

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: DIET DRUGS (PHENTERMINE/ FENFLURAMINE/DEXFENFLURAMINE) PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION	:	MDL DOCKET NO. 2:15MD1203
_____	:	
SHEILA BROWN, ET AL.	:	CIVIL ACTION NO.
v.	:	99-20593
AMERICAN HOME PRODUCTS CORPORATION	:	
_____	:	
Appellant:	:	REPORT AND AWARD OF ARBITRATOR
Arbitration No.:	:	
Claim No.: 183/00	:	

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On _____ the AHP Settlement Trust ("Trust") denied the claim of Roberta Leahy-Watts for Matrix Compensation Benefits.

2. On _____ filed an appeal from the denial of benefits by the Trust, requesting that the United States District Court ("Court") refer this matter to Arbitration.

3. On _____ the claim of _____ was referred by the Court to Arbitration pursuant to VI.C.4(h) & (i) or VI.D.1.(f) & (g) of the Nationwide Class Action Settlement Agreement with American Home Products Corporation.

4. On _____ an Arbitration Hearing was held concerning the claim of _____

ANALYSIS

FUND A ISSUES NOT COVERED BY ARBITRATION PROCESS

1. The Settlement Agreement provides for two funds, Funds A and B, to be established to provide benefits to class members. (Settlement Agreement, Section III.A.1; Memorandum and Pretrial Order No. 1415 (August 28, 2000) at 62). Fund A provides funding only for non-Matrix specified benefits and expenses, e.g., drug and echocardiogram reimbursement. (Settlement Agreement, Section IV.A; Memorandum and Pretrial Order No. 1415 (August 28, 2000) at 62). Fund B provides funding for Matrix Benefits. (Settlement Agreement, Section IV.B; Memorandum and Pretrial Order No. 1415 (August 28, 2000) at 62).

2. The arbitration appeals process only covers determinations made regarding Fund B, specifically, the eligibility of claimants to receive Matrix Compensation Benefits and/or the amount of Matrix Compensation Benefits they are entitled to receive.

3. In her statement of the case, [REDACTED] requests benefits based on alleged medical symptoms and conditions allegedly caused by the use of the Diet Drugs. On her Green form, [REDACTED] indicates that she believes she is entitled to Level I Benefits on the Fund A Matrix. (Green Form, Part I, page 4, questions 5 and 6).

FUND B MATRIX ELIGIBILITY AND QUALIFICATION

4. [REDACTED] submitted a Pink Form dated [REDACTED]

5. According to questions 7, 8 and 9 of [REDACTED] Pink Form, [REDACTED] answered that she took Pondimin and Redux for 61 days or more. (See the Pink Form, dated [REDACTED] page 4, at questions 7,8 and 9).

6. [REDACTED] submitted a Green Form dated [REDACTED]

7. In the Green Form, reference is made to an echocardiogram which was performed on (See the Green Form, Part II, dated page 8, at questions C.1 and C.2).

8. The GREEN Form submitted by reports no mitral valve regurgitation and mild aortic valve regurgitation. (See Green Form, Part II, page 8, question C.3). The answers to the questions in Part II of Green Form were completed by her physician, a Board-Certified Cardiologist. (See Green Form, Part II, page 7, Section A).

9. submitted a Supplemental Green Form dated (Supplemental Green Form).

10. In the Supplemental Green Form, reference is made to an echocardiogram which was performed on (See the Supplemental Green Form, Part II, dated page 8, at questions C.1 and C.2).

11. The Supplemental Green Form submitted by reports mild mitral valve regurgitation and mild aortic valve regurgitation. (See Supplemental Green Form, Part II, page 8, question C.3). The answers to the questions in Part II of Green Form were completed by her physician, , a Board-Certified Cardiologist. (See Supplemental Green Form, Part II, page 7, Section A).

CONCLUSIONS

1. The Trust findings are not clearly erroneous as set forth in Rule 5 of the Rules Governing the Arbitration Process.

2. Based upon the above findings, is not entitled to any Matrix Benefits because:

a. Matrix Level I Benefits must be based on severe aortic regurgitation and/or on severe mitral regurgitation, neither of which condition exist in this case, (Id., Section IV.B.2.c(1)(a)), or based on other conditions that are not present in this case. (Id., Section IV.B.2.c.(1)(b)).

b. Matrix Level II Benefits must be based, at a minimum, on moderate or severe aortic regurgitation, or on moderate or severe mitral regurgitation, neither of which condition exist in this case. (Id., Section IV.B.2.c.(2)).

c. The conditions that are prerequisite to recovery of Matrix Levels III, IV and V Benefits are also not present in this claim. (Id., Section IV.B.2.c(3), (4) and (5)).

3. Based upon all of the above, the Appellant is not entitled to any Matrix Benefits.

4. _____ may later qualify for Matrix Level benefits if her condition becomes more severe in ways that are defined by the Settlement Agreement. If an echocardiogram, taken and reviewed by a qualified physician as defined by the Settlement Agreement, reveals a Matrix Level condition, then _____ may apply for benefits between now and December 31, 2015 by following the procedures stated in the Settlement Agreement which would include the submission of a new Green Form.

November 2, 2005