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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA



IN RE: Bard Implanted Port Catheter Products Liability Litigation

MDL No. 3081

CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER NO. 16

(Joint Records Collection)

Based upon the stipulation and agreement of the parties, it is hereby **ORDERED** as follows:

- 1. The parties to this litigation have jointly agreed to use The Marker Group, Inc. ("Marker") to collect medical, insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, prescription, Social Security, workers' compensation, and employment records for individual plaintiffs from third-parties designated as custodians for such records by Plaintiffs or Defendants C. R. Bard, Inc., Becton Dickinson and Company, Bard Access Systems, Inc. and Bard Peripheral Vascular, Inc. ("Defendants").
- 2. All plaintiffs who are included in the PFS/DFS Group of the Bellwether process (as set forth in Case Management Order No. 10) must complete, date, and execute the agreed-upon forms of party authorizations attached to this Order as Exhibit A (the "Authorizations"). Those plaintiffs may not object to the form, execution, or issuance of the Authorizations. In completing the authorizations, the individual plaintiff shall authorize production of records from the date five years prior to implant for all records described in the Authorizations.

- 3. Each Plaintiff required to execute Authorizations under this Order must provide the original completed and executed Authorizations to Marker on the date that his or her Plaintiff Fact Sheet ("PFS") is due to be served on Defendants. Each Plaintiff must also serve copies of the same to Defendants with his or her PFS.
- 4. If a custodian to whom an Authorization is presented refuses to provide records in response to the Authorization, Marker will notify the parties (in accordance with its vendor agreement with the parties). The individual plaintiff's attorney shall attempt to resolve the issue with the custodian, such that the necessary records are promptly provided. To the extent any custodian requires a release other than the Authorizations, the individual plaintiff whose records are sought must complete the custodian-specific authorization form within ten (10) days after it has been provided by Marker or Defendants unless he or she objects to the form. If the individual plaintiff objects to the custodian-specific form, the parties shall meet and confer in an effort to resolve the objection.
- 5. Marker will send all custodians from whom records are sought the form of certificate of acknowledgment attached as Exhibit B (the "Acknowledgement"). The Acknowledgement will serve as evidence of authenticity and satisfy the requirements of authentication under Federal Rule of Evidence 901(a). All other evidentiary objections are preserved, and any party retains the right to offer proof that the certified documents are not complete or are otherwise inaccurate.
- 6. Marker will obtain records and host them in a secure database, accessible to Plaintiffs and Defendants, according to the parties' vendor agreement with Marker. Any party may request any of ancillary services from Marker at its own expense.
- 7. Upon receipt of records and placement into the secure database, Marker will notify designated individuals for Plaintiffs and Defendants (via email) that documents have been posted for Plaintiffs' review on Marker's website. Plaintiffs shall have seven (7) calendar days after such notice from Marker (the "Review Grace Period") to review records for privilege and compliance with the applicable date range for the records. During the Review Grace Period, Plaintiffs will identify any documents for which they claim a

- privilege exists or that fall outside of the applicable date range for the records. In the event that Plaintiffs' counsel in good faith finds that the volume or content of the documents posted cannot be sufficiently reviewed within the Review Grace Period, Plaintiffs will notify Defendants and Marker, within the applicable Review Grace Period, of a request for extension of time to review the documents. Thereafter, the parties will meet and confer regarding Plaintiffs' request for an extension. If the parties are unable to agree, Plaintiffs will apply to the Court for relief during the Review Grace Period. Such application shall extend the Review Grace Period until resolution by the Court.
- 8. Prior to the end of the Review Grace Period, Plaintiffs will notify Defendants and Marker if they contend that there are privileged documents within the group or that there are documents that fall outside of the applicable date range for the records.
- 9. Absent notification by Plaintiffs to Marker of a claimed privilege, agreement to extend the Review Grace Period, or a request for relief made to the Court within the Review Grace Period, Marker will automatically make the documents accessible to Defendants on the day after the Review Grace Period ends.
- 10. If Plaintiffs notify Defendants of a privilege claim, Plaintiffs' counsel will produce to Defendants, via email, a privilege log identifying the documents as to which privilege is asserted, the bases for the claimed privilege, and whether Plaintiffs will be producing redacted versions of any of the documents within five (5) business days of the notice. Plaintiffs will contemporaneously produce to Marker any redacted documents and instruct Marker in writing to either make the redacted documents available to both parties on Marker's website or to withhold from Defendants the entire set or portion of records based upon Plaintiffs' claim of privilege until further notice.
- 11. In the event that Plaintiffs inadvertently fail to claim a legal privilege they contend attaches to any record, Plaintiffs shall request a clawback of those documents by Defendants, meet and confer with Defendants counsel regarding those documents and, if the parties agree, direct Marker to destroy the designated records.

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- 12. If Plaintiffs notify Defendants of a claim that certain documents fall outside of the applicable date range for the records, Plaintiffs' counsel will produce to Defendants, via email, a log identifying all such documents (including their dates). Plaintiffs will contemporaneously instruct Marker in writing to withhold those documents from Defendants until further notice based upon Plaintiffs' claim that they fall outside of the applicable date range for such records.
- 13. The parties will meet and confer on any claims that documents are privileged or fall outside of the applicable date range for the records, and if not resolved, place a joint call to the Court to seek resolution of the issue.
- 14. Defendants will pay the total costs associated with records collection from each custodian, including the records-copying and provision charges from the custodians and Marker's collection service fees. Plaintiffs may download collected records from the repository by paying Marker's fees for a copy of those records without contributing to the costs incurred by Defendants to obtain the records from custodians. In the event that Defendants believe that Plaintiffs' downloading of records exceeds that which the parties contemplated in agreeing to this Order, Defendants may meet and confer with Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel. If the parties cannot resolve the dispute, they shall contact the Court on how to resolve the issue.
- 15. Any party may choose to discontinue the use of the joint vendor, Marker, at any time upon thirty (30) days' notice to the other parties and the Court. The parties shall promptly confer about the withdrawing party's decision and the solution for continued records collection in the MDL, and shall, within ten (10) days of the withdrawal, notify the Court of the agreed-upon solution or seek the Court's assistance if no agreement is reached. The withdrawing party will remain responsible for the costs of any records ordered prior to the withdrawal to the extent otherwise required by this Order.

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Each party retains the right to issue subpoenas and to employ other means 16. for discovery if required by any custodian to obtain records. Dated this 8th day of March, 2024.

David G. Camplell

David G. Campbell Senior United States District Judge