OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 99-559V Filed: July 15, 2003

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MICHAEL LOIZZI by CARL LOIZZI,	*	
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Petitioners,	*	
	*	
v.	*	PUBLISHED
	*	
SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF	*	
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,	*	
•	*	
Respondent.	*	
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On July 9, 2003, this court conducted a telephonic status conference with representative counsel from petitioners' bar and the government on the discovery issues involving this and over 180 other Hepatitis B cases pending before this court. At the next status conference, to be held in early September:

ORDER

- 1. The parties shall update the court on Mr. Maglio's and Mr. Matanoski's joint efforts to resolve the issues and details relating to the appointment of an outside and independent panel of experts. Specifically, the court expects that over the next several months, these representative counsel will have discussed thoroughly the issues and details regarding identification, selection, compensation, and the role of the expert panel in these proceedings. These discussions should include whether or not the use of a court-appointed facilitator would aid the parties in resolving these issues.
- 2. The parties shall continue to discuss any other outstanding issues addressed in the May 15, 2003 Order. Included in these discussions should be an update on the status of the Hepatitis B PLA reviews being conducted as part of the autism discovery proceedings.
- 3. The parties shall contact the court, by no later than August 15, 2003, to schedule the next Hepatitis B Discovery status conference. The parties may contact Michelle R. Mendelson, at (202) 504-2329, to reserve a date and time for this conference call.

The court remains committed to resolving the Hepatitis B discovery issues in a cooperative, flexible, and timely fashion. With that goal in mind, the undersigned welcomes the opportunity to work with counsel informally, in an individual and mediator capacity, to further discuss and develop administrative options for resolving the difficult discovery and logistical issues. The parties may contact Michelle R. Mendelson, at (202) 504-2329, to schedule a conference call, request the court's assistance prior to the next status conference, or raise any questions regarding this Order or the discovery proceedings in the Hepatitis B cases.

IT IS SO ORDERED.		
	Gary J. Golkiewicz	
	Chief Special Master	