

DePuy ASR Artificial Hip Litigation

In response to growing concern over the DePuy ASR artificial hip recall, Sugarman has formed a team, led by principals Jodi Petrucelli and Stephen Sugarman, to represent clients who have been injured as a result of defective DePuy ASR hip implants.

Background

Between 2003 and 2010, DePuy ASR artificial hip replacement systems were implanted in approximately 93,000 patients worldwide. In August, 2010, DePuy Orthopaedics, a division of Johnson & Johnson, recalled these devices due to a higher-than-normal failure rate and medical complications.

Because the DePuy ASR hips received FDA approval through the short-hand "substantially equivalent" approval process, they are not subject to federal preemption laws. This means that patients are able to pursue claims against DePuy and Johnson & Johnson for injuries arising from defective ASR implants.

The Problem

The primary problems with DePuy ASR hips are as follows:

1. Statistics have revealed a failure rate of 49% or more. Once implant failure is identified, revision surgery is usually required resulting in more pain, recovery time and additional medical bills for patients.
2. The ASR is a metal on metal system that causes metal toxicity/ bloodstream contamination as a result of chromium and cobalt shearing from normal use.

The damaging effects of these implants are extensive and include:

- Failure of the implant
- Bone fractures around the implant site
- Hip dislocations or loosening of hardware
- Pseudotumors from metal debris entering the bloodstream, including dangerous levels of chromium and cobalt
- Permanent tissue or muscle damage
- Allergic reactions

What to do if you think that you may have received a DePuy ASR Hip

Anyone who received a DePuy hip replacement after July 2003 and before the 2010 recall may have one of the ASR recalled hips. If you believe that you are one of these patients, be on the lookout for a letter from your surgeon informing you of the recall. If you have already received a letter or otherwise suspect that you may have one of these hips, please contact Jodi (jpetrucelli@sugarman.com) or Stephen (ssugarman@sugarman.com) or call (617) 542-1000. We will assist you in identifying whether or not your device is part of the recall and discuss the next steps you need to take.



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