

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to Article VI, Section 2 of the Minnesota State Constitution, Minn. R. Civ. P. 42.01 and Minn. Stat. §§ 2.724 and 325D.57:

1. All cases involving allegations of antitrust violations in the market for vitamins that are presently pending in the District courts of this state, including DeNardi v. F. Hoffman-La Roche, et al., No. 99-3123, Hennepin County, Murr v. F. Hoffman-La Roche, et al., No. 19-C9-99-9673, Dakota County, Custom Nutrition, Inc. v. F. Hoffman-La Roche, et al., No. 34-C4-99-01274 (DMS), Kandiyohi County, Big Valley Milling v. F. Hoffman-La Roche, et al., No. C1-99-405, Chippewa County, shall be consolidated in the Fourth Judicial District.
2. All subsequently filed actions involving allegations of antitrust violations in connection with the alleged conspiracy to fix prices, allocate markets, and otherwise violate The Minnesota Antitrust Act in the market for vitamins, shall be transferred and consolidated with all other such actions in the Fourth Judicial District.
3. The Honorable Deborah Hedlund is hereby appointed to preside over the consolidated and future filed vitamin actions and shall manage said litigation in accordance with the goal of avoiding duplicative recovery in indirect purchaser actions, as provided in Minn. Stat. § 325D.57.
4. To facilitate the identification, management and consolidation of these cases, all documents served and filed in the cases affected by this order from the date of this order shall bear the general case caption "In re Minnesota Vitamin Antitrust Litigation."

Dated: November ____, 1999

BY THE COURT

Kathleen Anne Blatz
Chief Justice