



G-LAW

A
Publication
for the Clients
and Friends of
GoldenbergLaw,
PLLC

"Promoting Safety Through Accountability"

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A message from

Stuart Goldenberg

IS TALC THE NEXT ASBESTOS?

I just returned from St. Louis with Noah after sitting in on the opening statements for the second talcum powder/ovarian cancer trial in the country (the first trial in South Dakota in 2014 found Johnson & Johnson negligent but awarded no damages). This trial will begin a long series of trials against J & J for their failure to warn of talcum powder's ovarian cancer risk that some experts put at 30%.

Our office currently represents more than 300 women diagnosed with ovarian cancer against Johnson & Johnson for sale of its talc-based products. Of these cases, 80 involve women who have already died from their cancer.

All of our clients have a number of facts in common:

1. They used Johnson & Johnson "Baby Powder" or its other product "Shower to Shower" daily or almost daily.
2. They were fiercely brand loyal to J & J and used the product as directed.
3. They applied the product around their genital area regularly for at least 5 years (some over 30 years).
4. They all did NOT have the BRCA gene that predisposes someone to ovarian cancer.
5. They developed ovarian cancer.
6. In the biopsies we have had analyzed so far, talc fibers have been found in the ovarian tumors.
7. They were never warned by J & J that the risk of developing ovarian cancer from using talc-based products on their genital area could be as high as 30%! In fact, they were never warned about any cancer risk.
8. J & J knew about this information since the early 1980s but never warned about it.

Talc is a mineral made of elements such as magnesium and silicon. Just like asbestos, talc is mined from the ground. Just like asbestos, talc fibers can lodge in the body--here the ovaries. It is theorized that just like asbestos, this can cause irritation and tumor formation. Talc is put into baby powder to absorb moisture. Talc has no medical benefit. It is a cosmetic. Yet, it has been reported recently that as many as 2,200 women per year are being diagnosed with ovarian cancer because of regular genital use of baby powder.

Johnson & Johnson is fiercely defending these cases. They know that this could cost them billions of dollars. They deny their products contribute to ovarian cancer. They refute the independent epidemiological research from Harvard and the University of Minnesota. They admit they had a litigation strategy to fight these cases for many years and hired their own experts early on to refute the studies. But one thing is clear, J & J admits they never studied this problem themselves --despite the pleas from many scientists.

This "ostrich" defense of "ignore, defend and deny" was used by the tobacco companies to deny cancer. It was used by the NFL to deny brain damage from concussions. It was used by the asbestos industry to deny mesothelioma. In the end, jury verdicts and litigation helped make the world much safer and hold them accountable. All these entities now pay for the damages they caused. Just as in asbestos, deaths from talc will continue to occur. We will do everything we can to hold J & J accountable and to take care of these women and their families.

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 online, be sure to visit us at:

Facebook: facebook.com/GoldenbergLaw

Twitter: [@Goldenberg_Law](https://twitter.com/Goldenberg_Law)

LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/goldenberg-law-pllc

Blog: www.goldenberglaw.com/blog

DANGEROUS DRUG AND DEVICE INVESTIGATIONS

GoldenbergLaw is currently investigating claims involving these products and has 30 years of experience handling dangerous drug and device cases. Contact us at (612) 436-5026 or 1-855-333-4662.

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.



ABILIFY

A widely prescribed antipsychotic medication approved for treatment of schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and depression - linked to compulsive gambling behaviors.



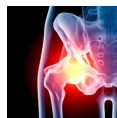
BENICAR

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



METAL-ON-METAL HIPS

Linked to implant loosening, pain, high metal levels in blood and need for revision surgery. Models include DePuy ASR, DePuy Pinnacle, Zimmer Durom Cup, and others.



TALCUM POWDER/BABY POWDER

Talc-based powder used for many purposes - linked to ovarian cancer when used for female hygiene in genital area.



TESTOSTERONE THERAPY DRUGS

Male hormone drugs - linked to increased risk of heart attack, blood clots, stroke, or death.



MEDTRONIC PARADIGM PUMP

Insulin pump - linked to defects resulting in over or under delivery of insulin, serious illness, and/or death.



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.



GRANUFLO/NATURALYTE

Dialysate solutions - linked to metabolic alkalosis, cardiopulmonary arrest, sudden cardiac death, and other cardiac-related events.



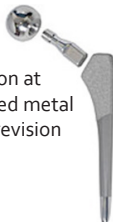
XARELTO

A new blood thinner medication that has been linked to uncontrollable bleeding.



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.



INFERIOR VENA CAVA FILTER

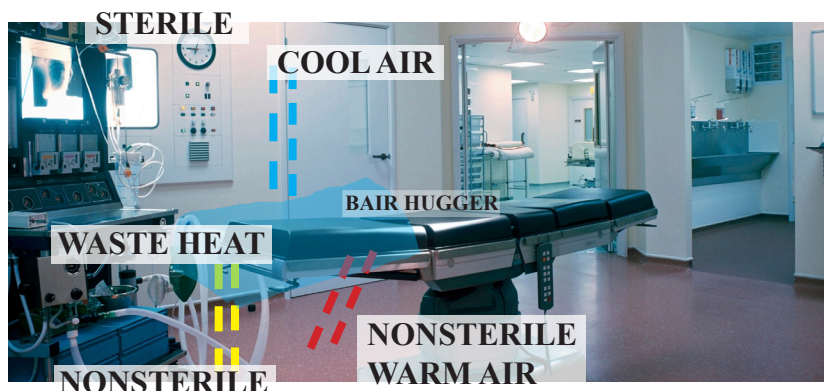
Blood clot filters placed in the large vein leading to the heart. They have been shown to migrate or fracture after a period of time and can puncture parts of the vein or other internal organs.



SERIOUS HIP AND KNEE INFECTIONS?

BAIR HUGGER WARMING BLANKETS MAY BE THE CAUSE

Recent studies have suggested that the 3M Bair Hugger warming blanket could be responsible for an exponential increase in deep joint infections (including MRSA) during knee and hip replacement surgeries in the past 10 years. It is theorized that as the Bair Hugger is placed over the patient, waste heat from under the blanket is projected towards the unsterile floor causing heat currents to form. These currents have the potential to carry bacteria up into the wound and cause infection.



Most hip and knee surgeries use the Bair Hugger and the patient doesn't even know. Infections such as MRSA can lead to multiple surgeries and even amputation. Contact Noah Lauricella at 612-335-9977.

The inventor of the Bair Hugger, Dr. Scott D. Augustine, has vehemently campaigned against the usage of his invention during surgery. He claims that the device may lead to bacteria spreading and causing infections, and therefore he believes his invention is no longer safe for use during surgery.

LITIGATION UPDATE

The filing process has begun for Bair Hugger cases where the patient had a knee or hip replacement in or after 2009 with an accompanying infection and revision surgery.

A Multidistrict Litigation (MDL) was formed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota in December 2015.

ABILIFY

and COMPULSIVE GAMBLING

Abilify has been heavily marketed to consumers since its approval to treat schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and depression. It is one of the most widely prescribed antipsychotics in the nation. Yet Abilify users have not been warned of a potentially devastating side effect: **compulsive gambling**.

Abilify affects the brain's dopamine levels, interfering with pleasure-seeking receptors. Reports in both Europe and Canada have led to the placement of a pathological gambling warning on Abilify labels. Otsuka Pharmaceutical and Bristol-Meyers Squibb, the manufacturers of Abilify, have also admitted to the positive link between aripiprazole (Abilify) and compulsive behaviors. However, there are still no warnings in the U.S.

\$6.9
BILLION



Otsuka and Bristol-Meyers Squibb's 2014 sales of Abilify

\$10.6
MILLION



Payments made to U.S.
Physicians Aug 2013 - Dec 2014

21,155
PHYSICIANS



Received payments relating to
Abilify Aug 2013 - Dec 2014

ABILIFY USER'S GAMBLING LOSSES

SAVINGS



CASH



HOMES



DIVORCE



If you or a loved one has experienced uncontrollable gambling behavior while taking Abilify, **you are not alone.**

Please call Marlene Goldenberg at
(612) 436-5026 for a free consultation.

BURN INJURIES AND DEFECTIVE CLOTHING

A three-year-old child is watching his mom cook on a gas stove while he wears his big brother's over-sized, thin, cotton shirt. As he tries to give his mom a hug near the stove, his shirt sleeve suddenly ignites in flames. The mother's bathrobe made from chenille also then ignites. Despite the mom's desperate efforts to assist her child, the fabrics burn fast and hot. Tragically both suffer severe burns and horrible scarring.

Do they have any legal remedies?

The answer may surprise you. Most people might not think of clothing as being flammable, but every year 4,300 people in the U.S. are injured from clothing that ignites on or near open flames. On average, 120 die from burns. Worse yet, most are children. You may be shocked to know that there are no flame-retardant chemicals put on your children's clothing. Few flame-resistant fabrics are used; the U.S. standards do not require it.

Why aren't our children better protected?

Much of the clothing sold in the U.S. is made overseas. The 1953 Flammable Fabrics Act hasn't changed much since that time. Its original goal was to remove from the market garments that were highly flammable. However, in practice this has not occurred.

The Act sets a "Class one normal flammability" standard -- which has proven ineffective. The standard refers to the rate of flame spread. It often focuses on the sheer weight of the fabric, which in real world settings does not always relate to how fast it ignites and burns. One thing is clear: fabrics like very thin cottons, thin cotton/polyester blends, and chenille are dangerous because they ignite easily and burn fast.

What remedies would be available?

We believe manufacturers and retailers should incorporate flame-resistant and flame-retardant fabrics into clothing. At the very least, warning labels about flammability should be used. If we were contacted on this case, we would need to prove that the clothing was unreasonably dangerous and this defect caused the burns. The clothing would need to be tested as to its fabric weight and "flame spread" by our experts. Many times we can locate an identical garment at the retail store where it was purchased. Claims of negligence, breach of warranty, and strict liability against the retailer and manufacturer would be investigated. Pursuing these types of cases successfully is the only way we can make these products safer and protect our children.



Get to know...

Aaron Knickerbocker

Aaron has been a Legal Assistant with GoldenbergLaw since 2014 and currently works on our talcum powder/ ovarian cancer cases. He attended the University of St. Thomas, graduating with a B.A. in English. His work with the MN Council on Crime & Justice sparked his initial interest in law.

Where did you grow up?

Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Green Bay Packers forever.

What do you like to do outside of work?

Golf, travel, and eat a good meal with family and friends.

What is your favorite golf course?

Tonto Verde outside of Scottsdale, Arizona.

If you could live anywhere in the world for a year, where would you go?

Spain. The food and weather sound incredible.

* FUN FACT

Aaron was a member of the St. Thomas Varsity Crew team, winning the Rower of the Year award in 2012.



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