

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

DIVISION OF CORPORATION FINANCE

Mail Stop 4546

January 26, 2017

<u>Via E-mail</u> Mr. Matthew K. Harbaugh Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Mallinckrodt plc Perth House Millennium Way Chesterfield Derbyshire, S41 8ND United Kingdom

Re: Mallinckrodt plc Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2016 Filed November 29, 2016 File No. 001-35803

Dear Mr. Harbaugh:

We have limited our review of your filing to the financial statements and related disclosures and have the following comments. In our comments, we ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure.

Please respond to these comments within 10 business days by providing the requested information or advise us as soon as possible when you will respond. If you do not believe a comment applies to your facts and circumstances, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing your response to these comments, we may have additional comments.

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations <u>Results of Operations</u> <u>Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2016 Compared with Fiscal Year Ended September 25, 2015</u> Non-Operating Items, page 47

1. It is unclear from your disclosure in the last paragraph on page 47 why you have income tax benefits in each of fiscal 2016 and 2015 greater than pre-tax income from continuing operations. Please tell us how this is possible and whether and, if so, how this phenomenon is sustainable. In this regard, even with income tax planning, one generally expects to pay income taxes on profitable operations in the long-run. Further, the \$249.3 million tax benefit in fiscal 2016 associated with the rate difference between U.K. and non-U.K jurisdictions (and the comparable \$152.9 million benefit in fiscal 2015) is

Mr. Matthew K. Harbaugh Mallinckrodt plc January 26, 2017 Page 2

merely a reconciling item between the rate expected at the domestic statutory rate and your ultimate effective rate, and neither it nor the related disclosure on page 90 in Note 7 Income Taxes provide enough insight to fully understand the phenomenon identified above.

Commitments and Contingencies Contractual Obligations, page 58

2. Please tell us why you do not include your milestone and royalty obligations associated with licenses and collaboration agreements in your table or the discussions that follow.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements Note 11: Goodwill and Intangible Assets Goodwill Impairment Analysis, page 96

3. Please tell us the magnitude of the excess of the fair value of your Specialty Brands reporting unit over its carrying value at your last testing date and your consideration for disclosing whether this reporting unit is at risk of failing step one of the impairment test.

Note 18: Commitments and Contingencies Governmental Proceedings, page 111

4. Please tell us why you do not appear to provide disclosure explaining why you cannot reasonably estimate the possible loss or range of loss for these matters as stipulated in your March 11, 2016 response to comment 4 of our February 29, 2016 letter.

We remind you that the company and its management are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of their disclosures, notwithstanding any review, comments, action or absence of action by the staff.

You may contact Mark Brunhofer, Senior Staff Accountant, at (202) 551-3638 or Sharon Blume, Accounting Branch Chief, at (202) 551-3474 if you have questions regarding the comments. In this regard, do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 551-3679.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jim B. Rosenberg

Jim B. Rosenberg Senior Assistant Chief Accountant Office of Healthcare and Insurance