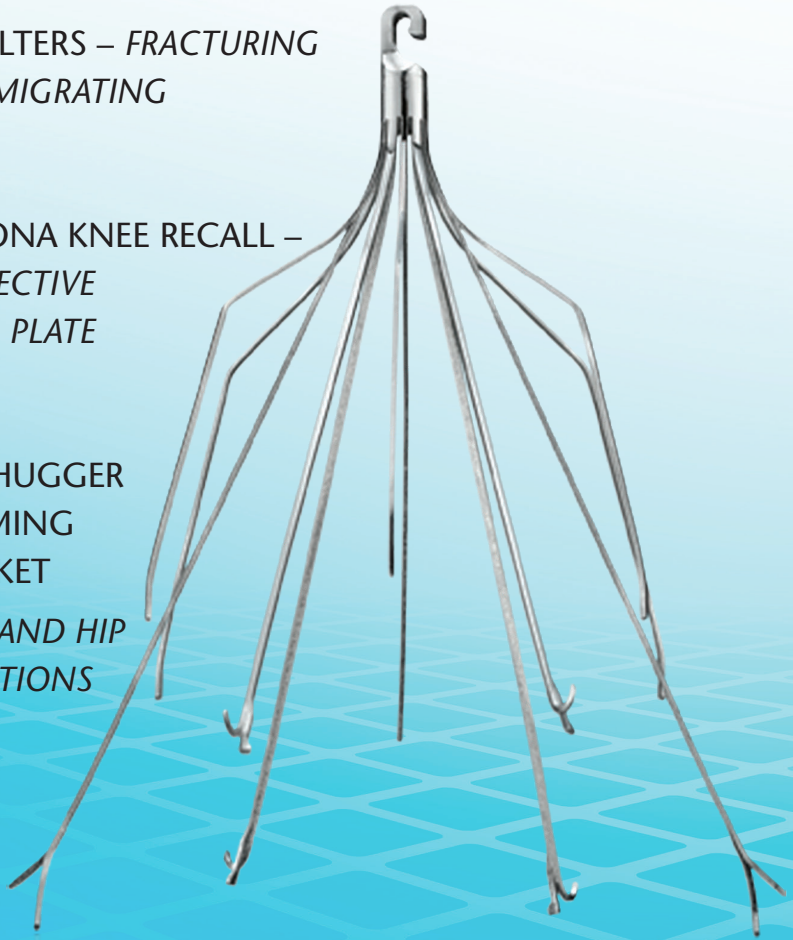
G-LAW

A Publication for the Clients and Friends of GoldenbergLaw, PLLC

"Promoting Safety Through Accountability"

Fall 2015

DEFECTIVE DEVICES ISSUE



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A message from

STUART GOLDENBERG

The Investigative Process

In this issue we are featuring three new defective products GoldenbergLaw is now investigating and litigating: IVC filter (p. 5), Zimmer Persona Knee Recall (p. 4), and Bair Hugger Warming Blankets (p. 5). All are connected to serious injuries. We are often asked how we decide to pursue a certain litigation. The process is a rigorous one.

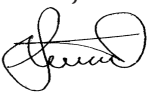
When we investigate a product, we begin with the science. We first review the published literature available in medical journals to understand what adverse events are being reported about the product. We then analyze the epidemiology. That is, what is the risk to the average patient of developing a problem? We attempt to determine whether the risks outweigh the benefits of using a product.

We then attempt to investigate when the manufacturer knew or should have known of this problem. Many times, we learn that the manufacturer's own studies are flawed or that the manufacturer covered up the problem. We then consult with experts to help create a case criteria that will allow us to screen these cases to fit the scientific criteria. Next, we spend extensive time consulting with other experienced attorneys across the country discussing the strategies to succeed with these cases.

Last, and most importantly, we meet as a firm and vet the litigation. The ultimate questions we consider are:

1. What are our chances to succeed for our clients?
2. Are we promoting safety and accountability by pursuing this case?
3. Will we make a difference in our clients' lives?

The three products mentioned above have gone through all of this analysis. We look forward to helping these clients obtain some justice.



Stay in the Loop with GoldenbergLaw!

Our social media sites are a great way to keep up on safety news and updates, as well as any updates we have on our mass tort cases.

You can also show your support for what we do by becoming involved. Next time you're logged on, make sure to visit us at:

- **Facebook:** facebook.com/GoldenbergLaw
- **Twitter:** @Goldenberg_Law
- **LinkedIn:** linkedin.com/company/goldenberglaw-pllc
- **GooglePlus:** GoldenbergLaw, PLLC
- **Blog:** defectivedruganddeviceresourcecenter.com

Mass Tort

Dangerous Drugs and Devices

GoldenbergLaw is currently investigating claims involving these products and has 30 years of experience handling dangerous drug and device cases.
Contact us at 612-333-4662 or 1-855-333-4662

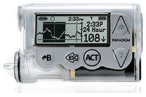
Inferior Vena Cava filter:
Blood clot filters placed in the large vein leading to the heart. They have been shown to migrate or fracture after a period of time; and can puncture parts of the vein or other internal organs.

Bair Hugger:
A warming blanket used during surgeries that can spread contaminated air over open wounds. Linked to deep joint infections and need for revision surgery.

Xarelto:
A new blood thinner medication that has been linked to uncontrolled bleeding.

Zimmer Persona Knee:
A knee device system that has been recalled by the manufacturer. Has been known to loosen and cause bone damage when uncemented.

Medtronic Paradigm Pump:
Insulin pump – linked to defects resulting in over or under delivery of insulin, serious illness, and/or death.

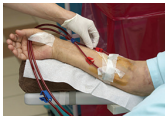


Talcum Powder/Baby Powder:
Talc-based powder used for many purposes – linked to ovarian cancer when used for female hygiene in genital area.

Tylenol/Acetaminophen:
Over-the-counter or prescription pain reliever – linked to liver damage and liver failure.

Benicar:
Blood pressure medication – linked to severe intestinal problems that cause chronic diarrhea, dehydration, and weight loss.

GranuFlo/NaturaLyte
Dialysate solutions – linked to metabolic alkalosis, cardiopulmonary arrest, sudden cardiac death, and other cardiac-relatd events.



Metal-on-Metal Hips:
Linked to implant loosening, pain, high metal levels in blood and need for revision surgery. Models include DePuy ASR,Zimmer Durom Cup, DePuy Pinnacle and other.

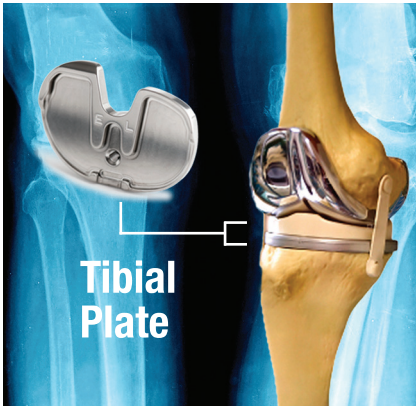
Stryker Rejuvenate/ABG II Hip Stem:
Modular hip stems – linked to corrosion at stem/neck juncture leading to elevated metal levels in bloodstream, necrosis, and revision surgery.

Testosterone Therapy Drugs:
Male hormone drugs – linked to increased risk of heart attack, blood clots, stroke, or death.

PERSONA KNEE RECALL

Defect: **Loosening and Revision Surgery**

Artificial knee implants are utilized when your knee joint is unable to function properly. These products are surgically implanted through complicated procedures that typically require a few months of recovery time.



In 2013 Zimmer introduced a new knee device system, the Zimmer Persona Knee. This device was intended for long term use and was supposed to minimize the possibility of damage by personalizing each of the requisite pieces to the patient.

Unfortunately the Persona Knee device system has caused more problems than its predecessors, which has forced Zimmer to issue a full recall for every Persona Knee.

The recall focuses on one particular component; the Trabecular Metal Tibial Plate. This element sits on top of the tibia and locks into the knee joint. In a typical knee device system this is always cemented onto the bone, but the Zimmer Persona Knee device system is designed to be used without cement and affixed directly to the bone head.

The Zimmer Persona Knee device system is known to cause loosening of the knee joint after installation. This can be determined by X-ray which will show radiolucent lines. These lines are gaps between the bone and the implant that can allow fluid and particulates into those spaces, increasing the risk of infection or revision surgery.

GoldenbergLaw is currently handling Zimmer Persona Knee cases in Minnesota and throughout the country. Please contact Laura Pittner for more information.

SAFETY ALERT

Product Name: **IVC Filter**
Defect: **Migration and Fracture**

Inferior Vena Cava Filters are devices designed to prevent blood clots from traveling to the major organs. Inferior Vena Cava filters act as a trap for blood clots by presenting a physical barrier to the blood clots.

Unfortunately, the design of these filters is defective. These filters have been known to tilt, migrate, or fracture. If a filter shifts, it can no longer be safely removed and may also break. Broken filters can tear the inside of your veins or puncture the heart, lungs or other organs. This can cause severe internal bleeding or even death.

In August of 2010 the FDA advised all physicians who have implanted Inferior Vena Cava Filters to have them removed as soon as the risk of pulmonary embolism passes. Unfortunately most IVC filters cannot be removed due to the filter's defective design.

Research is ongoing but initial figures show that these filters fracture as much as 40% of the time!

If you or a loved one has had an IVC Filter implanted, please contact Marlene Goldenberg for more information.

Product Name: **Bair Hugger Warming Blankets**
Defect: **Knee and Hip Infections**

The Bair Hugger Warming Blanket is manufactured by 3M and is utilized during most knee and hip replacement surgeries. Designed to keep the patient warm, it circulates warm air over the patient.

Studies have now shown that the infection rate for patients using this product is approaching a 400% increase compared to other surgical warming devices. The problem appears to be that the blanket is is circulating contaminated air from the operating room over the open wounds. This is causing deep joint infections, disability, and the need for additional surgery or even amputation.

Case Criteria

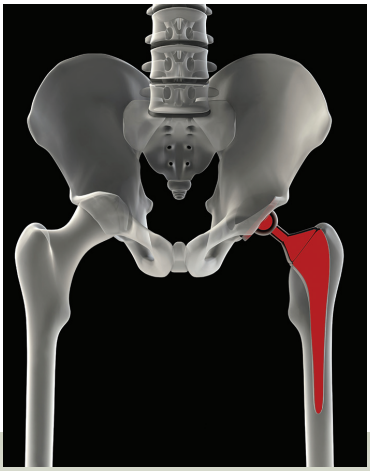
A patient must have had a hip or knee replacement in 2009 or after; and

A resulting infection necessitating an additional surgery.

Please contact Noah Lauricella for more information.

Hip Litigation Update

Several hip replacement devices, specifically metal-on-metal devices, have come under scrutiny in the past few years due to defective design. While the metal-on-metal design was popular due to increased mobility, the product is also dangerous because there is a possibility for metal-on-metal wear.



Specifically, the prosthetic hips were designed so that metal hip components were placed next to each other in the body. This can cause unhealthy metal on metal wear that releases metal ions into the body. The failure of the hip device results in elevated metal ion levels, abnormal tissue formation, and the need for removal of the defective product. These removal surgeries can be extensive, painful, and often require a long rehabilitation process for recovery.

Some manufacturers of the metal on metal hip devices have recalled their products after discovering alarmingly high failure rates. The DePuy ASR hip device and the Stryker Rejuvenate/ABG II hip devices were recalled off the U.S. market. Both the ASR and the Stryker Rejuvenate/ABG II hip devices are now separately consolidated into multi-district litigation in the U.S. The ASR litigation has resulted in a global settlement to some 8,000 plus individuals who had to have their ASR device removed. The Stryker litigation has also resulted in a global settlement. GoldenbergLaw currently represents many individuals with defective ASR and Stryker Rejuvenate devices, and has successfully recovered millions of dollars in compensation for these clients. New cases are still being accepted.

Separately, there are also defective hip devices consolidated in multi-district litigations where a settlement has not yet occurred. GoldenbergLaw continues to represent clients with defective DePuy Pinnacle, Biomet, Stryker Accolade, Wright Conserve, and Zimmer Durom Cup hips. The DePuy Pinnacle consolidated action is moving toward the second trial, which will occur in 2016.

GoldenbergLaw continues to pursue defective hip cases and will do so until justice can be brought to as many victims as possible.

Get To Know Leonard

Leonard began working as an administrative assistant for GoldenbergLaw in April 2015 after a career in retail management. He is an experienced Army Staff Sergeant of 14 years and had four tours of duty in Kosovo and Iraq. Leonard's work ethic, extensive life experiences, and friendly personality make him a valuable asset to GoldenbergLaw.

What do you like to do in your free time?
I like to work out and do anything physically challenging. I am participating in a Mud Runner next month. I am very excited for it.

What is your favorite thing about summer?
I have a 22 foot Cabin Cruiser boat which I love to take out on Lake Minnetonka.

What is something we would never know about you?
When I was 20 years old I won the Men's National Lightweight Karate Championship.

What is the most ridiculous thing you have ever done?
Definitely my first air-born jump. Nothing prepares you for jumping out of a perfectly good airplane!

What is your favorite food?
TGI Fridays Lobster, Salmon, and sweet potato fries

What is your greatest accomplishment?
Having my mother see me complete my Army training and finish Air-born school as well as see me get my Criminal Justice Bachelor's degree.

What is your favorite thing about working at GoldenbergLaw?
The challenge of working in a complex field and helping people recover from serious injuries.

Medtronic Infuse Settlement:

After four years of litigation around the country, we have reached a confidential global settlement agreement with Medtronic regarding the Infuse Bone Growth device. Specifics of the settlement are only available to Medtronic Infuse clients. All Medtronic Infuse clients should have received initial information on the settlement and an invitation to participate in the settlement. Thank you to all of our clients and referring attorneys for your trust and patience.

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