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FILED

APR 06 2026

GRIGOR A. PISCOWITZ, J.R.O.

MARY ANN SOTOMAYOR
AND ALEX SOTOMAYOR,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

ETHICON, INC., ETHICON WOMEN'S
HEALTH AND UROLOGY, a Division of
ETHICON, INC., GYNECARE, JOHNSON &
JOHNSON, and JOHN DOES 1-20 (fictitious),
and JANE DOE CORPORATIONS 21-40,

Defendants.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
LAW DIVISION – BERGEN COUNTY
DOCKET NO. BER-L-5107-23 MCL

MASTER DOCKET NO. BER-L-011575-14

CIVIL ACTION
In re Pelvic Mesh/Gynecare Litigation
Case No. 291

**TEMPORARY ORDER TO STAY CASE AND
EXTEND DEADLINES**

THIS MATTER, having been brought before the Court Defendants Ethicon, Inc. and Johnson & Johnson, through their counsel Riker Danzig LLP, and for good cause shown;

IT IS ON THIS 5TH day of APRIL, 2026; **ORDERED**, that this matter shall no longer be subject to the deadlines entered by this Court on January 12, 2026. The updated deadlines are as follows:

I. DISCOVERY DEADLINES

- A. The Parties agree there is good cause to stay this case for 60 days until April 15, 2026.
- B. Except as otherwise governed by CMOs 95 (regarding friends/family) and 97 (regarding sales reps), any outstanding fact discovery will be completed by *May 15, 2026*.

C. Expert Discovery

- (i) Plaintiffs are to advise Defendants by *May 8, 2026*, which expert will be conducting the IME and whether a pelvic exam will be performed.
- (ii) Plaintiffs are to provide Defendants with possible dates between *June 5, 2026*, and *June 26, 2026*, when the plaintiff can travel for a DME to be conducted by Defendants' experts by *June 26, 2026*. Defendants will then send plaintiffs' counsel an email confirming the name of the defense expert, his or her qualifications, the location, date and time of the DME. This information will then be formalized in a Notice for DME that complies with the New Jersey Court Rules. If Plaintiff objects to any aspect of the proposed DME, those objections can be raised with the Court by letter if there is no resolution after meeting and conferring with Defendants.
- (iii) Plaintiff expert report(s) shall be served by *June 5, 2026*. If Plaintiffs fail to serve all expert reports by the deadline without having obtained prior leave of the Court, the case may be dismissed with prejudice.
- (iv) Defense expert reports shall be served by *July 10, 2026*.
- (v) Parties shall make best efforts to complete all necessary plaintiff expert depositions by *August 7, 2026*, and all necessary defense expert depositions by *September 11, 2026*. Plaintiff's experts will not be deposed until after receipt of the defense expert reports and the notes of all DME's. Defense expert depositions will not be conducted until after completion of plaintiff expert depositions.
- (vi) Expert discovery shall be completed by *September 11, 2026*.

D. Pre-Trial Motions

- (i) Pretrial motions other than *in limine* (dispositive, Kemp/ Accutane) shall be served by *October 9, 2026*. Consistent with the practice in this MCL, the original motion papers shall be submitted directly to the trial judge's chambers. Only Notices of Motion and Forms of Order shall be submitted for filing with the Clerk's office (either via JEDS or in hard copy).
- (ii) Oppositions to pre-trial motions shall be filed and served by *October 30, 2026*.
- (iii) Replies shall be filed and served by *November 13, 2026*.
- (iv) Oral argument on pre-trial motions and any remaining outstanding disputed deposition designations shall commence on **[To be determined by later order of the Court]**, continuing day to day as necessary.

- (v) The court shall issue rulings on pretrial motions and any outstanding deposition designation disputes that impact opening statements, or other such issues that must be resolved prior to opening statements by no later than **[To be determined by later order of the Court]**.

Any case that fails to meet any of the deadlines for discovery in this order without good cause or consent of the opposing party shall not be considered a candidate for the next trial setting.



HON. GREGG A. PADOVANO, J.S.C.

CONSENTED TO AS TO FORM AND ENTRY:

By: /s/ Esther Berezofsky¹

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Dated: March 30, 2026

By: /s/ Kelly S. Crawford¹

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Dated: March , 2026

¹ Pursuant to the New Jersey Supreme Court Omnibus Order on Covid-19 issues on March 27, 2020, "The provisions of Rule 1:32-2A (c) and all other Court Rules requiring original signatures on filings are relaxed and supplemented so as to permit electronic signatures to be used in all filing processes temporarily authorized to be used during COVID-19 crisis, including, but not limited to emergency applications, submitted by email and hardcopy submissions in dockets without an approved electronic filing system..."