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10 *and the Proposed Class*

11 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
12 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
13

14 Josette Ruhnke, an individual, *et al.*; on )  
15 behalf of herself and all others similarly )  
situated, )

16 Plaintiff, )

17 v. )

18 SkinMedica, Inc., a Delaware Corporation, )  
19 and Allergan, Inc., a Delaware )  
20 Corporation; )

21 Defendants. )  
22 )  
23 )  
24 )

No. SACV14-00420 DOC (JPRx)

**CLASS ACTION (FRCP 23)**

**FIRST AMENDED CLASS  
ACTION COMPLAINT**

**Demand for Jury Trial**

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1 Plaintiff Josette Ruhnke (“Plaintiff”) brings this action on behalf of herself and  
2 all others similarly situated against SkinMedica, Inc. and Allergan, Inc. (collectively  
3 “SkinMedica” or “Defendants”). Plaintiff’s allegations against Defendants are based  
4 upon information and belief and upon investigation of Plaintiff’s counsel, except for  
5 allegations specifically pertaining to Plaintiff, which are based upon Plaintiff’s  
6 personal knowledge.

## 7 I. OVERVIEW

8 1. As a matter of law and public interest, health care companies should  
9 identify and disclose any safety issues associated with their products before  
10 marketing or selling those products to consumers. If a company markets or sells  
11 drug products that have not been approved by the relevant government agencies  
12 when approval was required, particularly drug products that may raise safety  
13 concerns, the company should disclose the failure to conduct controlled safety  
14 studies and the illegality of product sales.

15 2. SkinMedica, Inc. is a pharmaceutical company that markets and sells a  
16 line of so-called “cosmeceutical” skin care products under the brand name “TNS®”  
17 (hereafter, “TNS Products”). Allergan, Inc. is a health care company focused on  
18 commercializing pharmaceuticals, biologics, medical devices and over-the-counter  
19 consumer products. SkinMedica is an Allergan Company.

20 3. SkinMedica’s TNS Products contain a proprietary mix of “human  
21 growth factors” (trademarked as “NouriCel-MD ®”). This SkinMedica growth  
22 factor mix was derived from human foreskin tissue.

23 4. Human growth factors are proteins intended to mobilize, stimulate,  
24 decrease or otherwise alter the production of cells in vivo. Importantly, they have  
25 the ability to initiate mitosis (cell division).



1 purposes, including TNS Essential Serum, which she purchased from the office  
2 of Dr. Lorrie Klein at 30201 Golden Lantern, Laguna Niguel, California within the  
3 past four years.

4 10. Plaintiff looked at the product packaging and labeling. If Defendants  
5 had properly disclosed the true facts about their TNS Products, Plaintiff either would  
6 not have purchased those products and/or she would have paid less for them.

7 11. Defendant SkinMedica, Inc. is a pharmaceutical company  
8 headquartered in Carlsbad, California, and incorporated in Delaware. SkinMedica,  
9 Inc. is a subsidiary of Allergan, Inc.

10 12. Defendant Allergan, Inc. is a healthcare company headquartered in  
11 Irvine, California, and incorporated in Delaware. Allergan, Inc. commercializes  
12 pharmaceuticals and other healthcare products. On information and belief, on or  
13 about December 19, 2012, Plaintiff alleges that Allergan, Inc. acquired SkinMedica,  
14 Inc. along with the assets, liabilities, rights, and responsibilities associated with the  
15 SkinMedica TNS Product line. At present, SkinMedica TNS Products are also  
16 promoted as Allergan products.

17 13. Plaintiff further alleges upon information and belief that, from and after  
18 December 19, 2012, SkinMedica, Inc. was and is an agent of Allergan, Inc. In acting  
19 or omitting to act as alleged in this Complaint, SkinMedica, Inc. was conducting  
20 business in the course and scope of this agency, and/or the alleged acts or omissions  
21 of SkinMedica, Inc. were subsequently ratified and adopted by Allergan, Inc.  
22 Accordingly, Allergan, Inc. is liable for the acts and omissions of SkinMedica, Inc.  
23 as its agent.

### 24 III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

25 14. This Court has diversity jurisdiction over this action pursuant to  
26 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d) because the amount in controversy for the Class (defined in  
27  
28

1 Part V below) exceeds \$5,000,000, and the Class includes members who are citizens  
2 of a different state than Defendants.

3 15. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Plaintiff Josette Ruhnke  
4 because she resides in Mission Viejo, California and she submits to the Court’s  
5 jurisdiction.

6 16. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant Allergan, Inc.  
7 because it is headquartered in this Central District of California and it conducts  
8 substantial business in this district and throughout the State of California.

9 17. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant SkinMedica, Inc.  
10 because it is headquartered in Carlsbad, California, it is a subsidiary of Allergan,  
11 Inc., and it conducts substantial business in this district and throughout the State of  
12 California.

13 18. Venue is proper in this Court under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because one or  
14 more of the Defendants resides in this district, both Defendants reside in this State,  
15 Defendants have marketed and sold TNS Products within this district, and a  
16 substantial number of the acts and omissions alleged in this Complaint occurred  
17 within this district.

#### 18 **IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

##### 19 **A. SkinMedica’s Marketing and Sale of TNS Products.**

20 19. SkinMedica Inc.’s human growth factor mix was originally developed  
21 by a company called Advanced Tissue Sciences (“ATS”). On March 21, 2003,  
22 SkinMedica, Inc. acquired the “NouriCel” product line and all of the related assets  
23 from ATS. SkinMedica, Inc. began selling NouriCel in 2003 as its “TNS Recovery  
24 Complex” skin care product. At present, SkinMedica markets several TNS Products,  
25 all of which contain substantially the same proprietary mix of human growth  
26 factors—i.e., each TNS Product contains this same growth factor mix in one  
27 concentration or another.

1           20. SkinMedica develops, markets, distributes, and sells TNS Products  
2 through doctors' offices and retailers in California and nationwide.

3           21. TNS Products include the following: (i) TNS Essential Serum; (ii) TNS  
4 Recovery Complex; (iii) TNS Ultimate Daily Moisturizer; (iv) TNS Body Lotion; (v)  
5 TNS Ceramide Treatment Cream; (vi) TNS Eye Repair; (vii) TNS Lip Plump  
6 System; (viii) TNS Line Refine; (ix) TNS Illuminating Eye Cream; (x) TNS Body  
7 Mist; (xi) TNS Hydrating Masque; (xii) TNS Hydrafacial Serum; and (xiii) TNS  
8 Recovery Complex Body Lotion.

9           22. For purposes of the claims asserted in this action, each TNS Product is  
10 substantially similar to each of the other TNS Products insofar as: (a) each TNS  
11 Product is a topical skin care product that is developed, marketed, and sold by  
12 SkinMedica; (b) each TNS Product contains the same proprietary human growth  
13 factor mix (NouriCel-MD®); (c) the labeling and packaging of each TNS Product  
14 omits the same material facts about human growth factors; and (d) Plaintiffs allege  
15 the same misbranding and nondisclosures about human growth factors, under the  
16 same federal law and parallel state law requirements, for the same reasons with  
17 respect to each TNS Product.

18           23. SkinMedica promotes TNS Products as "cosmeceuticals" containing a  
19 mix of endogenous "growth factors" for skin rejuvenation. The term  
20 "cosmeceutical" conveys that a product is both a cosmetic and pharmaceutical. In  
21 SkinMedica, Inc.'s 2004 IPO summary listed on NASDAQ, the company publicized:

22           We are a specialty pharmaceutical company focused on  
23           developing, acquiring and commercializing products that  
24           treat dermatologic conditions and diseases and improve the  
25           appearance of skin. Through our own sales force, we  
26           market and sell primarily to dermatologists both  
27           prescription pharmaceutical products and physician-

1 dispensed, non-prescription skin care products, which we  
2 refer to as cosmeceuticals for marketing purposes.

3 \* \* \*

4 Our cosmeceutical products are physician-dispensed, non-  
5 prescription products designed to enhance skin appearance,  
6 reduce signs of aging and provide other skin care benefits.  
7 Our leading cosmeceutical product line is Tissue Nutrient  
8 Solution, or TNS, which contains a biotechnology-derived,  
9 naturally occurring mix of growth factors and other key  
10 ingredients that, when applied topically, may improve the  
11 appearance of skin.

12 24. Each TNS Product lists “Human Fibroblast Conditioned Media” as an  
13 active ingredient, and each TNS Product contains the same human growth factor  
14 mix—NouriCel-MD. The labeling and packaging of each TNS Product, however,  
15 omits the same material facts about NouriCel-MD (as discussed more fully below).

16 25. SkinMedica’s Product Guide has described TNS Products as “skin  
17 rejuvenation” products vital to the anti-aging process that works with the skin’s  
18 “natural cellular restructuring process.” SkinMedica describes growth factors in the  
19 Product Guide as proteins that “regulate cellular growth and the activity of skin  
20 cells.” SkinMedica further describes TNS®, a Tissue Nutrient Solution, as “a  
21 combination of growth factors and other naturally occurring elements that are crucial  
22 to the regeneration of healthy skin.” A snapshot of a relevant portion of  
23 SkinMedica’ 2011 Product Guide follows:



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**SKIN REJUVENATION**

This vital step in the anti-aging process works with your skin's natural cellular restructuring process to reduce the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles, diminish age spots, and improve skin texture and elasticity.

**WHAT ARE GROWTH FACTORS AND HOW DO THEY WORK?**

- Growth factors are proteins that regulate cellular growth and the activity of skin cells.
- There are different growth factors present in skin as a physiologically balanced combination to maintain a healthy skin structure.
- Through normal aging, the production and level of growth factors decreases, resulting in impaired skin repair, wrinkles and fine lines.

**WHAT IS TNS\*?**

Tissue Nutrient Solution (TNS) is a combination of growth factors and other naturally occurring elements that are crucial to the regeneration of healthy skin.

**TNS RECOVERY COMPLEX\***

This unparalleled gel is the first and only patented anti-aging treatment using the highest level of a combination of growth factors clinically proven to improve the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles, skin tone, texture and elasticity. AM/PM

**TNS RECOVERY COMPLEX (Applied twice daily)**

Female, Age 54  
Baseline

Female, Age 63  
Baseline

**TNS ESSENTIAL SERUM – (Applied twice daily)**

Female, Age 54  
Baseline

Age 40

**Figure 1**

26. In the same Product Guide, SkinMedica also describes the flagship TNS Recovery Complex® product as the first and only patented anti-aging treatment using a combination of “growth factors clinically proven to improve the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles, skin tone, texture, and elasticity.”

**B. Federal and California Food, Drug, and Cosmetics Laws.**

27. The federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetics Act (“FDCA”) (21 U.S.C. §§ 301 *et. seq.*) defines drugs to mean, in relevant part [C]: “articles (other than food) intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of man or other animals” [21 § U.S.C. 321(g)(1)(C)]. Likewise, California’s Sherman FD&C (California’s Health & Safety Code §§ 109875 *et. seq.*) provides in pertinent part that “‘Drug’ means any of the following: . . .(c) Any article other than food, that is used or

1 intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of human beings or any  
2 other animal.” [Cal. Health & Safety Code § 109925(c)]

3 28. Notably, there is no separate category for “cosmeceuticals” under the  
4 FDCA or Sherman FD&C. Products that qualify both as drugs and cosmetics must  
5 comply with regulations both for drugs and cosmetics.

6 29. The regulatory scheme for drugs (including drug products marketed as  
7 cosmeceuticals) varies based on whether the product is a prescription only product or  
8 an Over-The-Counter (“OTC”) product. Under the federal scheme, drug  
9 manufacturers generally must file NDAs (New Drug Applications) with the FDA in  
10 order to start the regulatory process.

11 30. When a drug product qualifies as a “biologic” under FDA regulations,  
12 the manufacturer (or other responsible party) must file a Biologics License  
13 Application (“BLA”) to start the process of obtaining FDA approval. Biologics are  
14 regulated like prescription drugs. The BLA is a request for permission to introduce,  
15 or deliver for introduction, a biologic product into interstate commerce. BLA  
16 requirements include, among other things, pre-clinical studies, clinical studies, and  
17 labeling requirements.<sup>1</sup>

18 31. Under the FDCA, non-biologic OTC drug products that conform to  
19 “monographs” for particular drug categories could be marketed under federal law  
20 without an NDA, but they still would need to conform to the monographs in the  
21 Code of Federal Regulations, and the FDA has stringent labeling requirements for  
22 such drugs. In addition to providing specific and mandated information about the  
23 contents of OTC drugs, the FDCA requires labeling disclosures about dosages,  
24 warnings, and allergic reaction alerts (among other required disclosures).

25  
26  
27 <sup>1</sup> “Biologics” may include proteins derived from human sources and isolated  
28 through biotechnology methods.

1           32. The introduction or delivery of “misbranded” drug products in interstate  
2 commerce is prohibited under the FDCA, as is the misbranding of any drug product.  
3 [21 U.S.C. § 331] Under the FDCA, a drug product will be deemed “misbranded”  
4 for the following reasons (among others): if its labeling is false or misleading in any  
5 particular (such as by failing to disclose material facts about the drug product to  
6 consumers); if any required wording is not prominently displayed and clearly stated  
7 on the label; if the labeling does not bear adequate warnings against unsafe dosage,  
8 or methods, or duration of administration or application; if it is dangerous to health  
9 when used in the dosage or manner or with the frequency or duration prescribed,  
10 recommended or suggested in the labeling; or if there is a failure or refusal to comply  
11 with any requirement prescribed under the FDCA. [21 U.S.C. § 352]

12           33. California’s Sherman FD&C parallels the FDCA in material part and  
13 adopts all nonprescription drug regulations and NDA regulations pursuant to the  
14 federal FDCA as state regulations.

15           34. Under California’s Sherman FD&C laws, no one may sell any new drug  
16 unless it has an approved NDA or BLA under federal law or unless the California  
17 DPH has approved a new drug application. In addition, no person shall manufacture  
18 any drug in California unless he or she has a valid license from the California DPH.

19           35. The Sherman FD&C further provides that any drug that, because of the  
20 potentiality for harmful effect is not safe for use except under the supervision of a  
21 licensed practitioner requires a prescription and a product label warning that sale  
22 requires a prescription.

23           36. Furthermore, the drug product labeling and packaging must conform to  
24 specific state regulations and the labeling must bear adequate warnings against  
25 unsafe dosage or methods or duration of administration or application. All  
26 advertising materials must include a summary of side effects and contraindications.  
27  
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1           37. Under the Sherman FD&C, much like under the federal FDCA, it is  
2 unlawful for any person to manufacture, sell, deliver, hold, or offer for sale any drug  
3 that is misbranded, or to misbrand any drug. [Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 111440,  
4 111445] A drug is “misbranded” under the Sherman FD&C Law if it fails to comply  
5 with any of the above-described regulations or if its labeling is otherwise false or  
6 misleading in any particular (such as by failing to disclose material facts about the  
7 drug product to consumers). [Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 111290, 111330,  
8 111335]

9           38. Under the FDCA, a “cosmetic” product will be deemed “misbranded” if  
10 its labeling is false or misleading in any particular. [21 U.S.C. § 362] Under the  
11 governing regulations, the label of a cosmetic product must bear a warning statement  
12 whenever necessary or appropriate to prevent a health hazard that may be associated  
13 with the product. [21 C.F.R. § 740.1] Each ingredient used in a cosmetic product  
14 and each finished cosmetic product must be adequately substantiated for safety prior  
15 to marketing. Any such ingredient or product whose safety is not adequately  
16 substantiated prior to marketing is misbranded under the FDCA unless it contains the  
17 following conspicuous statement on the principal display panel: “WARNING—THE  
18 SAFETY OF THIS PRODUCT HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED.” [21 C.F.R. §  
19 740.10]

20           39. Likewise, under the California Sherman FD&C, a “cosmetic” product is  
21 “misbranded” when its labeling is false or misleading in any particular (such as  
22 failing to disclose material facts about the cosmetic product to consumers). [Cal.  
23 Health & Safety Code §§ 110290, 111730] Failing to provide a warning of possible  
24 health concerns that may be associated with a cosmetic product, or failing to  
25 adequately substantiate the safety of each cosmetic ingredient prior to marketing  
26 (absent a suitable warning), constitutes misbranding under the Sherman FD&C.  
27  
28

1 **C. TNS Products Qualify as Drug Products and Require Approval and**  
2 **Controlled Safety Studies Before Marketing.**

3 40. TNS Products are articles (other than food) used and intended to affect  
4 the structure or any function of the human body, namely the skin. “Growth factors  
5 are proteins that regulate cellular growth, proliferation and differentiation under  
6 controlled conditions” and they affect “skin structure and function.”<sup>2</sup> Indeed, TNS  
7 Products are designed to affect the skin’s structure and function by inducing cell  
8 division and replication and stimulating skin cell production.<sup>3</sup> TNS Products do not  
9 strictly mask, cleanse, or moisturize the skin (as do plain cosmetics)—TNS Products  
10 use human growth factors (NouriCel-MD®) to affect cell biology. Furthermore, the  
11 NouriCel-MD in TNS Products is designed to promote the formation of collagen  
12 and/or elastic fibres in the skin. More generally, TNS Products are marketed as  
13 regenerating healthy skin, reducing wrinkles, diminishing age spots, and improving  
14 skin texture and elasticity. For each of these reasons, TNS Products qualify as drugs  
15 both under the FDCA and the Sherman FD&C, and regulations thereunder. As such,  
16 SkinMedica required FDA approval and/or California DPH approval before it could  
17 lawfully make, market, and sell TNS Products.

18 41. TNS Products could also be “biologics” insofar as they contain proteins  
19 (human growth factors) derived from human foreskin tissue and isolated through  
20 biotechnology methods.

21 42. SkinMedica’s manufacture, marketing, and sale of TNS Products violate  
22 California’s Sherman FD&C (Health & Safety Code §§ 109875 *et. seq.*) and  
23

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24 <sup>2</sup> See Role of Growth Factors in Skin Creams, Facts About the Skin from  
25 DermNet New Zealand Trust (available online at:  
[www.dermnetnz.org/treatments/growth-factor-creams.html](http://www.dermnetnz.org/treatments/growth-factor-creams.html)).

26 <sup>3</sup> Skin care products that are designed to regenerate skin cells have been  
27 recognized as drug products by the FDA. See, e.g.,  
28 <http://www.fda.gov/Cosmetics/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/ucm074201.htm>.

1 constitutes misbranding thereunder (and corresponding provisions of federal law).  
2 The labeling and packaging fail to disclose important and mandatory information  
3 about use of TNS Products (and the human growth factors contained therein).  
4 Without limitation, TNS Products are misbranded and sold unlawfully as follows:  
5 (i) under § 111330, because the product labeling is misleading insofar as it fails to  
6 disclose all significant safety concerns and/or fails to disclose that safety has not  
7 been determined; (ii) under § 111335, because the product labeling and packaging do  
8 not conform to the requirements of Chapter 4 (commencing with § 110290); (iii)  
9 under § 111360, because SkinMedica fails to include in all advertising materials a  
10 summary of all side effects and contraindications; (iv) under § 111375, because the  
11 product labeling does not bear adequate warnings as to unsafe dosages or methods or  
12 duration of administration or application; and/or (v) under § 111400, because it may  
13 be dangerous to health when used in the suggested frequency, duration, or dosage.

14 43. Moreover, SkinMedica's manufacture, marketing, and sale of TNS  
15 Products are unlawful under the Sherman FD&C because the products are sold  
16 without an approved new drug application or BLA [California's Health & Safety  
17 Code § 111550].

18 **D. TNS Products Are Not Approved by either the FDA or California DPH,  
19 and the Product Labeling Does Not Provide Adequate Safety Warnings.**

20 44. Although TNS Products qualify as drugs under federal and state laws  
21 alike, they are not approved either by the FDA or California DPH.

22 45. SkinMedica markets TNS Products as if they satisfied government  
23 safety requirements when they have not.

24 46. On its website, SkinMedica maintains that most of its products  
25 (including TNS Products) are intended to meet the FDA's definition of cosmetic  
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1 products but are not intended to be drug products.<sup>4</sup> Importantly, however, TNS  
2 Products are intended to use human growth factors (originally derived from human  
3 foreskin tissue) to affect the structure and function of the skin through cell division,  
4 multiplication, and regeneration of skin tissue. Consequently, TNS Products meet  
5 the definition of “drugs” under both federal laws and parallel state laws.

6 47. SkinMedica wrongly pronounces that TNS Products do not require FDA  
7 approval (and implicitly the safety requirements that go with it). Because TNS  
8 Products are drug products being sold without FDA approval, and because  
9 SkinMedica does not provide mandatory and important product labeling information  
10 (as required by the FDA and California DPH for such products), they are misbranded  
11 under both the federal FDCA and parallel provisions of California’s Sherman  
12 FD&C.

13 48. In particular, SkinMedica’s TNS Products require—but do not  
14 provide—disclosures of significant health risks associated with human growth  
15 factors. That is to say, SkinMedica markets and sells TNS Products without warning  
16 consumers that the NouriCel-MD in TNS Products may pose significant health risks,  
17 including but not limited to the risk of cancer from unintended cell growth or other  
18 abnormalities.

19 49. According to Allergan, all safety concerns associated with SkinMedica  
20 TNS Products are described on package inserts that accompany the products.

21 50. In reality, the labeling and package inserts that accompany SkinMedica  
22 TNS Products do not describe the safety concerns at issue. The available scientific  
23 literature regarding human growth factors indicates that growth factors (including  
24 those in TNS) raise serious safety concerns, including tumor growth and adverse  
25 reactions (such as allergic reactions, eye issues, and rashes). Growth factors have  
26

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27 <sup>4</sup> SkinMedica’s own website, for example, has included such a representation at  
28 the bottom of the home page. See <http://www.skinmedica.com>.

1 known carcinogenic potential because they literally cause cells to grow, and every  
2 growth factor has certain tumor types that secrete the specific growth factor. TNS  
3 Products, however, do not describe these safety concerns.

4 51. For example, TNS Products contain a formula that purportedly blends  
5 over 110 growth factors, including KGF-1. Substantial scientific evidence shows  
6 that KGF-1 contributes to the growth of a number of cancers (e.g., breast cancer).<sup>5</sup>  
7 The labeling and package inserts that accompany SkinMedica TNS Products do not  
8 identify any cancer risks due to the human growth factors contained in the products.

9 52. “Most of the research on human growth factors for skin has looked  
10 primarily at the issue of wound healing, and at short-term use. Much remains  
11 unknown at this time, especially in terms of long-term risk or stability, when growth  
12 factors are used in cosmetics and applied to skin. Well-controlled clinical studies are  
13 lacking.”<sup>6</sup> Wound healing treatments using human growth factors have a black box  
14 warning and are approved by the FDA. The dearth of well-controlled clinical studies  
15 is particularly dangerous in this context, since skin care products get used repeatedly  
16 and often over extended periods of time.

17 53. Dr. Fitzpatrick is the doctor credited with creating NouriCel-MD®, the  
18 key component of TNS Products. In a 2008 report written by Dr. Fitzpatrick, he  
19 acknowledged: “More double-blind and controlled studies are needed to confirm the  
20 preliminary clinical effects of growth factor products, and more controls on product  
21 quality and stability need to be established.”<sup>7</sup> No such double-blind and controlled  
22 studies—particularly no controlled safety studies—have been reported and do not  
23 appear to be recognized by the FDA or California DPH.

24 \_\_\_\_\_  
25 <sup>5</sup> See Journal of the National Cancer Institute, Vol. 98, No. 12, 2006.

26 <sup>6</sup> See Role of Growth Factors in Skin Creams, Facts About the Skin from  
27 DermNet New Zealand Trust (available online at:  
28 [www.dermnetnz.org/treatments/growth-factor-creams.html](http://www.dermnetnz.org/treatments/growth-factor-creams.html)).

<sup>7</sup> See <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18045360>.



1           54. TNS Products are misbranded even when evaluated as cosmetics.  
2 Namely, TNS Product labeling omits important safety information. Despite the facts  
3 that growth factors have been linked to cancer and have caused other adverse  
4 reactions, TNS product labeling does not warn of any increased health risk (whether  
5 cancer-related or otherwise). Moreover, TNS Products (and the growth factors  
6 contained therein) are not adequately substantiated for safety. Yet, TNS Product  
7 labeling does not warn of this fact.

8 **E. Two Growth Factor Products with FDA Approval (Not TNS Products).**

9           55. Plaintiff knows of two FDA-approved drug products available to the  
10 public that contain human growth factors—both products provide prominent safety  
11 warnings on their labels addressing significant health risks. *See Figures 2, 3, and 4*  
12 below. Both products are authorized only for the treatment of specific and limited  
13 severe medical conditions.

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16  
17 **WARNING: INCREASED RATE OF MORTALITY SECONDARY TO  
18 MALIGNANCY**

19 **An increased rate of mortality secondary to malignancy was observed in patients**  
20 **treated with 3 or more tubes of REGRANEX Gel in a postmarketing retrospective**  
21 **cohort study. REGRANEX Gel should only be used when the benefits can be expected**  
22 **to outweigh the risks. REGRANEX Gel should be used with caution in patients with**  
23 **known malignancy. (5.1)**

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28 **Figure 2**

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**5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS**

**5.1 Cancer and Cancer Mortality**

REGRANEX Gel contains becaplermin, a recombinant human platelet-derived growth factor, which promotes cellular proliferation and angiogenesis. [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.1)*] The benefits and risks of becaplermin treatment should be carefully evaluated before prescribing. Becaplermin should be used with caution in patients with a known malignancy.

Malignancies distant from the site of application have occurred in becaplermin users in both a clinical study and postmarketing use, and an increased rate of death from systemic malignancies was seen in patients who have received 3 or more tubes of REGRANEX Gel.

In a follow-up study, 491 (75%) of 651 subjects from two randomized, controlled trials of becaplermin gel 0.01% were followed for a median of approximately 20 months to identify malignancies diagnosed after the end of the trials. Eight of 291 subjects (3%) from the becaplermin group and two of 200 subjects (1%) from the vehicle/standard of care group were diagnosed with cancers during the follow-up period, a relative risk of 2.7 (95% confidence interval 0.6–12.8). The types of cancers varied and all were remote from the treatment site.

In a retrospective study of a medical claims database, cancer rates and overall cancer mortality were compared between 1,622 patients who used REGRANEX Gel and 2,809 matched comparators. Estimates of the incidence rates reported below may be under-reported due to limited follow-up for each individual.

- The incidence rate for all cancers was 10.2 per 1,000 person years for patients treated with REGRANEX Gel and 9.1 per 1,000 person years for the comparators. Adjusted for several possible confounders, the rate ratio was 1.2 (95% confidence interval 0.7–1.9). Types of cancers varied and were remote from the site of treatment.
- The incidence rate for mortality from all cancers was 1.6 per 1,000 person years for those who received REGRANEX Gel and 0.9 per 1,000 person years for the comparators. The adjusted rate ratio was 1.8 (95% confidence interval 0.7–4.9).
- The incidence rate for mortality from all cancers among patients who received 3 or more tubes of REGRANEX Gel was 3.9 per 1,000 person years and 0.9 per 1,000 person years in the comparators. The adjusted rate ratio for cancer mortality among those who received 3 or more tubes relative to those who received none was 5.2 (95% confidence interval 1.6–17.6). [see *Boxed Warning*]

**5.2 Application Site Reactions**

If application site reactions occur, the possibility of sensitization or irritation caused by parabens or m-cresol should be considered. Consider interruption or discontinuation and further evaluation (e.g. patch testing) as dictated by clinical circumstances.

**6 ADVERSE REACTIONS**

**6.1 Clinical Trials Experience**

Because clinical trials are conducted under widely varying conditions, adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials of a drug cannot be directly compared to rates in the clinical trials of another drug and may not reflect the rates observed in practice.

In a follow-up study from two randomized, controlled trials, an increased rate of cancer remote from the becaplermin treatment site was observed in subjects treated with REGRANEX Gel. [see *Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*]

In clinical trials, erythematous rashes occurred in 2% of patients treated with REGRANEX Gel (and good ulcer care) or placebo (and good ulcer care), and none in patients receiving good ulcer care alone. Patients treated with REGRANEX Gel did not develop neutralizing antibodies against becaplermin.

**6.2 Postmarketing Experience**

An increased rate of mortality secondary to malignancy was observed in patients treated with 3 or more tubes of REGRANEX Gel in a postmarketing retrospective cohort study. [see *Boxed Warning and Warnings and Precautions (5.1)*]

Burning sensation at the site of application and erythema have been reported during post-approval use of REGRANEX Gel. Because post approval adverse reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to the drug.

Figure 3

**5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS**

**5.1 Potential for Stimulation of Tumor Growth**

The safety and efficacy of Kepivance have not been established in patients with non-hematologic malignancies. The effects of Kepivance on stimulation of KGF receptor-expressing, non-hematopoietic tumors in patients are not known. Kepivance has been shown to enhance the growth of human epithelial tumor cell lines *in vitro* and to increase the rate of tumor cell line growth in a human carcinoma xenograft model [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.1)*].

**6 ADVERSE REACTIONS**

The most common adverse reactions attributed to Kepivance were skin toxicities (rash, erythema, edema, pruritus), oral toxicities (dysesthesia, tongue discoloration, tongue thickening, alteration of taste), pain, arthralgias, and dysesthesia. The median time to onset of cutaneous toxicity was 6 days following the first of 3 consecutive daily doses of Kepivance, with a median duration of 5 days. In patients receiving Kepivance, dysesthesia (including hyperesthesia, hypoesthesia, and paresthesia) was usually localized to the perioral region, whereas in patients receiving placebo dysesthesias were more likely to occur in extremities.

Figure 4

1           56. There is one FDA-approved topical formula containing human growth  
2 factors: REGRANEX® Gel (Becaplermin). Regranex was approved by the FDA  
3 under a BLA, because Regranex contains a recombinant human platelet-derived  
4 growth factor (rhPDGF-BB) for topical administration. Accordingly, growth factors  
5 derived from human cells have been recognized by the FDA as biologics.

6           57. Regranex, which is used for diabetic foot ulcers, includes a black box  
7 warning that describes a fivefold increase in deaths from cancer when three or more  
8 tubes are used. The Regranex label warns that the product contains “a recombinant  
9 human platelet-derived growth factor, which promotes cellular proliferation and  
10 angiogenesis,” and further warns that the benefits and risks of the growth factor  
11 treatment should be carefully evaluated (**Figure 3** at 5.1). By contrast, the labeling  
12 and package inserts that accompany SkinMedica TNS Products do not provide  
13 similar safety warnings.

14           58. There is one FDA-approved intravenous drug containing growth factors:  
15 Kepivance, which was approved for treatment of severe oral mucositis. According  
16 to its label, “Kepivance has been shown to enhance the growth of human epithelial  
17 tumor cell lines in vitro” and poses other risks such as skin toxicities (**Figure 4**). By  
18 contrast, the labeling and packaging of SkinMedica TNS Products do not provide  
19 similar safety warnings.

20 **F. Defendants Had a Duty to Disclose Safety Concerns about TNS Products**  
21 **and the True Nature of TNS Product Sales.**

22           59. Defendants had a duty to disclose: (a) safety concerns posed by the  
23 human growth factor mix in TNS Products; (b) the lack of government controlled  
24 safety studies and the lack of other studies substantiating the safety of the growth  
25 factors in TNS products; and (c) the illegality of TNS Product sales.

26           60. At all relevant times, Defendants had superior and exclusive knowledge  
27 of material facts about the health risks and related safety concerns posed by the  
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1 human growth factor mix in TNS Products, and about the lack of controlled safety  
2 studies and illegality of TNS Product sales. Such facts were not known or  
3 reasonably accessible to Plaintiff. Plaintiff is informed and believes that Defendants  
4 had superior and exclusive knowledge of these material facts through its product  
5 testing and internal legal reviews (and Allergan's due diligence review in connection  
6 with the acquisition of SkinMedica, Inc.) that would have revealed the safety  
7 concerns associated with TNS Products and the lack of controlled safety studies and  
8 illegality of TNS Product sales.

9 61. Plaintiff is further informed and believes that Defendants were aware of  
10 consumer complaints and scholarly research about safety concerns and adverse  
11 reactions associated with human growth factors (e.g., growth factors contained in  
12 NouriCel-MD in TNS Products), which information was reasonably known to  
13 Defendants at all relevant times.

14 62. Defendants were familiar with the requisite federal and state regulatory  
15 scheme having sought approval for a variety of drug products other than TNS  
16 Products. Plaintiff is informed and believes that, through consumer complaints,  
17 competitors, and/or market research, Defendants were aware that they were  
18 marketing and selling TNS Products without proper government approvals and  
19 without controlled safety studies, but Defendants continued to market and sell such  
20 products anyway.

21 63. Defendants actively concealed material facts from Plaintiff and  
22 members of the Class about safety concerns associated with TNS Products, the lack  
23 of controlled safety studies for TNS Products, and the illegality of TNS Product  
24 sales. Defendants also ignored reports of adverse reactions from human growth  
25 factors.

26 64. At the same time, Defendants were intimately aware of the true nature  
27 of NouriCel-MD in TNS Products, including that it affects the structure and/or  
28

1 function of the skin, and thus knew or reasonably should have known that TNS  
2 Products were drug products within the governing federal and state law definitions.  
3 Nonetheless, Defendants represented to consumers that TNS Products were strictly  
4 considered cosmetics (rather than drugs). Defendants also wrongly informed  
5 consumers that TNS Product packaging disclosed all relevant safety information. In  
6 this manner, Defendants actively concealed the safety concerns, lack of controlled  
7 safety studies, and illegality associated with TNS Product sales.

8 65. By marketing and selling TNS Products, Defendants effectively  
9 represented that the products were recognized as safe by the FDA and California  
10 DPH, and that they were legally saleable, when they were not. Such representations  
11 were misleading absent full disclosure of material facts about safety concerns, failure  
12 to determine the safety of growth factors in TNS Products, and illegality of TNS  
13 Product sales.

14 66. Reasonable consumers would consider the omitted facts to be important  
15 in determining whether or not to purchase TNS Products, namely the omitted facts  
16 regarding: safety concerns, the lack of controlled safety studies, and illegality of  
17 sales. To be sure, nondisclosures about such facts are generally recognized to be  
18 material omissions.

19 **G. Plaintiff and Members of the Class Suffered Injury as a Result of**  
20 **Defendants' Misconduct.**

21 67. SkinMedica's conduct violates California's UCL, CLRA, FAL, and  
22 civil laws against deceit. In particular, this class action seeks to remedy  
23 SkinMedica's unlawful, unfair, and deceptive marketing and sale of misbranded drug  
24 products without full and adequate disclosure of: (a) significant safety concerns,  
25 (b) the lack of controlled safety studies, and (c) the illegality of product sales.  
26 SkinMedica's conduct violates California's consumer protection laws and injures  
27 consumers in California and nationwide.

1           68. At all relevant times, SkinMedica has been under a duty to Plaintiff and  
2 other similarly situated consumers to identify and disclose the true health risks and  
3 related safety concerns associated with human growth factors contained in TNS  
4 Products. At the same time, SkinMedica has been under a duty to disclose to  
5 consumers the lack of controlled safety studies and the illegality of TNS Product  
6 sales.

7           69. For at least the past four years, SkinMedica has failed to disclose the  
8 significant safety concerns associated with TNS Products, the lack of controlled  
9 safety studies, and the illegality of TNS Product sales. Plaintiff is informed and  
10 believes that Defendants have not conducted adequate safety studies on TNS  
11 Products.

12           70. Upon information and belief, at least thousands of consumers have been  
13 victims of SkinMedica's unlawful, unfair, and deceptive marketing and sale of TNS  
14 Products. SkinMedica knows or reasonably should know that the marketing and sale  
15 of TNS Products was and is unlawful, unfair, and deceptive.

16           71. The true facts about safety concerns, lack of controlled safety studies,  
17 and illegality of TNS Product sales would be material to a reasonable consumer.  
18 Therefore, consumer reliance upon SkinMedica's material omissions can and should  
19 be presumed as a matter of law.

20           72. Plaintiff purchased TNS Products while unaware of significant safety  
21 concerns, the lack of controlled safety studies, or the illegality of product sales.

22           73. Plaintiff and members of the Class lost money as a result of  
23 SkinMedica's material omissions regarding the health risks and legal status of TNS  
24 Products.

25           74. Based on the material omissions described herein, Plaintiff and  
26 members of the Class were induced to and did purchase SkinMedica TNS Products  
27 instead of saving their money or purchasing competing skin care products.

1           75. Plaintiff and members of the Class altered their position to their  
2 detriment and suffered injuries that include payment of the purchase price for TNS  
3 Products and/or payment of price premiums for such products.

4           76. At the time Plaintiff purchased TNS Products, Plaintiff relied upon  
5 SkinMedica’s material omissions of fact regarding significant safety concerns, the  
6 lack of controlled safety studies, and the illegality of product sales. Plaintiff and  
7 other similarly situated consumers were likely to be misled, and they reasonably and  
8 justifiably relied to their detriment on SkinMedica’s omissions of material facts.

9           77. If SkinMedica had disclosed the truth about significant safety concerns,  
10 the lack of controlled safety studies, and the illegality of product sales, Plaintiff  
11 would not have purchased TNS Products or paid as much for them.

12           78. As a result of the alleged misconduct, SkinMedica has generated  
13 substantial revenues from the sale of TNS Products.

14           79. Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,  
15 seeks damages, restitution and injunctive relief to put an end to SkinMedica’s unfair  
16 business practices.

17                                           **V. CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

18           80. Plaintiff seeks certification of a Class defined as follows:

19                                           All consumers nationwide who: (i) purchased any TNS  
20 Product (ii) for personal, family, or household purposes  
21 (iii) at any time during the four year period preceding the  
22 filing of the original complaint (“The Class”). Excluded  
23 from the Class are Defendants; the officers, directors or  
24 employees of Defendants; any entity in which Defendants  
25 have a controlling interest; and any affiliate, legal  
26 representative, heir or assign of Defendants. Also, excluded  
27 from the Class are any federal, state or local governmental  
28 entities, any judicial officer presiding over this action and  
the members of his/her immediate family and judicial staff,  
and any juror assigned to this action.

81. Plaintiff does not assert any personal injury claim in this action as a  
result of using Defendants’ TNS Products.

1           82. Plaintiff does not know the exact number of Class members at the  
2 present time. However, due to the nature of the trade and commerce involved, there  
3 appear to be thousands of Class members such that joinder of all Class members is  
4 impracticable.

5           83. The Class is ascertainable and notice can be provided through  
6 techniques similar to those customarily used in other consumer fraud cases and  
7 complex class actions, and through SkinMedica's business records.

8           84. There are questions of law and fact common to the Class. Defendants'  
9 unlawful omissions similarly impact Class members, all of who purchased one or  
10 more of SkinMedica's TNS Products.

11           85. Plaintiff asserts claims that are typical of the Class. Plaintiff and all  
12 Class members have been subjected to the same wrongful conduct because they all  
13 have purchased SkinMedica's misbranded TNS Products that contained human  
14 growth factors (NouriCel-MD), that lacked regulatory approval from the FDA and  
15 California DHS and thus bypassed controlled safety studies, and that failed to  
16 provide adequate warnings of health risks and the fact that safety of the products has  
17 not been determined. As a result, and like other members of the Class, Plaintiff  
18 purchased and paid an amount for TNS Products which she otherwise would not  
19 have paid.

20           86. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of  
21 the Class. Plaintiff is represented by counsel competent and experienced in both  
22 consumer protection and class action litigation.

23           87. Class certification is appropriate because Defendants have acted on  
24 grounds that apply generally to the Class, so that final injunctive relief or  
25 corresponding declaratory relief is appropriate respecting the Class as a whole.  
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1           88. Class certification is also appropriate because common questions of law  
2 and fact substantially predominate over any questions that may affect only individual  
3 members of the Class, including, *inter alia*, the following:

- 4           a. Whether TNS Products qualify as drug products  
5           under federal and parallel state laws governing food,  
6           drugs, and cosmetics;
- 7           b. Whether TNS Products are misbranded under federal  
8           and parallel state laws governing food, drugs, and  
9           cosmetics;
- 10          c. Whether the manufacture, marketing, or sale of TNS  
11          Products are unlawful under federal and parallel  
12          state laws governing food, drugs, and cosmetics;
- 13          d. Whether Defendants had a duty to disclose material  
14          facts regarding safety concerns associated with TNS  
15          Products, or the lack of controlled safety studies, or  
16          the illegality of TNS Product sales;
- 17          e. Whether Defendants failed to disclose material facts  
18          regarding safety concerns associated with TNS  
19          Products, such as the potential for uncontrolled cell  
20          growth or other adverse reactions;
- 21          f. Whether Defendants failed to disclose material facts  
22          regarding the lack of controlled safety studies for  
23          TNS Products;
- 24          g. Whether Defendants failed to disclose material facts  
25          regarding the illegality of TNS Product sales;
- 26          h. Whether Defendants' nondisclosures would be  
27          material to a reasonable consumer;
- 28          i. Whether Defendants' nondisclosures constitute an  
            unlawful business practice in violation of the UCL;
- j. Whether Defendants' nondisclosures constitute an  
            unfair business practice in violation of the UCL;
- k. Whether Defendants' nondisclosures were likely to  
            deceive a reasonable consumer in violation of the  
            UCL, CLRA, or FAL;
- l. Whether Defendants knowingly or willfully failed to  
            disclose significant safety concerns associated with  
            TNS Products;

- 1 m. Whether Defendants knowingly or willfully failed to  
2 disclose material facts regarding the lack of  
controlled safety studies of TNS Products;
- 3 n. Whether Defendants knowingly or willfully failed to  
4 disclose material facts regarding the illegality of  
TNS Product sales;
- 5 o. Whether the challenged practices harmed Plaintiff  
6 and members of the Class; and
- 7 p. Whether Plaintiff and members of the Class are  
8 entitled to damages, restitution, equitable relief,  
and/or injunctive relief.

9 89. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and  
10 efficient adjudication of this controversy, since joinder of all the individual Class  
11 members is impracticable. Furthermore, because the restitution and/or damages  
12 suffered, and continue to be suffered, by each individual Class member may be  
13 relatively small, the expense and burden of individual litigation would make it very  
14 difficult or impossible for individual Class members to redress the wrongs done to  
15 each of them individually and the burden imposed on the judicial system would be  
16 enormous.

17 90. The prosecution of separate actions by the individual Class members  
18 would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications, which would establish  
19 incompatible standards of conduct for Defendants. In contrast, the conduct of this  
20 action as a class action presents far fewer management difficulties, conserves judicial  
21 resources and the parties' resources, and protects the rights of each Class member.

## 22 VI. CAUSES OF ACTION

### 23 FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

#### 24 VIOLATION OF THE CALIFORNIA UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW 25 (CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200, *et seq.*)

26 91. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference all paragraphs alleged  
27 herein.

1           92. Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 prohibits any “unlawful, unfair, or  
2 fraudulent business act or practice.” Defendants have engaged in unlawful, and  
3 unfair, and fraudulent business acts and practices in violation of the UCL.

4           93. Defendants have violated the unlawful prong by virtue of their  
5 violations of the Sherman Food Drug & Cosmetics Laws, California’s Health &  
6 Safety Code §§ 109875 *et seq.*, and selling misbranded drug and cosmetic products  
7 thereunder.

8           94. In addition, Defendants have violated the unlawful prong by virtue of  
9 their violations of the CLRA, the FAL, and Cal. Civil Code §§ 1709-1710.

10           95. Defendants have violated the unfair prong of section 17200 because the  
11 acts and practices set forth in the Complaint—including the omission of product  
12 safety concerns—offend established public policy. The challenged conduct is  
13 substantially injurious to consumers. The harm that these acts and practices cause to  
14 consumers greatly outweighs any benefits associated with them. Reasonable  
15 consumers are not in a position to know and understand the safety concerns posed by  
16 the TNS Products being made, marketed, and/or sold by Defendants or the lack of  
17 controlled safety studies for such products.

18           96. Defendants’ conduct also impairs competition within the market for  
19 skin care products, and stops Plaintiff and Class members from making fully  
20 informed decisions about the kind of skin care products to purchase or the price to  
21 pay for such products.

22           97. Defendants have violated the fraudulent prong of section 17200 because  
23 their material omissions about safety concerns associated with TNS Products were  
24 likely to deceive a reasonable consumer and the true facts would be material to a  
25 reasonable consumer. Moreover, Defendants material omissions about the lack of  
26 controlled safety studies of TNS Products, and/or the illegality of TNS product sales,  
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1 were likely to deceive a reasonable consumer, and the true facts would be material to  
2 a reasonable consumer.

3 98. Plaintiff has suffered injury in fact, including the loss of money, as a  
4 result of Defendants' unlawful, unfair, and/or deceptive practices. As set forth more  
5 fully above, in purchasing TNS Products, Plaintiff relied on Defendants to make  
6 complete disclosures of all material information about her purchase. Had she known  
7 about the safety concerns associated with TNS Products (including but not limited to  
8 an increased risk of cancer), or that the products were misbranded, lacked required  
9 safety studies, and were legally unsaleable, she would not have purchased those TNS  
10 Products or she would have paid less for them.

11 99. All of the wrongful conduct alleged herein occurred, and continues to  
12 occur, in the conduct of SkinMedica's business. Defendants' wrongful conduct is  
13 part of a general practice that is still being perpetuated and repeated throughout the  
14 State of California and nationwide.

15 100. Plaintiff requests that this Court enter such orders or judgments as may  
16 be necessary to enjoin Defendants from continuing its unlawful, unfair, and  
17 deceptive business practices, to restore to Plaintiff and members of the Class any  
18 money that Defendants acquired by unfair competition (as provided in Cal. Bus. &  
19 Prof. Code § 17203), and to provide such other relief as set forth below.

20 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

21 **VIOLATIONS OF THE CONSUMERS LEGAL REMEDIES ACT**  
22 **(CAL. CIV. CODE § 1750, *et seq.*)**

23 101. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all paragraphs alleged  
24 herein.

25 102. Defendants are "persons" under Cal. Civ. Code § 1761(c).  
26  
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1           103. Plaintiff is a “consumer,” as defined by Cal. Civ. Code § 1761(d), who  
2 purchased TNS Products, which are goods that were made, marketed, and/or sold by  
3 Defendants.

4           104. Cal. Civ. Code § 1770(a)(2) prohibits “[m]isrepresenting the source,  
5 sponsorship, approval, or certification of goods or services.” Defendants violated  
6 this provision by marketing and selling misbranded drug and cosmetic products,  
7 which required controlled safety studies prior to sale, but which did not have it. The  
8 sale of each TNS Product was a misrepresentation to consumers that the product was  
9 recognized as safe by the FDA and/or California DPH.

10           105. Cal. Civ. Code § 1770(a)(5) prohibits “[r]epresenting that goods or  
11 services have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses, benefits, or  
12 quantities which they do not have....” Defendants violated this provision by  
13 marketing and selling misbranded drug and cosmetic products that posed safety  
14 concerns. The sale of each TNS Product misrepresented that the product was free of  
15 undisclosed safety concerns. In addition, the sale of each TNS Product  
16 misrepresented that the product had been determined to be safe (i.e., through  
17 controlled safety studies) and was otherwise legally offered for sale.

18           106. Cal. Civ. Code § 1770(a)(7) prohibits “[r]epresenting that goods or  
19 services are of a particular standard, quality, or grade, or that goods are of a  
20 particular style or model, if they are of another.” Defendants violated this provision  
21 by marketing and selling misbranded drug products that posed safety concerns. The  
22 sale of each TNS Product misrepresented that the product was free of undisclosed  
23 safety concerns. In addition, the sale of each TNS Product misrepresented that the  
24 product had been determined to be safe (i.e., through controlled safety studies) and  
25 was otherwise legally offered for sale.

1           107. The CLRA (including §§ 1770(a) (2), (5), (7)) supports claims for  
2 omissions of material fact that Defendants were obligated to disclose. In this case,  
3 Defendants were obligated to disclose—but failed to disclose—the known safety  
4 concerns associated with human growth factors contained in TNS Products, the lack  
5 of controlled safety studies for TNS Products, and the illegality of TNS Product  
6 sales.

7           108. Plaintiff and the Class lost money and were damaged as a result of  
8 SkinMedica’s violations of the CLRA because: (a) they purchased TNS Products  
9 due to the material omissions about the products’ safety status and saleability; and  
10 (b) they would not have purchased TNS Products on the same terms if the true facts  
11 had been known. Absent these material omissions, Plaintiff and the Class would not  
12 have purchased TNS Products at all or they would have paid less for them.

13           109. As a result of these violations, Defendants have caused and continue to  
14 cause damage to Plaintiff and members of the Class and, if not stopped, will continue  
15 to harm them.

16           110. In accordance with Cal. Civ. Code § 1780(a), Plaintiffs and members of  
17 the Class seek injunctive and equitable relief for SkinMedica’s violations of the  
18 CLRA.

19           111. In addition, having mailed appropriate notice and demand in accordance  
20 with Cal. Civil Code § 1782(a) & (d), Plaintiffs hereby amend the original Complaint  
21 to include a request for damages. In particular, pursuant to and in accordance with  
22 §1782, Plaintiff Ruhnke sent written notice to Defendants via certified mail on  
23 March 19, 2014, addressing the alleged violations under CLRA §1770 as detailed in  
24 the original Complaint (based on the unfair, unlawful, and deceptive marketing and  
25 sale of TNS Products without adequate safety disclosures), demanding that  
26 Defendants reimburse Plaintiff and class members for the alleged violations of  
27 §1770. Within 30 days of receiving Plaintiff’s notice, which was extended until  
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1 May 19, 2014, Defendants failed to make the appropriate reimbursements or other  
2 remedies requested by Plaintiff Ruhnke, and Defendants failed to agree to give the  
3 requested remedies within a reasonable time. Furthermore, Defendants failed to  
4 identify similarly-situated consumers who purchased TNS Products; Defendants  
5 failed to notify such consumers that upon their request Defendants shall make the  
6 appropriate reimbursement or other remedy; Defendants did not give the  
7 reimbursements requested on behalf of such consumers, and Defendants did not offer  
8 to do so in a reasonable time. Further, Defendants did not cease from engaging in  
9 the alleged CLRA violations, and Defendants did not agree to do so in a reasonable  
10 time. Accordingly, Plaintiffs now amend their Complaint to include a request for  
11 damages under the CLRA, and Plaintiffs seek all relief authorized under Civil Code  
12 § 1780, including compensatory and punitive damages, and attorneys' fees and costs,  
13 as requested more fully in the Prayer for Relief.

14 112. Plaintiffs include an affidavit with this Complaint reflecting that venue  
15 in this District is proper, to the extent such an affidavit is required by Cal. Civ. Code  
16 § 1780(d) in federal court.

17  
18 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**  
19 **VIOLATIONS OF THE FALSE ADVERTISING LAW**  
20 **(CAL. BUS. & PROF CODE §§ 17500, *et seq.*)**

21 113. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all paragraphs alleged  
22 herein.

23 114. California Business & Professions Code §§ 17500, *et seq.* (the "FAL")  
24 broadly proscribes deceptive advertising in this State. Section 17500 makes it  
25 unlawful for any corporation intending to sell products or perform services to make  
26 any statement in advertising those products or services concerning any circumstance  
27 or matter of fact connected with the proposed performance or disposition thereof,  
28

1 which is untrue or misleading, and which is known, or which by the exercise of  
2 reasonable care should be known, to be untrue or misleading, or not to sell those  
3 products or services as advertised at the price stated therein, or as so advertised.

4 115. When the seller has a duty to disclose material facts about a product, the  
5 sale of the product to consumers without disclosure of such material facts runs afoul  
6 of the FAL.

7 116. SkinMedica markets and sells the TNS Product line as if the products  
8 are free of significant safety concerns, when in fact, they are not. SkinMedica  
9 effectively misrepresents the health risks posed by human growth factors and the  
10 failure to conduct adequate safety evaluations thereof.

11 117. SkinMedica also markets and sells the TNS Product line as if the safety  
12 of such products has been determined and the products are legally offered for sale,  
13 when in fact, product safety has not been substantiated, such as through controlled  
14 safety studies, and the products actually are misbranded and sold illegally.

15 118. Section 17535 effectively provides that the Court may enjoin any  
16 corporation or other person who violates the FAL, and may make such orders or  
17 judgments as may be necessary to prevent the use of such practices, or which may be  
18 necessary to restore to any person in interest any money or property which may have  
19 been acquired by means of such practices. An FAL claim may be prosecuted by any  
20 person who has suffered injury in fact and has lost money or property as a result of a  
21 violation of the FAL. The action may be prosecuted on a representative basis when it  
22 meets the traditional class action requirements.

23 119. Plaintiff and the Class have suffered injury in fact and lost money or  
24 property as a result of SkinMedica's violations of the FAL because: (a) they  
25 purchased TNS Products due to the material omissions about safety concerns, the  
26 lack of controlled safety studies, and the illegality of product sales; and (b) they  
27 would not have purchased TNS Products on the same terms if the true facts had been  
28



1 known. Absent the material omissions, Plaintiff and the Class would not have  
2 purchased TNS Products at all or they would have paid less for them.

3 120. As a result of these violations, Defendants have caused and continue to  
4 cause damage to Plaintiff and members of the Class and, if not stopped, will continue  
5 to harm them.

6 121. Plaintiff and members of the Class request that this Court enjoin  
7 Defendants from continuing to market and sell TNS Products without required safety  
8 studies and disclosure of known safety concerns.

9 122. In addition, Plaintiff and members of the Class request that this Court  
10 enter such orders or judgments as may be necessary to restore to any person in  
11 interest any money which may have been acquired by means of such material  
12 omissions and deceptive marketing and selling of TNS Products to consumers.

13 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

14 **DECEIT (CAL CIV. CODE §§ 1709-1710)**

15 123. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference all paragraphs alleged  
16 herein.

17 124. Under California Civil Code § 1709: “One who willfully deceives  
18 another with intent to induce him to alter his position to his injury or risk, is liable  
19 for any damage which he thereby suffers.”

20 125. Under California Civil Code § 1710, Deceit includes (among other  
21 things): “[i] The suggestion, as a fact, of that which is not true, by one who does not  
22 believe it to be true; or [ii] the suppression of a fact, by one who is bound to disclose  
23 it, or who gives information of other facts which are likely to mislead for want of  
24 communication of that fact.”

25 126. By marketing and selling TNS Products, Defendants willfully suggest  
26 that they have completed adequate safety studies for TNS Products, and are lawfully  
27  
28

1 offered for sale. The suggested facts are not true, and Plaintiff is informed and  
2 believes that Defendants do not believe them to be true.

3 127. Plaintiff is informed and believes that Defendants willfully suppressed  
4 and omitted the material facts concerning safety concerns, the lack of controlled  
5 safety studies, and illegality of TNS Product sales.

6 128. Defendants had a duty to disclose these material facts. The duty to  
7 disclose arises from: (a) their superior and exclusive knowledge of these material  
8 facts, which were not known or reasonably accessible to Plaintiff; (b) their active  
9 concealment of these material facts, and/or (c) their marketing and sale of TNS  
10 Products strictly as skin rejuvenating cosmetics, which is likely to mislead  
11 consumers absent full disclosure of the material facts at issue. In any event, product  
12 sellers should also disclose safety concerns associated with the sale of consumer  
13 goods (particularly drug products) or the fact that safety has not been adequately  
14 determined for such products.

15 129. Defendants suppressed and omitted these material facts concerning the  
16 safety concerns, lack of controlled safety studies, and illegality of TNS Product sales  
17 with the intent to induce Plaintiff and members of the Class to purchase TNS  
18 Products.

19 130. Plaintiff and the Class were unaware of these suppressed and omitted  
20 material facts at the time of their purchases of TNS Products. If they had known of  
21 such material facts at the time of their purchases, Plaintiff and the Class would not  
22 have purchased the TNS Products, and/or they would have paid less for them.

23 131. As a result of Defendants' suppression and omission of material facts,  
24 Plaintiff and the Class sustained economic damages in an amount to be determined at  
25 trial.

**PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

1  
2 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of all others similarly  
3 situated, respectfully requests that this Court enter a judgment against Defendant and  
4 in favor of Plaintiff, and grant the following relief:

5 A. Determine that this action may be maintained as a Class action with  
6 respect to the Class identified herein and certify it as such under Rules 23(b)(2)  
7 and/or 23(b)(3), or alternatively certify all issues and claims that are appropriately  
8 certified, and designate and appoint Plaintiff as a Class Representative and her  
9 counsel as Class Counsel;

10 B. Declare, adjudge and decree the conduct of the Defendants as alleged  
11 herein to be unlawful, unfair and/or deceptive;

12 C. Enjoin Defendants from continuing the unlawful, unfair and/or  
13 deceptive marketing and sale of TNS Products without full disclosure of safety  
14 concerns and the lack of controlled safety studies;

15 D. Award Plaintiff and the Class restitution of all monies paid to Defendant  
16 as a result of the unlawful, unfair, and/or deceptive business practices;

17 E. Award Plaintiff and the Class actual, compensatory damages, as proven  
18 at trial;

19 F. Award Plaintiff and the Class exemplary damages in such amount as  
20 proven at trial;

21 G. Award Plaintiff and the Class reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and pre-  
22 and post-judgment interest; and

23 H. Award Plaintiff and the Class such other further and different relief as  
24 the nature of the case may require or as may be determined to be just, equitable, and  
25 proper by this Court.  
26  
27  
28

**JURY TRIAL DEMAND**

1  
2 Plaintiff, by counsel, requests a trial by jury on their legal claims, as set forth  
3 herein.

4  
5 DATED: June 2, 2014

**HAGENS BERMAN SOBOL  
SHAPIRO LLP**

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9 *Attorneys for Plaintiffs and the Proposed Class*

10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
11 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
12

13 Josette Ruhnke, an individual, *et al.*; on  
14 behalf of herself and all others similarly  
15 situated,

16 Plaintiff,

17 v.

18 SkinMedica, Inc., a Delaware  
19 Corporation, and Allergan, Inc., a  
20 Delaware Corporation,

21 Defendants.  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

No.

**DECLARATION OF JOSETTE  
RUHNKE RE CLRA VENUE**

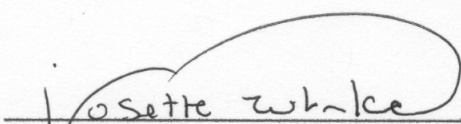
**DECLARATION OF JOSETTE RUHNKE**

I, Josette Ruhnke, do hereby declare and state as follows:

1. I am a party plaintiff in *Josette Ruhnke, an individual, et al.; on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated, v. SkinMedica, Inc., a Delaware Corporation, and Allergan, Inc., a Delaware Corporation*. Pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1780(d), I make this declaration in support of the Class Action Complaint and the claim therein for relief under Cal. Civ. Code § 1780(a). I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein and, if necessary, could competently testify thereto.

2. This action for relief under Cal. Civ. Code § 1780(a) has been commenced in a district that is a proper place for trial of this action because: (i) Defendant Allergan, Inc. has its principal place of business in Orange County, California (within the Central District of California) and it does a substantial amount of business in this district; (ii) Defendant SkinMedica, Inc., an Allergan company, also conducts substantial business in this district; and (iii) I purchased one or more of the TNS Products at issue in Orange County, California (within this district).

This declaration is signed under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of California and the United States this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2014.

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Josette Ruhnke