

Dangerous Drug and Medical Device Cases



We welcome
the opportunity
to work with you.

Berman & Simmons is currently handling the following types of cases:

INFERIOR VENA CAVA ("IVC") FILTERS

The IVC filter is implanted into the inferior vena cava for people at risk for blood clots who cannot tolerate anticoagulation medication during trauma-related surgery.

Injuries

- IVC filters have been known to break apart into pieces, which can migrate to the heart and lung, puncturing organs and causing fatal bleeding and paralysis.
- IVC filters were meant to be used as temporary devices, but many people do not have them removed. The longer an IVC filter remains in place, the greater the risk.

HERNIA MESH

A hernia occurs when tissue squeezes through a weak spot in surrounding muscle. Composite meshes that use polypropylene or polyester material in combination with other materials are often used in patients to repair hernias. However, many patients whose doctors have used certain brands of composite meshes, such as the Atrium, Johnson & Johnson, Bard, and Covidien, have experienced serious complications.

Injuries

- Mesh failure
- Migration
- Perforation into surrounding tissue
- Adhesion to bowels
- Infection

DEPUY ATTUNE® KNEE REPLACEMENT

Depuy Attune implants have been used for patients in need of total knee replacement. A design default causes tibial loosening because of improper adhesion at the implant-cement surface. As a result, patients may require early revision surgery.

Injuries

- Infection
- Loss of mobility.
- Swelling and inflammation
- Persistent pain
- Blood clots
- Bone loss
- Revision surgery
- Nerve damage
- Loosening of the joint

HIP REPLACEMENT

A metal-on-metal hip implant consists of a metal ball (femoral head), a metal femoral stem, and a metal cup in the hip bone (acetabular component), all made from cobalt-chromium alloys. The metal ball and metal cup rub against each other when patients walk or run. The resulting friction can cause wear and corrosion, and pieces of metal may migrate into the space around the implant.

Injuries

- Joint dislocations
- Metallosis (high levels of metal in the blood)
- Pain and swelling
- Infection
- Need for early hip revision surgery

To refer a case or learn more,
please contact us.

207-784-3576



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TALCUM POWDER

Frequent and long-term use of talcum powder in the genital and perineal areas has been associated with increased risk of ovarian cancer in women.

Injuries

- Ovarian cancer

SORIN STÖCKERT 3T HEATER-COOLER DEVICE

A Sorin Stöckert 3T heater-cooler device is commonly used to regulate body temperature during major heart, lung, and liver surgeries by warming or cooling blood that is being circulated by a heart-lung machine. The FDA and CDC each have warned that these devices may have been contaminated during manufacturing putting patients at risk for life threatening infections, specifically *Mycobacterium chimaera* (*M. chimaera*).

Injuries

- Infection
- Abscess
- Endocarditis (infection of the inner lining of the heart)
- Osteomyelitis (infection of the bone)
- Bacteremia (bacteria in the bloodstream)
- Death

VIAGRA®

Viagra was developed to treat erectile dysfunction in men. Recent reports show a link between prolonged use of Viagra and life-threatening skin cancer.

Injuries

- Melanoma

SLGT2 INHIBITORS

SLGT2 (sodium-glucose cotransporter-2) inhibitors are prescription medications such as Farxiga®, Invokana®, and Jardiance®, used to treat Type 2 diabetes by reducing the amount of glucose absorbed by the kidneys. According to FDA Adverse Event reports, use of SLGT2 inhibitors has been associated with patients developing diabetic ketoacidosis.

Injuries

- Diabetic ketoacidosis (too much acid in the blood)
- Kidney failure
- Severe urinary tract or kidney infections

ONGLYZA®

Onglyza is an oral insulin drug containing saxagliptin, which is used to improve glycemic control in adults with Type 2 diabetes. A study has shown that people taking Onglyza are at risk for serious heart complications.

Injuries

- Heart failure

XARELTO®

Xarelto is an anticoagulant prescription drug used in people with atrial fibrillation to reduce the risk of blood clots and stroke. Unlike many other blood thinners, Xarelto has no known antidote to reverse bleeding. As a result, some users have experienced serious complications.

Injuries

- Excessive, uncontrolled internal bleeding (gastrointestinal, eye, brain, and kidney)
- Thromboembolism
- Pulmonary embolism
- Hemorrhagic stroke and death

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Litigation involving dangerous prescription drugs and medical devices is always changing. Berman & Simmons keeps current with all major drug and medical device litigation. For the latest updates on cases involving dangerous drugs and medical devices, please visit bermansimmons.com/masstort.

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