

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

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HOPEWELL PHARMA VENTURES, LLC,  
Petitioner

v.

MERCK SERONO SA,  
Patent Owner

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Case IPR2023-00481  
U.S. Patent No. 8,377,903

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**PETITIONER'S REQUEST FOR ORAL ARGUMENT**

***Mail Stop "PATENT BOARD"***  
Patent Trial and Appeal Board  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Pursuant to the Board’s September 22, 2023 Scheduling Order (Paper 11), Petitioner Hopewell Pharma Ventures, LLC (“Petitioner”), respectfully requests oral argument, currently scheduled for June 25, 2024. Counsel for Petitioner has met and conferred with Counsel for Patent Owner Merck Serono SA (“Patent Owner”), and the Parties have agreed to request a consolidated oral argument for related proceedings IPR2023-00480 (U.S. Patent No. 7,713,947) and IPR2023-00481 (U.S. Patent No. 8,377,903). Petitioner requests one hour in which to present its arguments, subject to any additional time allowed for participation in the LEAP program. Under 37 C.F.R. § 42.70, and without intending to waive any issue not specifically identified, Petitioner specifies the following issues to be argued:

1. The unpatentability of claims 36, 38, 39, and 41–46 of U.S. Patent No. 7,713,947 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Bodor and Stelmasiak (IPR2023-00480);
2. The unpatentability of claims 17, 19, 20, and 22–27 of U.S. Patent No. 8,377,903 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Bodor and Stelmasiak (IPR2023-00481);
3. Any issues specified by Patent Owner in its Request for Oral Argument;  
and
4. Any other issues the Board deems necessary for issuing a final written

decision (e.g., any motion to exclude evidence and any motion to seal evidence).

Petitioner also requests that the Board provide audio-visual equipment to display demonstrative exhibits, including a projector and screen for displaying documents from a computer.

Further, Petitioner requests that the hearing be held at the USPTO's Alexandria, Virginia office because that location will be more convenient, have simpler logistics, and be less costly for Petitioner. Petitioner notes that its Counsel are located in the Washington, DC area. Petitioner also notes that Counsel for Patent Owner also maintains an office in the Washington, DC area.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX PLLC

/Eldora L. Ellison/

Eldora L. Ellison, Ph.D., Esq.  
Registration No. 39,967  
Lead Attorney for Petitioner

Date: May 10, 2024

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE (37 C.F.R. § 42.6(e))**

I certify that the above-captioned **PETITIONER'S REQUEST FOR ORAL ARGUMENT** was served in its entirety on May 10, 2024, upon the following parties via electronic mail:

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Respectfully submitted,

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/Eldora L. Ellison/

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Date: May 10, 2024

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