

# Not Clearly Abusive to Assert a Patent Under the New PM(NOC) Regulations After a Loss Pursuant to the Old Regulations

October 25, 2018

## Amgen Inc. v. Pfizer Canada Inc., 2018 FC 1078

In the within action, Pfizer sought to have the proceeding dismissed due to Amgen's prior losses in asserting the 537 Patent under the old PM(NOC) Regulations. Amgen had commenced this action under the new PM(NOC) Regulations, seeking to prevent Pfizer from obtaining its Notice of Compliance for a biosimilar of Amgen's NEUPOGEN.

In three prior proceedings under the old PM(NOC) Regulations, Amgen asserted the 537 Patent in applications against Apotex (twice) and Mylan. In the first Apotex application, the Court found the allegations of obviousness were justified. The second proceeding against Apotex was dismissed as an abuse of process. The application against Mylan was discontinued after Mylan advised that it intended to bring a motion to dismiss the application as an abuse of process.

Pfizer, arguing it could rely on the findings of the earlier applications, brought a motion to have the action dismissed under section 6.08 of the PM(NOC) Regulations as an abuse of process.

The Court declined to dismiss the action. The earlier applications only determined whether the second person's allegations were justified. The validity and/or infringement of the patent was not conclusively determined. Since the new PM(NOC) Regulations allow for patent issues to be adjudicated on a full record with a right of appeal, it was not found to be plain and obvious that the within action should be dismissed.

Expertise

[Intellectual Property](#), [Copyright](#), [Industrial Design](#), [Licensing](#), [Patents](#), [Trademarks](#)

---

## BLG | Canada's Law Firm

As the largest, truly full-service Canadian law firm, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (BLG) delivers practical legal advice for domestic and international clients across more practices and industries than any Canadian firm. With over 800 lawyers, intellectual property agents and other professionals, BLG serves the legal needs of businesses and institutions across Canada and beyond – from M&A and capital markets, to disputes, financing, and trademark & patent registration.

[blg.com](http://blg.com)

### BLG Offices

#### Calgary

Centennial Place, East Tower  
520 3rd Avenue S.W.  
Calgary, AB, Canada  
T2P 0R3  
  
T 403.232.9500  
F 403.266.1395

#### Ottawa

World Exchange Plaza  
100 Queen Street  
Ottawa, ON, Canada  
K1P 1J9  
  
T 613.237.5160  
F 613.230.8842

#### Vancouver

1200 Waterfront Centre  
200 Burrard Street  
Vancouver, BC, Canada  
V7X 1T2  
  
T 604.687.5744  
F 604.687.1415

#### Montréal

1000 De La Gauchetière Street West  
Suite 900  
Montréal, QC, Canada  
H3B 5H4  
  
T 514.954.2555  
F 514.879.9015

#### Toronto

Bay Adelaide Centre, East Tower  
22 Adelaide Street West  
Toronto, ON, Canada  
M5H 4E3  
  
T 416.367.6000  
F 416.367.6749

The information contained herein is of a general nature and is not intended to constitute legal advice, a complete statement of the law, or an opinion on any subject. No one should act upon it or refrain from acting without a thorough examination of the law after the facts of a specific situation are considered. You are urged to consult your legal adviser in cases of specific questions or concerns. BLG does not warrant or guarantee the accuracy, currency or completeness of this publication. No part of this publication may be reproduced without prior written permission of Borden Ladner Gervais LLP. If this publication was sent to you by BLG and you do not wish to receive further publications from BLG, you may ask to remove your contact information from our mailing lists by emailing [unsubscribe@blg.com](mailto:unsubscribe@blg.com) or manage your subscription preferences at [blg.com/MyPreferences](http://blg.com/MyPreferences). If you feel you have received this message in error please contact [communications@blg.com](mailto:communications@blg.com). BLG's privacy policy for publications may be found at [blg.com/en/privacy](http://blg.com/en/privacy).

© 2026 Borden Ladner Gervais LLP. Borden Ladner Gervais LLP is an Ontario Limited Liability Partnership.