

IN BRIEF



In This Edition

Blood Thinner
Drug Xarelto
Linked to Serious
Bleeding Events

Update on
Transvaginal Mesh
Litigation:
Serious
Complications
Associated With
Transvaginal
Surgical Mesh

Firm
News



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BLOOD THINNER DRUG XARELTO LINKED TO SERIOUS BLEEDING EVENTS

Alley, Clark & Greiwe is investigating claims of persons severely injured while taking the blood thinner Xarelto. Xarelto (rivaroxaban) is a relatively new drug developed by Janssen Pharmaceuticals and Bayer. The drug was approved for sale in the U.S. by the FDA in 2011. It is prescribed to treat or prevent blood clots including deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary embolism. Xarelto is also prescribed to patients with atrial fibrillation (a heart rhythm disorder) to lower the risk of stroke.

Xarelto is an alternative to Coumadin (warfarin). While patients on Coumadin require frequent lab monitoring and dose adjustments, patients on Xarelto do not. It is this advantage that has been a key selling point. However, Xarelto has been linked to serious bleeding events including hemorrhage, GI bleeds, and even death. The additional problem with

Xarelto is the absence of an approved reversal agent or antidote that can stop uncontrollable, sometimes fatal, bleeding. This is a similar problem linked to another newer-generation blood thinner called *Pradaxa* (dabigatran) which was subject to widespread litigation in the US. If you or a loved one have suffered a stroke, heart attack, brain bleed, gastrointestinal bleed, or death while taking Xarelto, please contact an experienced Tampa injury attorney at **Alley, Clark & Greiwe** for information about your legal rights.



If you are presently taking Xarelto, please call your health care provider immediately if you develop any of the following signs or symptoms of bleeding:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• unusual bleeding from the gums• unusual or frequent nose bleeds• menstrual or vaginal bleeding that is heavier than normal• bleeding that is severe or you cannot stop• pink or brown urine | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• red or black stools• bruises that happen without explanation or that get larger• coughing up blood or blood clots• vomiting blood or vomit that looks like coffee grounds |
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Attorneys At Law

*The attorneys and staff at Alley, Clark & Greiwe
would like to wish you and your family
a joyous holiday season.*

(800) 840-0977

FIRM NEWS

CURRENT LITIGATION PROJECTS

Wrongful Death Claims Accidental death caused by the action of another (i.e. drug company, reckless driver, medical mistake)	Auto Accidents Motor vehicle accidents, truck accidents, motorcycle, pedestrian accidents, and bicycle accidents	Medical Malpractice Serious permanent injuries caused by medical error of hospital staff or physician
Metal-on-Metal Hip Hip implants linked to high failure rates, metallosis, pseudotumors, chronic hip/groin pain	Xarelto An alternative to Coumadin, this blood thinner has been linked to severe bleeding events including many fatalities	Vaginal Mesh Litigation Surgical polypropylene mesh used in females to correct pelvic organ prolapse and/or urinary incontinence
DePuy ASR Hip Implant Metal-on-metal hip implant recalled in 2011 due to high failure rates	Testosterone Therapy Popular testosterone supplements linked to increased risk of stroke, heart attack, and death	Actos Type II diabetes medication associated with increased bladder cancer risk
Stryker Rejuvenate Hips Metal hip implant recalled in 2012 due to widespread failure rates	DePuy Pinnacle Hip Metal-on-metal hip implant associated with high failure rates. This product remains on the market	Fosamax and Boniva Osteoporosis medications linked to unusual, spontaneous fractures of the thigh bone

FIRM NEWS

On November 3, 2014, *U.S. News & World Report* and *Best Lawyers®* released the 2015 “Best Law Firms” rankings. We are very proud to report that for the fifth consecutive year, the law firm of **Alley, Clark & Greiwe** has been honored with a Tier 1 ranking in the Tampa Metropolitan area in both **medical malpractice** and **personal injury litigation**. Law firms included in the 2015 “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.



UPDATE ON TRANSVAGINAL MESH LITIGATION

SERIOUS COMPLICATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH TRANSVAGINAL SURGICAL MESH INCLUDE:



- Erosion/Protrusion of Mesh through the Vaginal Wall
- Extreme Pelvic Pain
- Bleeding
- Dyspareunia (painful intercourse)
- Vaginal Scarring/Shrinkage Deformity
- Multiple Surgeries to Remove Embedded Mesh
- Severe Emotional Distress
- Recurrent, Chronic Infections

It has been reported that the number of cases filed against the various transvaginal mesh manufacturers in the U.S. exceeds 50,000. Given the number of filings across the country, it seems clear that trial dates for each and every case is not possible. However, the bellwether trial process continues and we remain hopeful that these “test cases” may lead to meaningful settlement discussions with the manufacturers. Overall, there have been several successful trials for Plaintiffs as well as a few verdicts for the Defendants. All of the Plaintiff verdicts to date involved women who underwent multiple surgeries and continuous medical treatment for injuries associated with their pelvic mesh implants. Every case is different not just because every woman’s injuries and treatment courses may be different, but also because different state laws apply. This impacts everything from the type of vital evidence allowed to be presented to the jury to whether punitive damages can be pursued.

Alley, Clark & Greiwe is actively litigating claims against several manufacturers of transvaginal mesh. If you or someone you know has been implanted with transvaginal mesh, it is very important that you contact us soon for important information regarding your legal rights since there are important statutory deadlines approaching.

Recent Transvaginal Mesh Jury Verdicts

July 2014	Massachusetts	Albright v. Boston Sci.	Defense verdict. This was the first trial of Boston Scientific mesh claim in U.S.
Aug 2014	Massachusetts	Cardenas v. Boston Sci.	Defense verdict.
Sept 2014	Texas	Salazar v. Boston Sci.	Jury verdict of \$73.4 million. Verdict reduced to \$34.6 million under Texas State tort reform law limiting punitive damages. Defendant appealing verdict.
Sept 2014	West Virginia (MDL)	Huskey v. Ethicon	Jury verdict of \$3.27 million. Defendant has requested retrial and it is under consideration by Judge Goodwin.