

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

_____, Individually and on Behalf of
All Others Similarly Situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

CAREDX, INC., PETER MAAG, and
MICHAEL BELL,

Defendants.

Case No. DRAFT

**CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR
VIOLATIONS OF THE FEDERAL
SECURITIES LAWS**

1 Plaintiff _____ (“Plaintiff”), individually and on behalf of all others similarly
2 situated, by and through his attorneys, alleges the following upon information and belief, except as
3 to those allegations concerning Plaintiff, which are alleged upon personal knowledge. Plaintiff’s
4 information and belief is based upon, among other things, his counsel’s investigation, which
5 includes without limitation: (a) review and analysis of regulatory filings made by CareDx, Inc.
6 (“CareDx” or the “Company”) with the United States (“U.S.”) Securities and Exchange
7 Commission (“SEC”); (b) review and analysis of press releases and media reports issued by and
8 disseminated by CareDx; and (c) review of other publicly available information concerning
9 CareDx.

10 NATURE OF THE ACTION AND OVERVIEW

11 1. This is a class action on behalf of persons and entities that purchased or otherwise
12 acquired CareDx securities between March 6, 2019 and July 16, 2019, inclusive (the “Class
13 Period”), seeking to pursue remedies under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Exchange
14 Act”).

15 2. CareDx is a transplant diagnostic company focused on discovery, development, and
16 commercialization of diagnostic solutions for transplant patients. Its product AlloSure is a donor-
17 derived cell-free DNA (“dd-cfDNA”) solution used to determine kidney transplant rejection that
18 manifests as cell damage, and AlloMap is a gene expression solution for heart transplant patients.

19 3. On July 16, 2019, Kerrisdale Capital Research released a report alleging, among
20 other things, that the Company’s diagnostic test, AlloSure, is “fundamentally incapable of
21 identifying the most common type of kidney rejection.” Moreover, the report stated that AlloSure
22 revenues are derived from “protocol usage in clinical testing, which is suffering 20-30% quarterly
23 attrition.”

24 4. On this news, the Company’s share price fell \$4.83 per share, nearly 13%, to close
25 at \$32.57 per share on July 16, 2019, on unusually heavy trading volume.

26 5. Throughout the Class Period, Defendants made materially false and/or misleading
27 statements, as well as failed to disclose material adverse facts about the Company’s business,
28 operations, and prospects. Specifically, Defendants failed to disclose to investors: (1) that the

1 Company's AlloSure product failed to detect the most common type of kidney transplant
2 rejection; (2) that, as a result, clinicians and treatment centers were less likely to adopt AlloSure as
3 a diagnostic test; (3) that, as a result, the Company's AlloSure revenue was principally derived
4 from usage in clinical testing; (4) that clinical studies would not support continued Medicare
5 coverage for AlloSure; and (5) that, as a result of the foregoing, Defendants' positive statements
6 about the Company's business, operations, and prospects were materially misleading and/or
7 lacked a reasonable basis.

8 6. As a result of Defendants' wrongful acts and omissions, and the precipitous decline
9 in the market value of the Company's securities, Plaintiff and other Class members have suffered
10 significant losses and damages.

11 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

12 7. The claims asserted herein arise under Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Exchange
13 Act (15 U.S.C. §§ 78j(b) and 78t(a)) and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder by the SEC (17
14 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5).

15 8. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28
16 U.S.C. § 1331 and Section 27 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. § 78aa).

17 9. Venue is proper in this Judicial District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and
18 Section 27 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. § 78aa(c)). Substantial acts in furtherance of the
19 alleged fraud or the effects of the fraud have occurred in this Judicial District. Many of the acts
20 charged herein, including the dissemination of materially false and/or misleading information,
21 occurred in substantial part in this Judicial District. In addition, the Company's principal
22 executive offices are located in this district.

23 10. In connection with the acts, transactions, and conduct alleged herein, Defendants
24 directly and indirectly used the means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce, including the
25 United States mail, interstate telephone communications, and the facilities of a national securities
26 exchange.

1 **PARTIES**

2 11. Plaintiff _____, as set forth in the accompanying certification,
3 incorporated by reference herein, purchased CareDx securities during the Class Period, and
4 suffered damages as a result of the federal securities law violations and false and/or misleading
5 statements and/or material omissions alleged herein.

6 12. Defendant CareDx is incorporated under the laws of Delaware with its principal
7 executive offices located in Brisbane, California. CareDx's common stock trades on the
8 NASDAQ exchange under the symbol "CDNA."

9 13. Defendant Peter Maag ("Maag") was the Chief Executive Officer of the Company
10 at all relevant times.

11 14. Defendant Michael Bell ("Bell") was the Chief Financial Officer of the Company at
12 all relevant times.

13 15. Defendants Maag and Bell (collectively the "Individual Defendants"), because of
14 their positions with the Company, possessed the power and authority to control the contents of the
15 Company's reports to the SEC, press releases and presentations to securities analysts, money and
16 portfolio managers and institutional investors, *i.e.*, the market. The Individual Defendants were
17 provided with copies of the Company's reports and press releases alleged herein to be misleading
18 prior to, or shortly after, their issuance and had the ability and opportunity to prevent their
19 issuance or cause them to be corrected. Because of their positions and access to material non-
20 public information available to them, the Individual Defendants knew that the adverse facts
21 specified herein had not been disclosed to, and were being concealed from, the public, and that the
22 positive representations which were being made were then materially false and/or misleading. The
23 Individual Defendants are liable for the false statements pleaded herein.

24 **SUBSTANTIVE ALLEGATIONS**

25 **Background**

26 16. CareDx is a transplant diagnostic company focused on discovery, development, and
27 commercialization of diagnostic solutions for transplant patients. Its product AlloSure is a donor-
28

1 derived cell-free DNA (“dd-cfDNA”) solution used to determine kidney transplant rejection that
2 manifests as cell damage, and AlloMap is a gene expression solution for heart transplant patients.

3 17. In October 2017, AlloSure was approved for Medicare reimbursement by the
4 Molecular Diagnostics Services (“MolDX”) program developed by Palmetto GBA. Continued
5 coverage is dependent on annual review of clinical data and publications.

6 **Materially False and Misleading**

7 **Statements Issued During the Class Period**

8 18. The Class Period begins on March 6, 2019. On that day, the Company announced
9 its fourth quarter and full year 2018 financial results in a press release that stated, in relevant part:

10 **Recent highlights:**

- 11 • Continued the acceleration of AlloSure penetration
 - 12 ○ In the fourth quarter of 2018, 100 U.S. transplant centers provided
 - 13 4,575 AlloSure tests to approximately 3,400 patients
 - 14 ○ Continued progress in AlloSure Registry (K-OAR) enrollment, with
 - 15 47 centers initiated and 748 patients enrolled as of December 31,
 - 16 2018
 - 17 • Achieved total revenue of \$23.5 million for the fourth quarter of 2018,
 - 18 increasing 88% year-over-year
 - 19 ○ Testing services revenue of \$18.9 million, with 4,575 AlloSure and
 - 20 4,057 AlloMap patient results provided
 - 21 ○ Product revenue of \$4.6 million
 - 22 • Generated a net loss of \$3.8 million, positive adjusted EBITDA of \$0.8
 - 23 million and positive net cash from operations of \$2.0 million in the fourth
 - 24 quarter of 2018
 - 25 • Strengthened balance sheet through public equity offering and repayment of
 - 26 all outstanding debt
 - 27 ○ Cash and cash equivalents of \$64.6 million at December 31, 2018

28 “The CareDx team delivered another consecutive record quarter, including 88%
year-over-year revenue growth. We achieved positive adjusted EBITDA and
operating cash flow results for the second straight quarter. We strengthened our
first mover advantage as the strong clinical value of AlloSure continues to resonate
with the transplant community and, just over a year into the launch, we are 3%
penetrated into this patient population,” said Peter Maag, CareDx Chief Executive

1 Officer. “CareDx is making tremendous strides fortifying its position as the leading
2 provider of genomics-based information in transplantation, with the goal to
3 leverage these insights to improve long-term patient outcomes. I am very proud of
4 CareDx’s accomplishments in 2018, which sets the stage for another year of strong
5 growth in 2019 and beyond.”

6 19. The same day, the Company filed its annual report on Form 10-K with the SEC for
7 the period ended December 31, 2018 (the “2018 10-K”). Therein, the Company reported product
8 revenue of \$15.67 million and net loss of \$47.78 million.

9 20. Regarding clinical studies of AlloSure, the 2018 10-K stated, in relevant part:
10 Effective October 9, 2017, AlloSure became available for commercial testing with
11 Medicare coverage and reimbursement. The Medicare reimbursement rate for
12 AlloSure is \$2,841. AlloSure has also received payment from private payers on a
13 case-by-case basis, while our Payer Relations team works to establish positive
14 coverage. However, no positive coverage decisions have been made to the date of
15 this filing.

16 ***Prior to the commercialization of AlloSure, we generated a strong body of
17 clinical evidence.*** In late 2015, we announced the completion of analytical
18 validation of AlloSure. Samples used in the analytical validation included donor
19 recipient pairs with unrelated donors, as well as closely related family members. A
20 report describing the analytical validation of AlloSure including clinical validation
21 information for heart transplant, appeared in the November 2016 issue of The
22 Journal of Molecular Diagnostics. The Circulating Donor-Derived Cell-Free DNA
23 in Blood for Diagnosing Acute Rejection in Kidney Transplant Recipients, or
24 DART, trial, sponsored by us, was conducted between April 2015 and January
25 2018. DART was a 14 center observational study of kidney transplant recipients
26 where blood specimens were drawn periodically after transplant during follow up
27 visits and also after treatment for acute rejection. By the time of completion of the
28 first analysis, 384 patients were followed in DART for up to 24 months. ***The
results demonstrated that increased levels of dd-cfDNA, determined by the
AlloSure assay, discriminated active rejection of a kidney transplant more
effectively than serum creatinine values.*** In collaboration with clinical
investigators, we published these findings in the scientific peer-reviewed Journal of
the American Society of Nephrology and the Journal Applied Laboratory Medicine
in March 2017. A total of 2,109 patient visits had been accrued in DART by
January 2018. We plan to analyze and report on additional findings from this
dataset in 2019 and into the future.

***In January 2018, we initiated the Kidney Allograft Outcomes AlloSure Registry
study, or K-OAR, to develop further data on the clinical utility of AlloSure for
surveillance of kidney transplant recipients.*** As of December 31, 2018, 47 centers
had been initiated as K-OAR sites and 748 patients had been enrolled.

1 Throughout 2018, there were 11,634 AlloSure patient test results provided from our
2 Brisbane, California, laboratory. *In the fourth quarter of 2018, AlloSure was
ordered by 100 kidney transplant centers in the United States.*

3 (Emphases added.)

4 21. Regarding the continued clinical support necessary for adoption of AlloSure, the
5 2018 10-K stated, in relevant part:

6 *If the use of AlloMap, AlloSure or any of our other solutions is not supported by*
7 *studies published in peer-reviewed scientific and medical publications, and then*
8 *periodically supplemented with additional support in peer-reviewed journals, the*
9 *rate of adoption of our current and future solutions by clinicians and treatment*
10 *centers and the rate of reimbursement of our current and future solutions by*
11 *payers may be negatively affected.*

12 . . . We believe that peer-reviewed journal articles that provide evidence of the
13 utility of our solutions or the technology underlying AlloMap, AlloSure or our
14 other solutions are very important to the commercial success of our
15 solutions. Clinicians typically take a significant amount of time to adopt new
16 products, testing practices and clinical treatments, partly because of perceived
17 liability risks and the uncertainty of third-party reimbursement. It is critical to the
18 success of our sales efforts that we educate a sufficient number of clinicians and
19 administrators about AlloMap, AlloSure and our future solutions, and demonstrate
20 the clinical benefits of these solutions. . . .

21 . . . *If our current and future solutions or the technology underlying AlloMap,*
22 *AlloSure or our future solutions do not receive sufficient favorable exposure in*
23 *peer-reviewed publications, the rate of clinician adoption and positive*
24 *reimbursement coverage decisions could be negatively affected.* The publication
25 of clinical data in peer-reviewed journals is a crucial step in commercializing and
26 obtaining reimbursement for diagnostic solutions such as ours, and our inability to
27 control when, if ever, results are published may delay or limit our ability to derive
28 sufficient revenue from any product that is the subject of a study.

To ensure the success of AlloSure and future tests based on donor-derived cell-free
DNA (“dd-cfDNA”), we will need to continue our efforts to complete and publicize
research and trials, especially the Kidney Allograft Outcomes AlloSure Registry
 (“K-OAR”) registry study, that provides evidence of the utility of dd-cfDNA and
validate AlloSure as a solution.

24 (Emphasis added.)

25 22. On May 8, 2019, the Company announced its first quarter 2019 financial results in
26 a press release highlighting that “AlloSure momentum drives 85% of first quarter revenue
27 growth.” The press release also stated, in relevant part:

28 **Recent highlights:**

- 1 • Accelerated leadership position in transplantation diagnostics in the first
2 quarter of 2019
 - 3 ○ Provided 5,710 AlloSure patent results for approximately 4,300
4 kidney transplant patients
 - 5 ○ Continued progress in AlloSure Registry (K-OAR) enrollment, with
6 50 centers initiated and 1,006 patients enrolled as of March 31, 2019
 - 7 ○ Provided 4,280 AlloMap patient results, increasing 11% year-over-
8 year
- 9 • Achieved total revenue of \$26.0 million for the first quarter of 2019,
10 increasing 85% year-over-year
 - 11 ○ Testing services revenue of \$21.5 million, growth of 103%
12 compared to prior year period
 - 13 ○ Product revenue of \$4.4 million, increase of 34% year-over-year
- 14 • Generated GAAP net loss of \$7.5 million, adjusted net income of \$2.2
15 million and positive adjusted EBITDA of \$1.8 million transplant center
16 EMR systems

17 23. The same day, the Company filed its quarterly report on Form 10-Q with the SEC
18 for the period ended March 31, 2019, reporting product revenue of \$4.43 million and net loss of
19 \$7.53 million. Moreover, the report stated that “50 centers have been initiated as [Kidney
20 Allograft Outcomes AlloSure Registry] K-OAR study sites” and that “AlloSure was ordered by
21 101 kidney transplant centers in the United States.”

22 24. The above statements identified in ¶¶18-23 were materially false and/or misleading,
23 and failed to disclose material adverse facts about the Company’s business, operations, and
24 prospects. Specifically, Defendants failed to disclose to investors: (1) that the Company’s
25 AlloSure product failed to detect the most common type of kidney transplant rejection; (2) that, as
26 a result, clinicians and treatment centers were less likely to adopt AlloSure as a diagnostic test; (3)
27 that, as a result, the Company’s AlloSure revenue was principally derived from usage in clinical
28 testing; (4) that clinical studies would not support continued Medicare coverage for AlloSure; and
29 (5) that, as a result of the foregoing, Defendants’ positive statements about the Company’s
30 business, operations, and prospects were materially misleading and/or lacked a reasonable basis.

1 Disclosures at the End of the Class Period

2 25. On July 16, 2019, Kerrisdale Capital Research released a report alleging, among
3 other things, that the Company’s diagnostic test, AlloSure, is “fundamentally incapable of
4 identifying the most common type of kidney rejection.” Regarding clinical evidence, the report
5 stated, in relevant part:

6 Even with a biased sample (*every sample* was from a patient with some sort of
7 kidney dysfunction as measured by creatinine/proteinuria), the data is damning.
8 “Sensitivity” is a diagnostic test’s ability to correctly detect patients who have the
9 condition being tested for. Using 1% as the diagnostic threshold, dd-cfDNA had a
10 sensitivity of 59%. In other words, in the biopsies diagnosed as rejection, AlloSure
11 would have detected only 59% of them, *and would have missed 41% of rejection*
12 *episodes.*

13 * * *

14 The 3.7% and 5.5% positive rates in [two clinical] studies are indicative of a
15 failure to detect subclinical rejection. Even assuming every single positive AlloSure
16 result in these groups was accurate, subclinical rejection rates are on the order of
17 10-35%, which means AlloSure is missing almost all it.

18 26. Moreover, the report stated that AlloSure revenues are derived from “protocol
19 usage in clinical testing, which is suffering 20-30% quarterly attrition.” The report stated, in
20 relevant part:

21 The company immediately began enrollment on a massive 1000-patient clinical
22 trial [K-OAR], which it expected to “include approximately 10,000 reimbursed
23 AlloSure tests over the next 3 years, thus representing incremental AlloSure
24 volume as well as another revenue driver going forward.” Besides CareDx’s
25 official clinical trial, AlloSure reimbursement allowed any transplant center
26 interested in cfDNA research to conduct its own single-center study. Given a deep-
27 rooted culture of such protocol studies in the transplant space, it’s not surprising
28 that many transplant centers have launched AlloSure studies outside the confines of
29 CareDx’s clinical trial.

30 . . . By CareDx’s admission (see the table below), over 90% of AlloSure revenue
31 consistently comes from patients on an AlloSure surveillance protocol, and these
32 are overwhelmingly within the framework of AlloSure studies.

33 * * *

34 [T]he number of clinics using AlloSure has been flat for the last 6 months and net
35 new surveillance patients have fallen off dramatically since peaking in the third
36 quarter of 2018. CareDx has also been stretching to make its numbers by pushing
37 for more non-protocol testing (as demonstrated by the jump in non-surveillance
38

1 patients in the most recent quarter), but that's ad-hoc usage that's unlikely to recur
2 and potentially eats into their surveillance market.

3 Finally, it's worth noting here that CareDx's recommended testing protocol is very
4 front-end loaded: 5 tests in the first 6 months post-transplant, and quarterly
5 afterwards. Considering new surveillance patients peaked in the third quarter of
6 2018, we should begin to see a decline in tests-per-surveillance-patient in the
7 second or third quarter of this year, which will make the revenue treadmill harder to
8 outpace.

9 27. On this news, the Company's share price fell \$4.83 per share, nearly 13%, to close
10 at \$32.57 per share on July 16, 2019, on unusually heavy trading volume.

11 **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

12 28. Plaintiff brings this action as a class action pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil
13 Procedure 23(a) and (b)(3) on behalf of a class, consisting of all persons and entities that
14 purchased or otherwise acquired CareDx securities between March 6, 2019 and July 16, 2019,
15 inclusive, and who were damaged thereby (the "Class"). Excluded from the Class are Defendants,
16 the officers and directors of the Company, at all relevant times, members of their immediate
17 families and their legal representatives, heirs, successors, or assigns, and any entity in which
18 Defendants have or had a controlling interest.

19 29. The members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all members is
20 impracticable. Throughout the Class Period, CareDx's common shares actively traded on the
21 NASDAQ. While the exact number of Class members is unknown to Plaintiff at this time and can
22 only be ascertained through appropriate discovery, Plaintiff believes that there are at least
23 hundreds or thousands of members in the proposed Class. Millions of CareDx common stock
24 were traded publicly during the Class Period on the NASDAQ. Record owners and other
25 members of the Class may be identified from records maintained by CareDx or its transfer agent
26 and may be notified of the pendency of this action by mail, using the form of notice similar to that
27 customarily used in securities class actions.

28 30. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class as all
members of the Class are similarly affected by Defendants' wrongful conduct in violation of
federal law that is complained of herein.

1 herein, not false and/or misleading. The statements and omissions were materially false and/or
2 misleading because they failed to disclose material adverse information and/or misrepresented the
3 truth about CareDx's business, operations, and prospects as alleged herein.

4 36. At all relevant times, the material misrepresentations and omissions particularized
5 in this Complaint directly or proximately caused or were a substantial contributing cause of the
6 damages sustained by Plaintiff and other members of the Class. As described herein, during the
7 Class Period, Defendants made or caused to be made a series of materially false and/or misleading
8 statements about CareDx's financial well-being and prospects. These material misstatements
9 and/or omissions had the cause and effect of creating in the market an unrealistically positive
10 assessment of the Company and its financial well-being and prospects, thus causing the
11 Company's securities to be overvalued and artificially inflated at all relevant times. Defendants'
12 materially false and/or misleading statements during the Class Period resulted in Plaintiff and
13 other members of the Class purchasing the Company's securities at artificially inflated prices, thus
14 causing the damages complained of herein when the truth was revealed.

15 **LOSS CAUSATION**

16 37. Defendants' wrongful conduct, as alleged herein, directly and proximately caused
17 the economic loss suffered by Plaintiff and the Class.

18 38. During the Class Period, Plaintiff and the Class purchased CareDx's securities at
19 artificially inflated prices and were damaged thereby. The price of the Company's securities
20 significantly declined when the misrepresentations made to the market, and/or the information
21 alleged herein to have been concealed from the market, and/or the effects thereof, were revealed,
22 causing investors' losses.

23 **SCIENTER ALLEGATIONS**

24 39. As alleged herein, Defendants acted with scienter since Defendants knew that the
25 public documents and statements issued or disseminated in the name of the Company were
26 materially false and/or misleading; knew that such statements or documents would be issued or
27 disseminated to the investing public; and knowingly and substantially participated or acquiesced
28 in the issuance or dissemination of such statements or documents as primary violations of the

1 federal securities laws. As set forth elsewhere herein in detail, the Individual Defendants, by
2 virtue of their receipt of information reflecting the true facts regarding CareDx, their control over,
3 and/or receipt and/or modification of CareDx's allegedly materially misleading misstatements
4 and/or their associations with the Company which made them privy to confidential proprietary
5 information concerning CareDx, participated in the fraudulent scheme alleged herein.

6 **APPLICABILITY OF PRESUMPTION OF RELIANCE**

7 **(FRAUD-ON-THE-MARKET DOCTRINE)**

8 40. The market for CareDx's securities was open, well-developed and efficient at all
9 relevant times. As a result of the materially false and/or misleading statements and/or failures to
10 disclose, CareDx's securities traded at artificially inflated prices during the Class Period. On July
11 11, 2019, the Company's share price closed at a Class Period high of \$40.08 per share. Plaintiff
12 and other members of the Class purchased or otherwise acquired the Company's securities relying
13 upon the integrity of the market price of CareDx's securities and market information relating to
14 CareDx, and have been damaged thereby.

15 41. During the Class Period, the artificial inflation of CareDx's shares was caused by
16 the material misrepresentations and/or omissions particularized in this Complaint causing the
17 damages sustained by Plaintiff and other members of the Class. As described herein, during the
18 Class Period, Defendants made or caused to be made a series of materially false and/or misleading
19 statements about CareDx's business, prospects, and operations. These material misstatements
20 and/or omissions created an unrealistically positive assessment of CareDx and its business,
21 operations, and prospects, thus causing the price of the Company's securities to be artificially
22 inflated at all relevant times, and when disclosed, negatively affected the value of the Company
23 shares. Defendants' materially false and/or misleading statements during the Class Period resulted
24 in Plaintiff and other members of the Class purchasing the Company's securities at such
25 artificially inflated prices, and each of them has been damaged as a result.

26 42. At all relevant times, the market for CareDx's securities was an efficient market for
27 the following reasons, among others:

1 (a) CareDx shares met the requirements for listing, and was listed and actively traded
2 on the NASDAQ, a highly efficient and automated market;

3 (b) As a regulated issuer, CareDx filed periodic public reports with the SEC and/or the
4 NASDAQ;

5 (c) CareDx regularly communicated with public investors via established market
6 communication mechanisms, including through regular dissemination of press releases on the
7 national circuits of major newswire services and through other wide-ranging public disclosures,
8 such as communications with the financial press and other similar reporting services; and/or

9 (d) CareDx was followed by securities analysts employed by brokerage firms who
10 wrote reports about the Company, and these reports were distributed to the sales force and certain
11 customers of their respective brokerage firms. Each of these reports was publicly available and
12 entered the public marketplace.

13 43. As a result of the foregoing, the market for CareDx's securities promptly digested
14 current information regarding CareDx from all publicly available sources and reflected such
15 information in CareDx's share price. Under these circumstances, all purchasers of CareDx's
16 securities during the Class Period suffered similar injury through their purchase of CareDx's
17 securities at artificially inflated prices and a presumption of reliance applies.

18 44. A Class-wide presumption of reliance is also appropriate in this action under the
19 Supreme Court's holding in *Affiliated Ute Citizens of Utah v. United States*, 406 U.S. 128 (1972),
20 because the Class's claims are, in large part, grounded on Defendants' material misstatements
21 and/or omissions. Because this action involves Defendants' failure to disclose material adverse
22 information regarding the Company's business operations and financial prospects—information
23 that Defendants were obligated to disclose—positive proof of reliance is not a prerequisite to
24 recovery. All that is necessary is that the facts withheld be material in the sense that a reasonable
25 investor might have considered them important in making investment decisions. Given the
26 importance of the Class Period material misstatements and omissions set forth above, that
27 requirement is satisfied here.

28

1 **NO SAFE HARBOR**

2 45. The statutory safe harbor provided for forward-looking statements under certain
3 circumstances does not apply to any of the allegedly false statements pleaded in this Complaint.
4 The statements alleged to be false and misleading herein all relate to then-existing facts and
5 conditions. In addition, to the extent certain of the statements alleged to be false may be
6 characterized as forward looking, they were not identified as “forward-looking statements” when
7 made and there were no meaningful cautionary statements identifying important factors that could
8 cause actual results to differ materially from those in the purportedly forward-looking statements.
9 In the alternative, to the extent that the statutory safe harbor is determined to apply to any forward-
10 looking statements pleaded herein, Defendants are liable for those false forward-looking
11 statements because at the time each of those forward-looking statements was made, the speaker
12 had actual knowledge that the forward-looking statement was materially false or misleading,
13 and/or the forward-looking statement was authorized or approved by an executive officer of
14 CareDx who knew that the statement was false when made.

15 **FIRST CLAIM**

16 **Violation of Section 10(b) of The Exchange Act and**
17 **Rule 10b-5 Promulgated Thereunder**
18 **Against All Defendants**

19 46. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation contained above as if fully
20 set forth herein.

21 47. During the Class Period, Defendants carried out a plan, scheme and course of
22 conduct which was intended to and, throughout the Class Period, did: (i) deceive the investing
23 public, including Plaintiff and other Class members, as alleged herein; and (ii) cause Plaintiff and
24 other members of the Class to purchase CareDx’s securities at artificially inflated prices. In
25 furtherance of this unlawful scheme, plan and course of conduct, Defendants, and each defendant,
26 took the actions set forth herein.

27 48. Defendants (i) employed devices, schemes, and artifices to defraud; (ii) made
28 untrue statements of material fact and/or omitted to state material facts necessary to make the
statements not misleading; and (iii) engaged in acts, practices, and a course of business which

1 operated as a fraud and deceit upon the purchasers of the Company's securities in an effort to
2 maintain artificially high market prices for CareDx's securities in violation of Section 10(b) of the
3 Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5. All Defendants are sued either as primary participants in the
4 wrongful and illegal conduct charged herein or as controlling persons as alleged below.

5 49. Defendants, individually and in concert, directly and indirectly, by the use, means
6 or instrumentalities of interstate commerce and/or of the mails, engaged and participated in a
7 continuous course of conduct to conceal adverse material information about CareDx's financial
8 well-being and prospects, as specified herein.

9 50. Defendants employed devices, schemes and artifices to defraud, while in
10 possession of material adverse non-public information and engaged in acts, practices, and a course
11 of conduct as alleged herein in an effort to assure investors of CareDx's value and performance
12 and continued substantial growth, which included the making of, or the participation in the making
13 of, untrue statements of material facts and/or omitting to state material facts necessary in order to
14 make the statements made about CareDx and its business operations and future prospects in light
15 of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, as set forth more particularly
16 herein, and engaged in transactions, practices and a course of business which operated as a fraud
17 and deceit upon the purchasers of the Company's securities during the Class Period.

18 51. Each of the Individual Defendants' primary liability and controlling person liability
19 arises from the following facts: (i) the Individual Defendants were high-level executives and/or
20 directors at the Company during the Class Period and members of the Company's management
21 team or had control thereof; (ii) each of these defendants, by virtue of their responsibilities and
22 activities as a senior officer and/or director of the Company, was privy to and participated in the
23 creation, development and reporting of the Company's internal budgets, plans, projections and/or
24 reports; (iii) each of these defendants enjoyed significant personal contact and familiarity with the
25 other defendants and was advised of, and had access to, other members of the Company's
26 management team, internal reports and other data and information about the Company's finances,
27 operations, and sales at all relevant times; and (iv) each of these defendants was aware of the

28

1 Company's dissemination of information to the investing public which they knew and/or
2 recklessly disregarded was materially false and misleading.

3 52. Defendants had actual knowledge of the misrepresentations and/or omissions of
4 material facts set forth herein, or acted with reckless disregard for the truth in that they failed to
5 ascertain and to disclose such facts, even though such facts were available to them. Such
6 defendants' material misrepresentations and/or omissions were done knowingly or recklessly and
7 for the purpose and effect of concealing CareDx's financial well-being and prospects from the
8 investing public and supporting the artificially inflated price of its securities. As demonstrated by
9 Defendants' overstatements and/or misstatements of the Company's business, operations, financial
10 well-being, and prospects throughout the Class Period, Defendants, if they did not have actual
11 knowledge of the misrepresentations and/or omissions alleged, were reckless in failing to obtain
12 such knowledge by deliberately refraining from taking those steps necessary to discover whether
13 those statements were false or misleading.

14 53. As a result of the dissemination of the materially false and/or misleading
15 information and/or failure to disclose material facts, as set forth above, the market price of
16 CareDx's securities was artificially inflated during the Class Period. In ignorance of the fact that
17 market prices of the Company's securities were artificially inflated, and relying directly or
18 indirectly on the false and misleading statements made by Defendants, or upon the integrity of the
19 market in which the securities trades, and/or in the absence of material adverse information that
20 was known to or recklessly disregarded by Defendants, but not disclosed in public statements by
21 Defendants during the Class Period, Plaintiff and the other members of the Class acquired
22 CareDx's securities during the Class Period at artificially high prices and were damaged thereby.

23 54. At the time of said misrepresentations and/or omissions, Plaintiff and other
24 members of the Class were ignorant of their falsity, and believed them to be true. Had Plaintiff
25 and the other members of the Class and the marketplace known the truth regarding the problems
26 that CareDx was experiencing, which were not disclosed by Defendants, Plaintiff and other
27 members of the Class would not have purchased or otherwise acquired their CareDx securities, or,
28

1 if they had acquired such securities during the Class Period, they would not have done so at the
2 artificially inflated prices which they paid.

3 55. By virtue of the foregoing, Defendants violated Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act
4 and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder.

5 56. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff and the
6 other members of the Class suffered damages in connection with their respective purchases and
7 sales of the Company's securities during the Class Period.

8 **SECOND CLAIM**

9 **Violation of Section 20(a) of The Exchange Act**
10 **Against the Individual Defendants**

11 57. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation contained above as if fully
12 set forth herein.

13 58. Individual Defendants acted as controlling persons of CareDx within the meaning
14 of Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act as alleged herein. By virtue of their high-level positions and
15 their ownership and contractual rights, participation in, and/or awareness of the Company's
16 operations and intimate knowledge of the false financial statements filed by the Company with the
17 SEC and disseminated to the investing public, Individual Defendants had the power to influence
18 and control and did influence and control, directly or indirectly, the decision-making of the
19 Company, including the content and dissemination of the various statements which Plaintiff
20 contends are false and misleading. Individual Defendants were provided with or had unlimited
21 access to copies of the Company's reports, press releases, public filings, and other statements
22 alleged by Plaintiff to be misleading prior to and/or shortly after these statements were issued and
23 had the ability to prevent the issuance of the statements or cause the statements to be corrected.

24 59. In particular, Individual Defendants had direct and supervisory involvement in the
25 day-to-day operations of the Company and, therefore, had the power to control or influence the
26 particular transactions giving rise to the securities violations as alleged herein, and exercised the
27 same.
28

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

DATED: _____, 2019

GLANCY PRONGAY & MURRAY LLP

By: DRAFT

Lionel Z. Glancy

Robert V. Prongay

Lesley F. Portnoy

Charles H. Linehan

Pavithra Rajesh

1925 Century Park East, Suite 2100

Los Angeles, California 90067

Telephone: (310) 201-9150

Facsimile: (310) 201-9160

LAW OFFICES OF HOWARD G. SMITH

Howard G. Smith

3070 Bristol Pike, Suite 112

Bensalem, PA 19020

Telephone: (215) 638-4847

Facsimile: (215) 638-4867

Attorneys for Plaintiff _____