents liable to pay compensatory damages to the Group Members, and if so in what amount?

- g) Are Respondents liable to pay moral damages to the Group Members, and if so in what amount?
 - h) Are Respondents liable to pay exemplary or punitive damages to the Group Members, and if so in what amount?
53. The majority of the issues to be dealt with are issues common to every Group Member;
54. The interests of justice favour that this motion be granted in accordance with its conclusions;

NATURE OF THE ACTION AND CONCLUSIONS SOUGHT

55. The action that Petitioner wishes to institute for the benefit of the Members of the Group is an action in damages for product liability;
56. The conclusions that Petitioner wishes to introduce by way of a motion to institute proceedings are:

GRANT Petitioner's action against Defendants;

CONDEMN Defendants to pay an amount in compensatory damages to the Group Members, amount to be determined by the Court, plus interest as well the additional indemnity;

CONDEMN Defendants to pay an amount in moral damages to the Group Members, amount to be determined by the Court, plus interest as well the additional indemnity;

CONDEMN Defendants to pay an amount in punitive and/or exemplary damages to the Group Members, amount to be determined by the Court, plus interest as well the additional indemnity;

GRANT the class action of Petitioner on behalf of all the Members of the Group;

ORDER the treatment of individual claims of each Member of the Group in accordance with Articles 1037 to 1040 C.C.P.;

THE WHOLE with interest and additional indemnity provided for in the *Civil Code of Québec* and with full costs and expenses including experts' fees and publication fees to advise members.

57. Petitioner suggests that this class action be exercised before the Superior Court in the District of Montréal for the following reasons:

- a) Petitioner was surgically implanted with the Hip Implants in the District of Montréal;
- b) Respondents sell the Hip Implants in the District of Montréal;
- c) Many Group Members are domiciled or work in the District of Montréal;
- d) Petitioner's legal counsel practice law in the District of Montréal.

58. Petitioner, who is requesting to obtain the status of representative, will fairly and adequately protect and represent the interest of the members of the Group since Petitioner:

- a) Was surgically implanted the Hip Implants without being made aware of the health risks associated with the use of said devices;

- b) suffered damages and injuries from using Hip Implants, as detailed above;
- c) understands the nature of the action and has the capacity and interest to fairly and adequately protect and represent the interests of the Members of the Group;
- d) is available to dedicate the time necessary for the present action before the Courts of Québec and to collaborate with Class attorneys in this regard;
- e) is ready and available to manage and direct the present action in the interest of the Class Members that Petitioner wishes to represent, and is determined to lead the present file until a final resolution of the matter, the whole for the benefit of the Class;
- f) does not have interests that are antagonistic to those of other members of the Group;
- g) has given the mandate to the undersigned attorneys to obtain all relevant information to the present action and intends to keep informed of all developments;
- h) is, with the assistance of the undersigned attorneys, ready and available to dedicate the time necessary for this action and to collaborate with other Members of the Group and to keep them informed;

59. The present motion is well founded in fact and in law.

FOR THESE REASONS, MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

GRANT the present Motion;

ASCRIBE the Petitioner the status of representative of the persons included in the Group herein described as:

- All persons in Canada (including their estates, executors, personal representatives, their dependants and family members), who were implanted with a Zimmer Durom Cup Acetabular Hip Implant;

ALTERNATELY (OR AS A SUBCLASS):

- All persons in Québec (including their estates, executors, personal representatives, their dependants and family members), who were implanted with a Zimmer Durom Cup Acetabular Hip Implant;

IDENTIFY the principle questions of fact and law to be treated collectively as the following:

- a) Do the Hip Implants cause an increase in negative health effects, and to what extent?
- b) Were the Hip Implants unsafe, or unfit for the purpose for which they were intended as designed, developed, manufactured, sold, distributed, marketed or otherwise placed into the stream of commerce by the Respondents?
- c) Were Respondents negligent or did they commit faults in the designing, developing, testing, manufacturing, marketing, distributing, labelling or selling of the Hip Implants?
- d) Did Respondents fail to inform the Class Members of the health risks associated with the use of Hip Implants?
- e) Are Respondents liable to pay damages to the Group Members as a result of their faults, negligence, or misrepresentations made in manufacturing, marketing, distributing or selling of the Hip Implants, or as a result of the use of Hip Implants?

- f) Are Respondents liable to pay compensatory damages to the Group Members, and if so in what amount?
- g) Are Respondents liable to pay moral damages to the Group Members, and if so in what amount?
- h) Are Respondents liable to pay exemplary or punitive damages to the Group Members, and if so in what amount?

IDENTIFY the conclusions sought by the class action to be instituted as being the following:

GRANT Petitioner's action against Defendants;

CONDEMN Defendants to pay an amount in compensatory damages to the Group Members, amount to be determined by the Court, plus interest as well the additional indemnity;

CONDEMN Defendants to pay an amount in moral damages to the Group Members, amount to be determined by the Court, plus interest as well the additional indemnity;

CONDEMN Defendants to pay an amount in punitive and/or exemplary damages to the Group Members, amount to be determined by the Court, plus interest as well the additional indemnity;

GRANT the class action of Petitioner on behalf of all the Members of the Group;

ORDER the treatment of individual claims of each Member of the Group in accordance with Articles 1037 to 1040 C.C.P.;

THE WHOLE with interest and additional indemnity provided for in the *Civil Code of Québec* and with full costs and expenses including experts' fees and publication fees to advise members.

DECLARE that all Members of the Group that have not requested their exclusion from the Group in the prescribed delay to be bound by any judgment to be rendered on the class action to be instituted;

FIX the delay of exclusion at thirty (30) days from the date of the publication of the notice to the Members;

ORDER the publication of a notice to the Members of the Group in accordance with Article 1006 C.C.P. and **ORDER** Respondents to pay for said publication costs;

THE WHOLE with costs to follow.

MONTREAL, December 10, 2010

MERCHANT LAW GROUP LLP
Attorneys for Petitioner