UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO WESTERN DIVISION

IN RE: : Case No. <u>C-1-91-256</u>

:

BOWLING-PFIZER LITIGATION : Judge Herman J. Weber,

: Senior Judge

TWENTY-EIGHTH REPORT OF THE SPECIAL MASTER/TRUSTEE

To the Honorable Herman J. Weber, Senior Judge, United States District Court:

Your Special Master/Trustee respectfully presents his twenty-eighth periodic report, covering activities from November 15, 2007 to April 2, 2008. This report is submitted fifteen days prior to the status hearing before the Court scheduled for April 17, 2008.

I. TRUSTEES

Your Special Master/Trustee, Peter J. Strauss, Esq., sadly reports to the Court that the Honorable Robert L. Black, Jr., passed away on February 7, 2008.

II. PATIENT BENEFIT FUND

A. <u>Supervisory Panel.</u> The patient studies with the ACES device at The Ohio State University have been concluded and a final report was received in May, 2007. The imaging and acoustics committee was favorably impressed with the ACES work and has made a recommendation to the full panel for continued studies. The panel has considered the results of the ACES work and agrees that there is sufficient promise in the technology to pursue additional work. A ten-week research project proposal for ACES to study BSCC heart valve sound

recordings made on patients who participated in the imaging studies at Stanford, Beaumont and Glasgow was recently recommended by the panel. The panel is also considering a short-term study by Michigan State University to complete in-vitro examination of the valve which had been implanted in a sheep at BioSurg, but was mis-classified.

With regard to BioQuantetics, Dr. Edmond Rambod reported that the clinical trials at Cedars Sinai Medical Center were completed. The trials were done without the sponsorship or funding of the Trustees. Dr. Rambod has informed the panel that he will complete a report and will send the panel a summary. Efforts by the panel to obtain this report have been unsuccessful.

The panel has been working with Pfizer and Medic Alert in an effort to see if it is possible for Medic Alert to expand its services to other countries. To date, the discussions are ongoing and it has not yet been determined if this expansion can be accomplished.

- B. <u>Guidelines.</u> Drs. Harrison, Ibrahim and Ivey regularly monitor the pertinent world-wide literature and review reported events occurring to class members to ensure that any issues which may impact the guidelines are detected and considered by the full panel.
- C. <u>Research.</u> Our report on the status of the research program of the Supervisory Panel is set out in the attached Appendix 1.
- D. <u>Imaging.</u> Since the imaging program at Penn State resumed again, effective April 26, 2005, there have been ten imaging sessions for six implantees who may qualify for valve replacement surgery. One implantee was imaged three times and two implantees were imaged two times during this period.
- E. <u>Repository.</u> The Supervisory Panel maintains a publicly accessible repository of certain documents and information concerning the BSCC heart valve. The repository contains hard copy printouts of various items including, but not limited to, certain reports on the status and results of research sponsored by the Supervisory Panel, minutes of meetings of the

Supervisory Panel, a bibliography of published literature regarding the BSCC heart valves, certain unpublished reports prepared by Dr. Ron Brookmeyer of his statistical analysis, the <u>Bowling</u> Settlement Agreement, and other information. The repository is currently located at the Trustees' office.

In addition, the Trustees have made many of the documents in the repository available electronically in a database. Some of the information, such as published articles, however are not available for review on line due to copyright and other intellectual property concerns. The repository is currently being updated. To access the on-line repository, once it is updated, an individual need only contact the Trustees' office for the website address and a password.

F. Website. The Supervisory Panel's website continues to be found at www.bowling-pfizer.com. It provides basic information on the parties involved (biographies, addresses, telephone numbers, email, etc.), certain orders of the Court including the 2007 Guidelines, the Settlement Agreement, Trustee Reports and a bibliography of relevant articles as well as other important information. The panel recently completed work on a summary of key studies which is intended to provide a more user-friendly bibliography. The user-friendly bibliography will be added to the website soon. A copy of the most recent "hit report" of the Supervisory Panel's website is attached to this Report as Appendix 2.

G. <u>Valve Replacement Surgery Claims and Fracture Claims</u>.

The Claims Administrator continues to receive and process claims for valve replacement surgery and outlet strut fracture. Some of the claimants have elected other courses of action rather than to receive the Settlement benefits.

Since the date of the last Trustees' report on November 15, 2007, Pfizer Inc paid \$820,000 for qualifying strut fracture benefits for two claims processed by the Claims Administrator. These benefit payments relate to claims for outlet strut fractures that occurred

prior to November 15, 2007. Also, since the last Trustees' report there has been confirmation of the occurrence of a single leg fracture of the outlet strut of one BSCC heart valve.

From the beginning there have been 98 (74 foreign) qualified outlet strut fracture claims and 99 (39 foreign) qualified valve replacement surgery claims other than single leg fracture claims. In addition, there have been 39 (16 foreign) single leg fracture claims.

The office of the Claims Administrator continues to fulfill requests to calculate estimated annual fracture rates under the 2007 Guidelines and to respond to other inquiries from and on behalf of Class Members.

III. <u>FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u>

At February 29, 2008, the total balance of cash and cash equivalents was \$22,656,581. This amount takes into account net interest earned from January 28, 1992 through February 29, 2008 in the aggregate amount of \$26,709,979.

Attached as Appendix 3 are the following: an unaudited balance sheet as of February 29, 2008 and an unaudited statement of income and funds balance for the two months ended February 29, 2008 (which includes the budgeted amounts for expenses for the administrative office for the period January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008).

Attached as Appendix 4 are the following: an unaudited balance sheet as of December 31, 2007 and an unaudited statement of income and funds balance for the year ended December 31, 2007 (which includes the budgeted amounts for expenses for the administrative office for the year ended December 31, 2007.)

IV. <u>COMMUNICATIONS</u>

Communications remain open, whether with physicians, Class Members, other BSCC heart valve implantees, Class Counsel, Special Counsel, Defendant's Counsel, or Counsel for Public Citizen.

V. <u>APPROVALS</u>

Your honor, the Special Master/Trustee requests that the Court:

- Approve this Report, and
- Approve, or provide guidance with respect to, each of the Appendices to this Report, and
- Provide guidance with respect to any duty of the Special Master/Trustee, and
- Fix the date for the next Report.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter J. Strauss, Esq.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of this Twenty-Eighth Report of the Special Master/Trustee Covering Period from November 15, 2007 to April 2, 2008, has been electronically sent to the following this ______________________________:

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/s/ Nancy A. Lawson
Nancy A. Lawson

APPENDIX 1

Trustees for the Bowling-Pfizer Heart Valve Settlement Funds Supervisory Panel Research Projects Initiated After January 31, 2005

Cantinuina Quantina		_			Billed		er 2/29/2008
Continuing Operation Plan Future Projects	Termination Date	Projected	ontract Amoi	unts Savings	Through 2/29/2008	Committed Unbilled	Completed Cost Savings
		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,			2,20,2000	Oliphica	OUST CAVILIES
Committed							
Michigan State University EMAT System Sheep Study EMAT System Testing	11/12/2006 6/30/2005	\$1,000,000 40,000 30,000	\$982,686 35,125 30,000	•	\$361,597 34,547	` `	\$621,089 578 30,000
D' 0							,
BioQuantetics Ultrasound Burst-Spect. April 2005 Interim Funding January 2006 Interim Fund. March 2006 Addendum December 2006 Order	12/31/2005 4/30/2005 1/31/2006 4/30/2006 9/28/2006	600,000	589,928 25,535 50,827 181,950 280,008	10,072 (25,535) (50,827) (181,950) (280,008)	579,365 24,918 50,818 168,890 230,008		10,563 617 9 13,060 50,000
ACES Passive Accoustics	8/31/2005		5,259	(5,259)	5,259		
UCSD Maintain Research Sheep			21,809	(21,809)	21,809		
Cleveland Clinic & STS Guidelines Data		20,000	68,044	(48,044)	68,044		
BioSurg		100,000	230,120	(130,120)	176,107		54,013
International Epidem. Inst.			35,000	(35,000)	25,487		9,513
Hershey Imaging		79,831	79,831		79,831		
ACES Passive Accoustics First Addendum	1/31/2007	500,000	499,675 6,394	325 (6,394)	499,675 6,394	(3)	
Guidelines Notification		192,419	192,419		192,419		
Total		\$2,562,250	\$3,314,610	(\$752,361)	\$2,525,168		\$789,442
Not Yet Committed							
Hershey Imaging		80,169	(1)	Savings listed	includes the	purchase of ed	quipment from
Pilot Test		262,250		the Trustees by Tech (\$1,450)	/ Michigan S	tate (\$13,000)	and Sonic
Testing Center		1,597,500	(2)	Savings listed i			
Guidelines Notification Total	-	207,581 \$2,147,500	(3)	Quantetics (\$20 Professional dis			•
Total	=	\$4,709,750					

APPENDIX 2

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German Guidelines - 15 times Notice to BSCC Patients - 14 times	2003 Guidelines - 23 times Precautions - 19 (mes	Sememen - 34 mes Update - 31 times Pamphlet - 27 times
Update - 14 times Precautions 14 times 279	Notice of Filing of 23rd Report - 18 times Settlement 77 times 331	Precautions - 23 times Class/Letter 2003 - 23 times 412
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Altadena, CA Stamford, CT Bothocol MD	Cincinnati OH Bethesda MD	Cincinnati, OH Altadena, CA
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Date Printed: 3/27/2008

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November 2007	2135 71 71 6.13.13 5.56 4.2.1% 88.7.5%	499; 276 223	2007 Cuidelines - 35 limes Amended 2003 - 34 times Settlement - 32 times	Update - 31 times Pamphlet: 27 times Precautions - 23 times No		Mountain View, CA	Cincinnati, OH Alfadena, GA Reston, VA	United States Singapore	France Germany China	Seychelles Swizerland
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Average Visit Length	13.13	15,22	9.03
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US Visits	4.4-1/0 88.75%	2.03%	2.34%
Unknown Origin Visits	7.02%	3,02%	03.03%
Unique Visitors	400	710	716
One-Time Visitors	276	237	750
Multiple-Time Visitors	223	88)	208
Top.Downloads	2007.Guidelines - 35 times	Settlement-30 limes	* Pamphlet - 46 times
	Amended 2003 - 34 times	Pamphlet - 27 times	Amended 2003 - 40 times
	F Settlement - 32 times	19th Report - 27 times	Section (Update - 37 times
	Update - 31 times	Guidelines - Final - 23 times	Doctor Letter 2003 - 37 times
	Pamphlet = 27 times,	Precautions - 22 limes	A Class Letter 2003 - 34 times
	_	Notice to BSCC patients - 21 times	Settlement - 30 times
	Jass Letter 2003 – 23 times	Summary 2003 - 20 limes	Notice to BSC@ Patients - 28 times
otal Downloads	412	397	548
Top Visitors Locations	Mountain View, CA	Mountain View, CA	Mountain View, CA
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	Cincinnati, OH	Reston, VA	Reston, VA
	Altadena, CA	Cincinnati; OH	* Altadena, CA
	Reston, VA	Altadena, CA	Stamford, CT
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e de la companya de l	France	Germany	Canada
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	China	Seychelles	Poland
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APPENDIX 3

TRUSTEES FOR THE BOWLING-PFIZER HEART VALVE SETTLEMENT FUNDS

BALANCE SHEET

AS OF FEBRUARY 29, 2008

UNAUDITED

ASSETS

CASH	\$	129,257
U.S. TREASURY BILLS		22,527,324
OTHER ASSETS		5,976
	<u>\$</u>	22,662,557
LIABILITIES AND FUNDS BALANCE		
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED EXPENSES	\$	89,869
FUNDS BALANCE		22,572,688

<u>\$ 22,662,557</u>

TRUSTEES FOR THE BOWLING-PFIZER HEART VALVE SETTLEMENT FUNDS

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND FUNDS BALANCE

FOR THE TWO MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 29, 2008

UNAUDITED

INVESTMENT INTEREST INCOME	\$ 143,555
RESEARCH PROGRAMS - COSTS	65
LITIGATION ATTORNEYS - FEES & EXPENSES	33,545
EXPENSES:	
Supervisory Panel Trustees' fees and expenses Professional fees Administrative office	24,445(1) 3,045 27,408 98,732(1)
Total	153,630
NET CHANGE IN FUNDS BALANCE	(43,685)
FUNDS BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 2007	22,616,373
FUNDS BALANCE, FEBRUARY 29, 2008	<u>\$ 22,572,688</u>

^{(1) -} See Schedule 1 herewith.

TRUSTEES FOR THE BOWLING-PFIZER HEART VALVE SETTLEMENT FUNDS

SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES UNAUDITED

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	
	1/1/08-12/31/08	1/1/08- 2/29	/08
SUPERVISORY PANEL:			
Panel members' compensation Miscellaneous		\$ 23,40 1,04	
Total		\$ 24,44	<u>5</u>
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE:			
Rents	\$ 68,000	\$ 11,64	1
Office payroll	413,000	65,39	
Payroll taxes	28,000	9,66	7
Other employee benefits	76,000	11,23	4
Outside services	12,000	3	8
Printing and postage	6,000	30	7
General insurance	3,000		
Telephone	9,000	1,54	1
Office supplies and expense	6,000	21	5
Miscellaneous	6,000	10:	1
Administrative services incom	e <u>(5,000</u>)	(1,40	<u>9</u>)
Total	\$ 622,000	\$ 98,73	<u>2</u>

APPENDIX 4

TRUSTEES FOR THE BOWLING-PFIZER HEART VALVE SETTLEMENT FUNDS

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND FUNDS BALANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

UNAUDITED

INVESTMENT INTEREST INCOME	\$ 1,131,800
RESEARCH PROGRAMS - COSTS	25,567
LITIGATION ATTORNEYS - FEES & EXPENSES	369,175
EXPENSES:	
Supervisory Panel Trustees' fees and expenses Professional fees Administrative office Notification expenses	339,959(1) 34,083 134,966 877,327(1) 192,419
Total	1,578,754
NET CHANGE IN FUNDS BALANCE	(841,696)
FUNDS BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 2006	23,458,069(2)
FUNDS BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 2007	\$ 22,616,373

- (1) See Schedule 1 herewith.
- (2) This amount is different than the balance in the audited financial statements due to accruing certain expenses on the unaudited financial statements to more currently reflect the financial condition of the Settlement Funds.

TRUSTEES FOR THE BOWLING-PFIZER HEART VALVE SETTLEMENT FUNDS

SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES UNAUDITED

	BUDGET 1/1/07-12/31/07	ACTUAL 1/1/07-12/31/07	
SUPERVISORY PANEL:			
Panel members' compensation		\$	290,720
Consultants' compensation		•	35,694
Travel and incidental expense	S		4,498
Miscellaneous			9,047
Total		\$	339,959
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE:			
Rents	\$ 68,000	\$	64,208
Office payroll	457,000		456,280
Payroll taxes	25,000		22,489
Pension plan	220,000		220,000
Other employee benefits	95,000		95,808
Outside services	12,000		10,225
Printing and postage	6,000		2,845
General insurance	3,000		853
Telephone	9,000		6,890
Office supplies and expense	6,000		3,172
Miscellaneous	6,000		552
Administrative services incom	e <u>(5,000</u>)		(5,995)
Total	<u>\$ 902,000</u>	\$	877,327

TRUSTEES FOR THE BOWLING-PFIZER HEART VALVE SETTLEMENT FUNDS

BALANCE SHEET

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2007

UNAUDITED

ASSETS

CASH	\$	348,259
U.S. TREASURY BILLS	22	,384,957
OTHER ASSETS	#****·	5,976
	\$ 22	<u>,739,192</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUNDS BALANCE		
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED EXPENSES	\$	122,819
FUNDS BALANCE	22	,616,373

\$ 22,739,192