

Tom Myers, SBN 176008  
Katharine Sabich-Robison, SBN 183234  
AIDS Healthcare Foundation  
6255 West Sunset Boulevard, 21st Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90028  
Ph: (323) 860-5259  
Fax: (323) 462-6869

Attorneys for Plaintiff  
AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
WESTERN DIVISION

AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION,	)	Case No.:
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION'S
	)	COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES AND
vs.	)	INJUNCTIVE RELIEF FOR
	)	MONOPOLIZATION, ATTEMPTED
ABBOTT LABORATORIES,	)	MONOPOLIZATION, CONSPIRACY TO
	)	RESTRAIN TRADE AND UNFAIR
Defendant	)	COMPETITION AND FOR RESTITUTION
	)	FOR VIOLATIONS OF BUSINESS AND
	)	PROFESSIONS CODE
	)	
	)	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. Plaintiff AIDS Healthcare Foundation ("AHF") seeks legal and equitable relief because defendant Abbott Laboratories ("defendant" or "Abbott") is making millions of dollars by restraining trade, controlling prices and eliminating competition in several markets for potentially life-saving treatments for the deadly AIDS virus. Specifically, Abbott is wielding patent and monopoly power it obtained as a result of a government grant it received for research into the discovery of new AIDS treatments to manipulate relevant markets and increase its profits, all the while keeping life-saving

1 drugs out of the hands of the least advantaged among those suffering in the worst  
2 pandemic of all time.

3 2. Abbott's crucial AIDS drug, Norvir/ritonavir, is at the heart of this case.  
4 Through its patents for Norvir, Abbott acquired a monopoly over the Norvir market,  
5 leveraged that monopoly into the market for one of its other AIDS drugs, Kaletra, and  
6 continues to exercise a stranglehold over these drugs -- all at the cost of human lives.

7 3. Abbott has thus used its patents -- obtained in large part with taxpayer funds  
8 -- to maintain and perpetuate a monopoly in the Norvir market and to create one in the  
9 market for its derivative drug, Kaletra, by, among other things, artificially raising and  
10 maintaining an exorbitantly high price for Norvir and tying the purchase of Norvir to the  
11 purchase of Kaletra.

12 4. On information and belief, Abbott now charges approximately \$46,000 per  
13 year per patient for access to Norvir as a standalone treatment. This inflated price  
14 presents a huge obstacle to the treatment of AIDS, and most severely affects the poor, the  
15 young, the aged, the disabled, and the disenfranchised -- those who can least afford to pay  
16 Abbott's monopolistic prices.

## 17 **II. PARTIES**

18 5. AIDS Healthcare Foundation ("AHF" or "Plaintiff") is a non-profit corporation  
19 organized and existing under the laws of the State of California, with its principal place  
20 of business in Los Angeles, California. AHF is the largest provider of specialized  
21 healthcare services to the AIDS/HIV population in the United States. AHF operates  
22 AIDS clinics and pharmacies that administer antiretroviral care to patients in the United  
23 States and overseas. AHF serves thousands of patients in California, New York and  
24 Florida regardless of their insurance status or ability to pay. In addition, AHF currently  
25 operates three free AIDS treatment clinics in Africa: the Ithembalabantu (Zulu for  
"people's hope") Clinic in KwaZulu Natal, Durban, South Africa, the "Uganda Cares"  
Masaka Healthcare Center in Masaka, Uganda, and the "Uganda Cares" Soroti  
Healthcare Center in Soroti, Uganda. AHF also operates two free AIDS treatment clinics

1 in Honduras: the Siempre Unidos (Spanish for “always united”)/AHF Global Immunity  
2 Clinics in San Pedro Sula and Siguatepeque.

3 6. On information and belief, Abbott was incorporated in 1888 in Illinois and  
4 has its principal place of business in Illinois.

5 7. Abbott is engaged in the business of manufacturing and selling  
6 antiretroviral drugs used to fight the HIV/AIDS virus.

### 7 **III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

8 8. This action arises under the antitrust laws of the United States, Title 15, of  
9 the United States Code.

10 9. The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §15, §22 and  
11 §26 to secure damages and injunctive relief for violation of Sections 1 and 2 of the  
12 Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. §1 and §2.

13 10. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction over the state law unfair  
14 competition claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.

15 11. Venue is proper in this Court under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and (c) because  
16 Abbott conducts regular business in this District and has sold the products giving rise to  
17 the claims in this District. On information and belief, Abbott has sufficient contacts  
18 within this District to be deemed to reside in this District and is subject to the personal  
19 jurisdiction of this Court for this action. Abbott has purposefully placed its products and  
20 services into the stream of commerce with the expectation that they would be purchased  
21 and used by consumers in California, including in this District.

### 22 **IV. MARKET DEFINITIONS**

23 12. Norvir is an antiretroviral drug prescribed to AIDS patients. Norvir is not  
24 reasonably interchangeable with any other drug and therefore constitutes a product  
25 market for antitrust purposes (the “Norvir Market”).

13 13. Kaletra is a combination antiretroviral drug prescribed to AIDS patients. It  
14 contains a small amount of Norvir, which acts as a “booster” for, and improves the  
15 effectiveness of, the other antiretroviral agents in Kaletra. Antiretroviral drugs that  
16 depend on Norvir as a “booster,” like Kaletra, are not reasonably interchangeable with

1 any other drugs and therefore constitute a product market for antitrust purposes (the  
2 “Norvir Boosted Market”).

3 14. Abbott has garnered a 100% share of the multimillion-dollar Norvir Market  
4 in the United States, which is the geographical market. AHF is a significant purchaser in  
5 the Norvir Market.

6 15. On information and belief, Abbott, through its pricing of Norvir and  
7 Kaletra, has, or is dangerously close to having, a monopoly in the Norvir Boosted Market  
8 in the United States, which is the geographical market. AHF is a significant purchaser in  
9 the Norvir Boosted Market.

## 10 **V. FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

11 16. AIDS is the worst pandemic in history. By the end of 2003, an estimated 16  
12 million people had died from AIDS and 40 million people were infected with HIV/AIDS  
13 worldwide. Each day, more than eight thousand people die worldwide from AIDS and  
14 thirteen thousand more contract the virus.

15 17. The high price of antiretroviral drugs (“ARVs”) is a prime obstacle to  
16 fighting AIDS effectively.

17 18. Three different classes of ARVs have been approved by the U.S. Food &  
18 Drug Administration for the treatment of HIV: (a) Nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase  
19 Inhibitors (“NRTIs”), which reduce the growth of HIV; (b) Non-Nucleoside Reverse  
20 Transcriptase Inhibitors (“NNRTIs”), which keep HIV from making DNA copies of  
21 itself; and (c) Protease Inhibitors (“PIs”), which stop new infectious copies of HIV from  
22 being released from infected cells.

23 19. The compounds at issue in this litigation, Norvir and Kaletra, are Protease  
24 Inhibitors (“PIs”).

25 20. On information and belief, in or around 1996, it became known that use of  
ARVs in single medicine or dual-drug therapy frequently led to the development of  
resistance of HIV to the treatment, but that use of three or more ARVs together, known as  
Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy (“HAART”), could dramatically reduce the

1 incidence of drug resistance. A HAART regime, sometimes called a "cocktail," typically  
2 consists of a "backbone" of two NRTIs plus one or more additional drugs, such as a  
3 NNRTI or a PI.

4 21. Different patients require different combination therapies and medicines  
5 depending on a host of factors, including whether the patient has developed resistance to  
6 some medications, side effects of a particular medicine, pregnancy, interactions with  
7 other drugs and the effect of drugs on different resulting illnesses. No single ARV is  
8 directly and completely interchangeable with any other ARV in any particular patient.

9 22. On information and belief, Abbott initially marketed Norvir/ritonavir in the  
10 treatment of HIV/AIDS as a standalone PI in a HAART regime with a dose of six 100 mg  
11 capsules twice a day (1200 mg /day). This dose is rarely used today, however, because it  
12 is associated with a number of frequently occurring adverse side effects.

13 23. The most common use of ritonavir is now in a low dose (100 mg once or  
14 twice-daily) as a "booster" for other PIs (normally in conjunction with two NRTIs to  
15 create a HAART regime). A low dose of ritonavir can slow the ability of liver enzymes  
16 to break down the companion PI inhibitor, thus "boosting" the level of the companion  
17 drug in the bloodstream. This can make the other PI more effective against HIV. It also  
18 makes it possible to use lower doses -- or less frequent daily doses -- of the improved  
19 medicine.

20 24. Abbott introduced Kaletra as a fixed dose combination product that  
21 combined 133 milligrams of lopinavir, another PI, with 33 milligrams of ritonavir acting  
22 as a boosting agent. A typical dose of Kaletra is six pills per day. Kaletra is the only PI  
23 fixed dose combination that includes ritonavir. On information and belief, Kaletra is now  
24 the largest selling PI.

25 25. No company currently offers a generic version of Norvir in the United  
States or anywhere else. Through its patents for Norvir, Abbott enjoys monopoly power  
in every possible Norvir market. It wields that power to control prices and exclude any  
competition from other manufacturers of PIs (other than Norvir) and Norvir boosted  
combination therapies (other than Kaletra) in both the Norvir Market and the Norvir

1 Boosted Market.

2 26. Specifically, in December of 2003, Abbott announced that it would begin  
3 selling Norvir at nearly 400% of its original price. A year's supply of Norvir, if used as a  
4 standalone PI, for example, now sells for \$46,000 or more. Abbott historically set a  
5 much lower annual price for Norvir as a standalone PI -- approximately \$9000.

6 27. AHF has purchased a significant amount of Norvir.

7 28. Abbott charges prices for Norvir that exorbitantly exceed its costs of  
8 licensing, manufacturing and distributing the drug.

9 29. Abbott's exorbitant pricing for this drug, coupled with its monopoly power  
10 in the market for this drug (initially conferred through its patents), and in the markets for  
11 the numerous drugs for which it is used as a booster, presents a formidable obstacle for  
proper treatment of AIDS patients in the United States.

#### 12 Government Role In Discovering Norvir's

#### 13 Effectiveness As An Antiretroviral

#### 14 Treatment For HIV/AIDS

15 30. A retrovirus is a type of RNA virus that, unlike other RNA viruses,  
16 reproduces by transcribing itself into DNA. An enzyme called reverse transcriptase  
17 allows a retrovirus's RNA to act as the template for this RNA-to-DNA transcription. The  
18 resultant DNA inserts itself into a cell's DNA and is reproduced along with the cell and  
19 its offspring. The life cycle is completed when the viral DNA in selected offspring cells  
20 makes an RNA copy of itself that covers itself in a protein coat and leaves the cell.

21 Retroviruses sometimes destroy the cells whose DNA they alter (as with HIV, the virus  
22 that causes AIDS) and sometimes cause them to become cancerous (as with the viruses  
23 that cause certain leukemias).

24 31. In the early 1980s, scientists began to see patients with symptoms of an  
25 unknown virus of the immune system, now known as AIDS. The virus attacks and  
destroys certain white blood cells known as CD4 T-lymphocytes or Tcells (T4), which  
form an important component of the body's immune system. The level of destruction  
eventually becomes so great that the immune system is no longer able to mount an

1 effective response to infections that pose little threat to a healthy person. It is likely that  
2 the patient will contract one or more of the following infections: PCP (pneumocystis  
3 carinii pneumonia), CMV (a disease which causes blindness), Kaposi's sarcoma (a rare  
4 skin cancer), lymphoma (a blood cancer), tuberculosis, and toxoplasmosis (an intestinal  
5 parasite that attacks the brain and causes dementia). Although the AIDS virus itself is not  
6 fatal, people with AIDS ultimately succumb to one or more of these infections, often after  
7 a difficult and painful struggle with the virus.

8 32. The National Institutes of Health ("NIH") has been instrumental in funding  
9 the discovery of treatments for HIV/AIDS, beginning with its support of the first tests to  
10 establish the efficacy of antiretroviral treatment in 1984. The National Cooperative Drug  
11 Discovery Groups ("NCDDGs") were established by the NIH's National Institute for  
12 Allergies and Infectious Diseases ("NIAID") in 1986 to financially support cooperative  
13 research between academic and industry-based investigators. Grants by NCDDG-HIV,  
14 including a multi-year grant to Abbott scientists, led to the development of PIs and other  
15 antiretroviral medicines.

16 33. On information and belief, Abbott received NIAID grant 5U01A1027220-  
17 050002 (referred to as A1027220) in 1988. The objective of the grant was to study the  
18 biochemistry of HIV protease enzymes to investigate whether medicines could be created  
19 to block the enzyme and thereby inhibit the spread of AIDS to new cells. Early research  
20 under the grant to Abbott was promising, with the development of an intravenous PI in  
21 the first several years of the award. The grant continued to fund research and  
22 development of protease inhibiting compounds at Abbott through 1993 "to test its  
23 interaction with known aspartic proteinase inhibitors" and "to investigate additional  
24 means of inhibiting the protease."

25 34. On information and belief, Abbott has acknowledged that work in  
performance of this grant led to the invention in each of the patents associated with  
Norvir.

35. On information and belief, Abbott's investment in the clinical development  
of ritonavir was modest. The initial FDA approval was based upon three clinical trials

1 with 1,583 patients -- less than 30 percent of the number of patients that the Tufts Center  
2 for the Study of Drug Development claims is average for new "big pharma" drug  
3 approvals. At \$10,000 per patient, a figure considerably above the average cost of trials  
4 reported by Contract Research Organizations for AIDS trials, the cost of Abbott's pre-  
5 approval clinical trials for ritonavir can be estimated to be about \$15 million.

6 36. AHF is informed and believes that the federal government continues to  
7 invest significantly in research and development for ritonavir, including into its efficacy  
8 as a booster for other PI regimes. The website, [www.ClinicalTrials.Gov](http://www.ClinicalTrials.Gov), identifies 26  
9 clinical trials planned or currently recruiting patients that involve ritonavir. Of these, US  
10 government agencies sponsor 21, Abbott is the sponsor of only one, and other drug  
11 companies (including two small firms) sponsor four.

#### 12 Abbott's Anticompetitive Pricing Of Norvir

13 37. In acquiring and maintaining its initial Norvir-related patents, and as a direct  
14 result of its anticompetitive pricing, Abbott currently enjoys and willfully maintains  
15 monopoly power in the Norvir Market. Abbott also has leveraged its monopoly over the  
16 Norvir Market to monopolize and exclude competition for its own Norvir boosted PI  
17 from manufacturers of other combination therapies that use Norvir as a booster, i.e., the  
18 Norvir Boosted Market.

19 38. Norvir was first introduced into the market as a standalone PI, and despite  
20 the US government funding of the pre-clinical discovery of Norvir, Abbott priced the  
21 product roughly the same as other drugs in this class.

22 39. As of last fall, the annual cost of typical doses of standalone PIs were  
23 estimated as follows:

#### 24 **Fall 2003, Average Wholesale Price Of Unboosted Protease Inhibitors**

25 <i>Drug</i>	<i>Presentation</i>	<i>Unit Cost</i>	<i>Units/day</i>	<i>Annual Cost</i>
Fortovase	200 mg	\$1.39078	18	\$9,137
Invirase	200 mg	\$2.49596	9	\$8,199
Crixivan	400 mg	\$3.03542	6	\$6,648
Reyataz*	200 or 150 mg	\$13.80	2	\$10,074
Lexiva	700 mg	\$10.00	4	\$14,600



1	Agenerase	150 mg	\$1.53238	16	\$8,949
	Viracept	250 mg	\$2.5222	10	\$9,206
2	Kaletra	133/33 mg	\$3.90833	6	\$8,559
	Norvir	100 mg	\$2.1432	12	\$9,387

3 *\*price the same for both presentations.*

4 40. As noted above, several PI regimes can be combined with low doses (100 to  
5 200 mg per day) of ritonavir, increasing the effectiveness of the treatment and also  
6 reducing the dose of the non-ritonavir PI required for treatment. In most cases, this  
7 results in substantial savings to the patient.

#### 8 41. Reduction In Cost Of Base Protease Inhibitor

9	Base Protease Inhibitor	Presentation	Unit Cost	Units/day when unboosted	Base Units after boost / Units of Norvir boost
10	Fortovase	200 mg	\$1.39078	18	10 / 2
11	Invirase	200 mg	\$2.49596	18	10 / 2
12	Crixivan	400 mg	\$3.03542	6	4 / 2
	Reyataz*	200 or	\$13.80	2	2 / 1
13		150 mg			
	Lexiva	700 mg	\$10.00	4	2 / 2
14	Agenerase	150 mg	\$1.53238	16	8 / 2
	Viracept	250 mg	\$2.5222	10	Cannot be
15					boosted
	Kaletra	133/33 mg	\$3.90833	6	Already
16					boosted

17 *\*price the same for both presentations*

18 42. Abbott's anticompetitive pricing included a sudden, enormous price hike for  
19 Norvir in December 2003. For the most important presentation, the 100 mg gel tablets,  
20 Abbott increased the price from \$2.1432 per tab to \$10.71575 per tab. For a patient using  
21 ritonavir/Norvir as a full PI regime, this increased the price from \$9,387 to \$46,935 per  
year, for this single drug.

22 43. Another impact of the price increase was to greatly increase the cost of  
23 ritonavir/Norvir as a boosting agent for other PIs manufactured by Abbott's competitors.  
24 Five of the known PIs (Fortovase, Invirase, Crixivan, Reyataz, and Agenerase) are  
25 boosted with two 100 milligram tabs of Norvir per day. The annual cost of this boost  
increased fivefold from \$1,565 to \$7,822. The increase in price is \$6,258 per year. For

Lexiva, which uses only a single 100 milligram tab boost, the annual cost increased from \$782 to \$3,911, an increase in price of \$3,129. On information and belief, for at least one new PI under development, the optimal dose of a Norvir booster is likely to be 400 milligrams per day, for which Abbott would now charge \$15,644, an increase in price of more than \$12 thousand per year.

44. Abbott did not pass on the price increases for Norvir in its own combination therapy, Kaletra. On information and belief, among the boosted combination regimes, Kaletra is now the least expensive. For many patients, Norvir is a medically essential component of six of the seven PIs now used in HAART Treatment. Abbott has effectively raised the price of its rivals' products, giving patients, insurance companies and other payers a compelling economic reason to switch patients to Kaletra, even if it is not the best choice from a medical point of view.

**45. Annual Cost Of Base Protease Inhibitor Plus Norvir Boost**

<i>Base Protease Inhibitor</i>	<i>Presentation</i>	<i>Unit Cost</i>	<i>Units for Base / Units for Norvir Boost</i>	<i>Total Annual Cost</i>
Fortovase	200 mg	\$1.39078	10 / 2	\$12,899
Invirase	200 mg	\$2.49596	10/2	\$16,933
Crixivan	400 mg	\$3.03542	4 / 2	\$12,254
Reyataz*	200 or 150 mg	\$13.80	2 / 1	\$14,065
Lexiva	700 mg	\$10.00	2 / 2	\$15,123
Agenerase	150 mg	\$1.53238	8 / 2	\$12,297
Viracept	250 mg	\$2.5222	10 / no boost	\$9,206
Kaletra	133/33 mg	\$3.90833	6 / already boosted	\$8,559

*\*priced the same for both presentations.*

46. On information and belief, Ritonavir/Norvir has been profitable for Abbott. FDA approval was announced in March 1996. By the end of 2001, Norvir had generated cumulative sales of more than \$1 billion -- more than sixty times the estimated cost of its pre-approval outlays. Securities analysts estimated that, even without a price increase, Norvir would generate more than \$2 billion for Abbott over the next ten years.

47. The substantial public investment in the development of ritonavir decreased

1 both Abbott's cost and the risk associated with the drug's development. Yet, even before  
2 the price increase, Abbott had priced Norvir higher than several standalone PIs, none of  
3 which were invented on a government grant. With the price increase, the cost of Norvir  
4 as a standalone PI skyrocketed to \$46 thousand, three to five times higher than other  
5 standalone PIs that were not invented on a government grant.

6 48. Abbott's pricing of ritonavir is unreasonable, anticompetitive and threatens  
7 the health and safety of people with AIDS.

### 8 The Exploitation Of The Norvir Monopoly

#### 9 In The Combination Therapies

#### 10 (Norvir Boosted) Market

11 49. Abbott has not only willfully acquired and maintained a monopoly over  
12 Norvir, but it has leveraged its monopoly into a monopoly over combination therapies  
13 that use Norvir as a booster, i.e., the Norvir Boosted Market, and, through its  
14 discriminatory pricing described herein, has effectively tied the availability of Norvir to  
15 patients to the purchase of its own derivative product, Kaletra.

16 50. Abbott did not raise the price of its combination therapy, Kaletra (even  
17 though it contains Norvir), when it raised the price of Norvir for all of its competitors in  
18 the Norvir Boosted Market. Instead, Abbott maintains significantly lower prices for  
19 Kaletra than the prices of its competitors' drugs, which confers on Abbott significant  
20 market power to exclude any and all competition for similar combination therapies.

21 51. On information and belief, Abbott's discriminatory application of the price  
22 increase for Norvir to its rivals, without a corresponding increase in the price of Kaletra,  
23 seeks to shift market share in the Norvir Boosted Market to Kaletra, even when Kaletra  
24 may not be the best treatment for certain patients.

### 25 **FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

#### (Monopolization Of Norvir Market)

52. AHF incorporates by reference the allegations set forth above.

53. These actions were taken with the express purpose of acquiring and

1 maintaining an unlawful monopoly in the Norvir Market, as well as controlling prices and  
2 eliminating all competition in that market.

3 54. By the acts and practices recited above, Abbott has monopolized the Norvir  
4 Market in violation of the Sherman Act (15 U.S.C. Section 2) to the detriment and harm  
5 of the public, AHF and those living with HIV in the United States. Abbott has abused its  
6 monopoly position by charging exorbitant, monopolistic prices for Norvir, thereby  
7 limiting the supply of affordable Norvir for the treatment of HIV/AIDS.

8 55. By reason of Abbott's attempt to monopolize and actual monopolization of all  
9 sales in the Norvir Market, AHF has been damaged in at least the following respects:  
10 AHF is forced to purchase Norvir directly from Abbott suppliers at fixed monopolistic  
11 prices. The high price of Norvir is a prime obstacle in fighting AIDS and lessens the  
12 supply of Norvir. As such, it represents a significant public health threat.

13 56. By reason of the continuing nature of these unlawful acts, the financially  
14 uncertain effect thereof, and the ongoing health threat to HIV positive individuals served  
15 by AHF, AHF has no adequate remedy at law, has been irreparably injured, and is  
16 entitled to preliminary and permanent injunctions enjoining defendant from charging  
17 monopolistic prices for Norvir, continuing to eliminate competition in the markets for  
18 Norvir, or otherwise continuing its monopolistic activities.

19 57. By reason of these unlawful monopolistic acts and practices, AHF has  
20 incurred damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

## 21 **SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

### 22 **(Attempted Monopolization Of Norvir Market)**

23 58. AHF incorporates by reference the allegations set forth above.

24 59. By the acts and practices recited above, Abbott has knowingly, willfully and  
25 specifically attempted to monopolize the Norvir Market in violation of the Sherman Act  
(15 U.S.C. Section 2). Abbott's attempt to monopolize the Norvir Market is  
accompanied by a dangerous probability of success as a consequence of the practices  
recited above, all to the detriment and harm of the public, AHF and others in the Norvir  
Market.

1           60. By reason of the continuing nature of the above unlawful acts and the  
2 financially uncertain effect thereof, AHF has no adequate remedy at law, has been  
3 irreparably injured, and is entitled to preliminary and permanent injunctions enjoining the  
4 defendants from charging monopolistic prices to AHF and others in the Norvir Market.

5           61. By reason of the above unlawful monopolistic acts and practices, AHF  
6 has incurred damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

### 7                           **THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

#### 8                                   (Monopolization Of Norvir Boosted Market)

9           62. AHF incorporates by reference the allegations set forth above.

10          63. Abbott's actions were taken with the express purpose of acquiring and  
11 maintaining an unlawful monopoly in the Norvir Boosted Market, as well as controlling  
12 prices and eliminating all competition in that market.

13          64. By the acts and practices recited above, Abbott has monopolized the Norvir  
14 Boosted Market in violation of the Sherman Act (15 U.S.C. Section 2) to the detriment  
15 and harm of the public, AHF and those living with HIV in the United States. Abbott has  
16 abused its monopoly position by charging its rivals in the Norvir Boosted Market  
17 exorbitant, monopolistic prices for Norvir, while not passing the same price increase on  
18 in its own Norvir Boosted therapy, Kaletra.

19          65. By reason of Abbott's attempt to monopolize and actual monopolization of all  
20 sales in the Norvir Boosted Market, AHF has been damaged in at least the following  
21 respects: AHF is forced to purchase Norvir directly from Abbott suppliers at fixed  
22 monopolistic prices when it is needed for Norvir boosted combination therapies. The  
23 high price of Norvir is a prime obstacle in fighting AIDS and lessens the supply of  
24 Norvir. As such, it represents a significant public health threat. Moreover, by effectively  
25 charging monopolistic prices for its rivals' Norvir boosted therapies, but not for its own  
Norvir boosted drug, Kaletra, Abbott is attempting to force AHF, the public, and all those  
offering AIDS-related healthcare to use Kaletra for every patient, even when, medically,  
it may not be the best combination therapy for a particular patient.

        66. By reason of the continuing nature of the above unlawful acts, the financially

1 uncertain effect thereof, and the ongoing health threat to HIV positive individuals served  
2 by AHF, AHF has no adequate remedy at law, has been irreparably injured, and is  
3 entitled to preliminary and permanent injunctions enjoining defendant from charging its  
4 rivals in the Norvir Boosted Markets monopolistic prices for Norvir (having already  
5 eliminated competition in the market for Norvir) while not charging similarly high prices  
6 for its own Norvir Boosted therapy, or otherwise controlling prices, eliminating  
7 competition, or continuing its monopolistic activities in this market.

8 67. By reason of these unlawful monopolistic acts and practices, AHF has  
9 incurred damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

#### 10 **FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

11 (Attempted Monopolization Of The Norvir Boosted Market)

12 68. AHF incorporates by reference the allegations set forth above.

13 69. By the acts and practices recited above, Abbott has knowingly,  
14 willfully and specifically attempted to monopolize the Norvir Boosted Market in  
15 violation of the Sherman Act (15 U.S.C. Section 2). Abbott's attempt to monopolize the  
16 Norvir Boosted Market is accompanied by a dangerous probability of success as a  
17 consequence of the practices recited herein, all to the detriment and harm of the public,  
18 AHF and Abbott's competitors in the Norvir Boosted Market.

19 70. By reason of the continuing nature of the above unlawful acts and the  
20 financially uncertain effect thereof, AHF has no adequate remedy at law, has been  
21 irreparably injured, and is entitled to preliminary and permanent injunctions enjoining  
22 Abbott from charging monopolistic prices for Norvir to its rivals (while maintaining its  
23 own Norvir boosted combination therapy at a much lower price than the resulting prices  
24 for its rivals' products), or otherwise controlling prices or prohibiting competition in the  
25 Norvir Boosted Market, or otherwise continuing monopolistic activities.

71. By reason of these unlawful monopolistic acts and practices, AHF has incurred  
damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

1  
2 **FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

3 (Conspiracy To Restrain Trade In The Norvir Boosted Market)

4 72. AHF incorporates by reference the allegations set forth above.

5 73. Through the acts and practices recited above, Abbott knowingly, willfully  
6 and specifically implemented a tying arrangement to restrain trade in the Norvir Boosted  
7 Market in violation of the Sherman Act (15 U.S.C. Section 1).

8 74. Kaletra, together with all other Norvir boosted combination therapies, is a  
9 separate product from Norvir.

10 75. Through the acts and pricing practices described above, Abbott is effectively  
11 conditioning the availability of Norvir on the sale of its combination therapy, Kaletra, in  
12 which Norvir is already included.

13 76. Abbott's tying arrangement seeks to eliminate competition in the Norvir  
14 Boosted Market to the detriment and harm of the public, AHF and other manufacturers in  
15 the Norvir Boosted Market. As such, it is per se unlawful under Section 1 of the  
16 Sherman Act.

17 77. If Abbott's tying is not per se unlawful, it is unlawful under the rule of  
18 reason, in that the anticompetitive consequences of its conduct outweigh any pro-  
19 competitive effects thereof. AIDS patients for whom Kaletra is not the best medical  
20 choice for the treatment of their virus cannot obtain alternative combination therapies  
21 without paying an exorbitantly higher price for those therapies -- either themselves or  
22 through their healthcare providers or insurance carriers, like AHF -- due to the high price  
23 of Norvir when used as a boosting agent in those therapies. On information and belief,  
24 Abbott's conduct harms its competition in the Norvir Boosted Market (as well as  
25 consumers like AHF) because, due to the high cost of Norvir, manufacturers of Norvir  
boosted therapies can offer their products only at a much higher cost than Abbott's  
Norvir boosted product, Kaletra. This puts the manufacturers of Kaletra-alternatives at a  
significant competitive disadvantage compared to Abbott, and, as a result of this  
restriction of competition among these manufacturers, consumers, healthcare providers

1 and insurance carriers will pay higher prices to obtain alternatives to Kaletra than they  
2 would in a fully competitive market.

3 78. By reason of the continuing nature of these unlawful acts and the financially  
4 uncertain effect thereof, AHF has no adequate remedy at law, has been irreparably  
5 injured, and is entitled to preliminary and permanent injunctions enjoining Abbott from  
6 charging monopolistic prices for Norvir, prohibiting competition in the Norvir Market, or  
7 otherwise continuing monopolistic activities.

8 79. By reason of these unlawful and monopolistic acts and practices, AHF has  
9 incurred damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

### 10 **SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

11 (Violation of Business & Professions Code § 17200 et seq.)

12 80. AHF incorporates by reference the allegations set forth above.

13 81. The specific acts and conduct alleged above constitute “unlawful, unfair or  
14 fraudulent business practice(s)” and accordingly violate California Business &  
15 Professions Code §17000, et seq.

16 82. As a direct and proximate result of these acts, defendant has obtained from  
17 AHF, and continues to hold, ill-gotten gains. These wrongful acts have proximately  
18 caused and will continue to cause AHF substantial injury until this Court enjoins such  
19 conduct.

20 83. AHF is entitled to restitution for the unlawful and unfair business practices  
21 as alleged in this complaint.

22 84. AHF also is entitled to disgorgement of defendant’s ill-gotten gains derived  
23 from their unlawful, unfair, and/or fraudulent business practices in violation of California  
24 Business & Professions Code § 17203.

### 25 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, AHF prays for judgment as follows:

A. That, as to the claims for conspiracy, monopolization and attempted  
monopolization, defendant be found liable for violation of Sections 1 and 2 of the  
Sherman Act, that AHF be awarded its damages according to proof, that amount to be



1 trebled as required by federal law, and that AHF be awarded its reasonable attorneys fees  
2 and costs, as well as appropriate injunctive relief;

3 B. That, as to the claim for unfair business practices, defendant be found liable  
4 for violation of California Business and Professions Code § 17200, and AHF accordingly  
5 be awarded appropriate injunctive relief. Further, as a consequence of the violations, that  
6 defendant be ordered, under Business & Professions Code § 17203, to pay restitution  
7 and/or disgorge all sums defendant has received as a result of its violations of the unfair  
8 competition laws;

9 C. That AHF have entered in its favor preliminary and permanent injunctive  
10 relief enjoining defendant from:

11 1) Fixing prices for the life saving antiretroviral drugs  
12 described herein at levels beyond the reasonable financial  
13 reach of the HIV infected public; and

14 2) Acting to hinder or eliminate free competition in the  
15 markets for the life saving antiretroviral drugs described  
16 herein; and

17 3) Further acts of unfair competition;

18 D. That AHF be awarded pre-judgment interest at the legally allowable rate on  
19 all amounts owed;

20 E. That AHF be awarded attorneys' fees incurred herein as allowed  
21 by law; and

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1 F. Such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

2  
3 Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2004

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7 Tom Myers, SBN 176008  
Katharine Sabich-Robison, SBN 183234  
8 AIDS Healthcare Foundation  
6255 West Sunset Boulevard, 21st Floor  
9 Los Angeles, CA 90028  
Ph: (323) 860-5259  
10 Fax: (323) 462-6869  
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