

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 21, 2015

Mr. Martin Shkreli
Chief Executive Officer
Turing Pharmaceuticals LLC
1177 Avenue of the Americas, 39th Floor
New York, NY 10036

Dear Mr. Shkreli:

We are conducting an investigation into the recent price increase for the drug Daraprim (pyrimethamine), which is used to treat a potentially life-threatening parasitic infection. As part of this investigation, we are writing to your company to request information about the price it charges for this drug and information on restrictions in product distribution.

Turing Pharmaceuticals LLC recently purchased pyrimethamine from Impax Laboratories. According to press reports, your company increased the price for this drug from \$13.50 a tablet to \$750 a tablet.¹ This dramatic price increase will have a direct impact on patients' ability to purchase their needed medications.

According to a letter to Turing Pharmaceuticals from the Infectious Diseases Society of America and the HIV Medicine Association, "in mid-August, after Turing purchased pyrimethamine, the price of the medication increased by 5000 percent in hospital pharmacies around the country with no justification for an increase of this magnitude for a medication approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in 1953."² The letter continues, "Under the current pricing structure, it is estimated that the annual cost of treatment for toxoplasmosis, for the pyrimethamine component alone, will be \$336,000 for patients who weigh less than 60 kilograms and \$634,500 for patients who weigh more than 60 kilograms. This cost is unjustifiable for the medically vulnerable patient population in need of this medication and unsustainable for the health care system."

¹*Drug Goes From \$13.50 a Tablet to \$750, Overnight*, New York Times (Sept. 20, 2015).

² Letter from Stephen B. Calderwood, President, Infectious Diseases Society of America and Adaora Adimora, Chair, HIV Medicine Association, to Tom Evegan and Kevin Bernier, Turing Pharmaceuticals LLC (Sept. 8, 2015) (online at <http://www.hivma.org/uploadedFiles/HIVMA/HomePageContent/PyrimethamineLetterFINAL.pdf>).

In order to evaluate the underlying causes of this price increase, we request that you provide the following documents and information:

- (1) total gross revenues from the company's sales of this drug;
- (2) the dates, quantities, purchasers, and prices paid for all sales of this drug;
- (3) total expenses relating to the sales of this drug, as well as the specific amounts for manufacturing, marketing and advertising, and purchases of active pharmaceutical ingredients, if applicable;
- (3) sales contracts or purchase agreements for active pharmaceutical ingredients for this drug, including any agreements relating to exclusivity, if applicable;
- (4) sales contracts or distribution agreements for the sale of this drug;
- (5) a description and valuation of the specific financial and non-financial factors that contributed to your company's decisions to increase the price of this drug;
- (6) any cost estimates, profit projections, or other analyses relating to the company's current and future sales of this drug;
- (7) prices of this drug in all foreign countries or markets, including price information for the countries paying the highest and lowest price; and
- (8) information regarding the company's product distribution policies, including information on all restrictions on product distribution;
- (9) the identity of company official(s) responsible for setting the price of this drug.

Please provide the requested documents and information by October 9, 2015.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Sophie Kasimow with Ranking Member Sanders' staff at (202) 224-5141 or Kelly Christl with Ranking Member Cummings' staff at (202) 225-5051. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Representative Elijah E. Cummings
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
United States House of Representatives



Senator Bernard Sanders
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Primary Health and
Retirement Security
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and
Pensions
United States Senate

cc: The Honorable Jason Chaffetz
Chairman, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform