Alley ◆ Clark ◆ Greiwe
701 East Washington Street
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CLIENT NEWSLETTER

Alley ◆ Clark ◆ Greiwe

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IN BRIEF

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ANOTHER DEFECTIVE HIP RECALL ANNOUNCEMENT EXPECTED FROM STRYKER ORTHOPAEDICS

Another recall announcement by Stryker Orthopaedics is on the horizon. Stryker recently sent a warning letter to orthopedic surgeons in the U.S. about higher than expected complaints of taper lock failures for specific lots of **LFIT Anatomic CoCr V40 Femoral Heads** which were manufactured before 2011. The taper lock is the part of the hip device that connects the femoral head to the femoral neck during total hip replacement procedures. Reports indicate the LFIT ("Low Friction Ion Treatment") device has been corroding and fracturing at an alarming rate in patients worldwide. Stryker has not disclosed the cause of the failure, but it is alleged to be due to a design or manufacturing defect that was present before 2011.

Last month, officials in Australia brought attention to this matter by issuing a Hazard Alert concerning high rates of taper lock failures with some Stryker LFIT V40 femoral heads. Health Canada has also issued a Medical Device Recall Notice. Stryker is no stranger to problems with its hip implant products. In 2012, Stryker voluntarily recalled its Rejuvenate modular neck hip implant stems and eventually announced a $1 billion Settlement Agreement that compensated eligible U.S. patients who were forced to undergo revision surgery due to their recalled Rejuvenate Hip System.

The law firm of **Alley, Clark & Greiwe** has represented and successfully resolved a large number of clients who have been injured by defective joint replacement products sold by various manufacturers. If you or someone you love has undergone total hip replacement and later developed significant problems and required premature hip revision surgery, please contact us for a free consultation regarding your legal rights.

Symptoms of Taper Lock Failure	Artificial Hip Problems
• Detachment of the femoral head from the hip stem • Fracture of the hip stem • Pain, loss of mobility, local tissue reaction • Insufficient or painful range of motion • Joint instability or dislocation • Noise or clicking from the implant • Metallosis	If you or someone you love has received a defective or recalled hip device, you should discuss appropriate medical monitoring with your orthopedic surgeon. Patients who are experiencing problems should be evaluated by physical examination and diagnostic studies including x-rays, MRI, and metal ion blood testing.

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FIRM RECOGNIZED FOR LEGAL EXCELLENCE

On November 1, 2016, *U.S. News & World Report* and *Best Lawyers®* released the 2017 "Best Law Firms" rankings. We are very proud to report that for the seventh consecutive year, the law firm of Alley, Clark & Greiwe has been honored with a Tier 1 ranking in the Tampa Metropolitan area in the areas of Plaintiffs Medical Malpractice Law, Personal Injury Litigation, and Product Liability Litigation. Law firms included in the 2017 "Best Law Firms" are recognized for professional excellence with consistent impressive ratings from clients and peers. Achieving a tiered ranking signals a unique combination of quality law practice and breadth of legal experience.

Alley, Clark & Greiwe continues to litigate a wide variety of complex personal injury claims for victims of auto and truck accidents, medical malpractice, and wrongful death. If you or a loved one has been seriously injured by a drug or medical product you may have a product liability claim against the manufacturer(s) and possibly others in the distribution chain. Please contact our office for a free consultation regarding your legal rights.

PRODUCT LIABILITY PRACTICE AREAS

"BAIR HUGGER" INFECTIONS

Forced-air warming device used in orthopedic surgery linked to joint infections.

BABY POWDER

Common talcum powder product used for feminine hygiene linked with ovarian cancer.

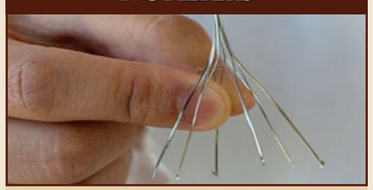
BENICAR GI SIDE EFFECTS

Blood pressure medication linked to serious gastrointestinal complications.

HERNIA MESH

Certain hernia mesh products linked with serious complications and high failure rates.

IVC FILTERS



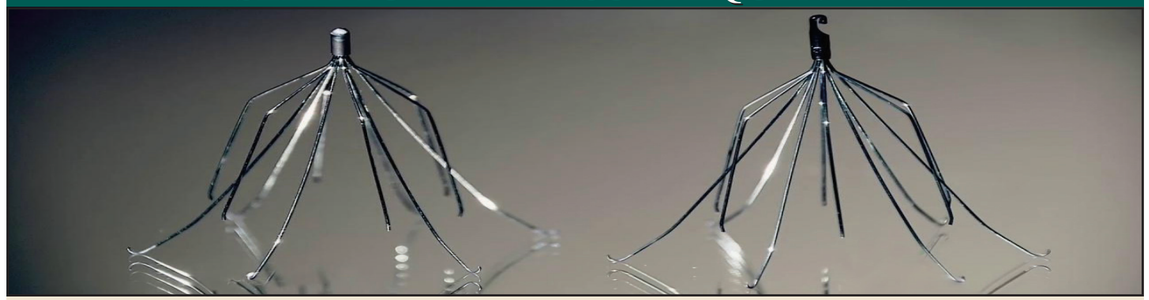
Certain implantable IVC filters linked to higher rate of filter migration, fracture, or embolization.

METAL-ON-METAL HIPS

Hip implants linked to high failure rates, metallosis, pseudotumors, chronic pain.

Have you or someone you love been injured by a defective medical device or unsafe drug or product? Contact us.

WHY DO MEDICAL DEVICE RECALLS SEEM TO HAPPEN SO FREQUENTLY?



How is it that defective artificial hip devices and other harmful medical products like synthetic transvaginal mesh even make it on to the U.S. market in the first place? Most people are under the false impression that all medical devices and pharmaceutical drugs are approved only after extensive testing and review. However, there is a loophole to this requirement called the 510(k) Pre-Market Approval (PMA) process. This is a "shortcut" allowed by the FDA when a medical device manufacturer or drug company demonstrates that a "new" product is "substantially similar" to a product that has already been approved. Substantially similar products can include previously approved products which have been recalled or removed from the market. As a result of this loophole, thousands of patients and their families have suffered needlessly because manufacturers do not have to run any clinical trials before marketing 510(k) approved medical products, nor are manufacturers mandated to follow patients post-operatively.

PRODUCT LIABILITY PRACTICE AREAS

PRILOSEC/NEXIUM/PREVACID

Common reflux medications linked to kidney disease.

TAXOTERE

Chemotherapy drug linked to permanent hair loss.

TESTOSTERONE REPLACEMENT

Testosterone supplements linked to higher rates of stroke, heart attack and death.

VAGINAL MESH FAILURE

Synthetic mesh used in females to correct pelvic organ prolapse and/or urinary incontinence linked to serious complications.

XARELTO

An alternative to Coumadin, this blood thinner has been linked to dangerous bleeding events and fatalities.

ZOFRAN BIRTH DEFECTS

Nausea medication prescribed during pregnancy linked to serious birth defects.

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