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Thank You – But Just in Case You’ve Forgotten!

We know you get busy, especially this time of year! The kids get out of school, vacations start, family reunions get underway and the next thing you know, the summer has passed you by. We just wanted to take a few minutes to STOP and say THANK YOU. Thank you for trusting us during one of the most traumatic and stressful times of your life. Thank you for allowing us to help you get your life back on track. Thank you for referring us to your family members and friends in their times of need and distress. Words aren’t enough.

We also want you to know that we are ALWAYS here for you and those you care about. We have revised and updated our website, increased our available presence on the social media sites – so that you can more easily find and contact us. We have tried to provide better and more informative information both on our website and in the quarterly newsletters so that you have as much

information on what’s going on in the “legal” world and can share it. But, we know that as you get busy it is easy to forget what we do and who we are. Our practice is primarily focused on Personal Injury, Workers’ Compensation and Social Security Disability. We have recently added Class Action Lawsuits. There are many different types of both Personal Injury claims and Class Action Lawsuits, so if you have even a question about a possible case, don’t hesitate to contact us and we’ll always do our best to help you.

Our firm has always been built on your support and referrals and that won’t ever change. So if you ever know of someone you even think might possibly need our help, please tell them about us and ask them to call us. We promise to give them the same client service and experience we gave you!

Vaccine Injuries

It may sound crazy, but it does happen. Vaccines that are designed to protect us against common illnesses can often make you or a loved one very sick or injured. Every year, a small percentage of population suffers adverse reactions to vaccinations which range from shoulder and arm pain to severe neurological conditions such as GBS, ADEM, TM, seizures, and others, and in rare circumstances death.

If you or your child were injured by a vaccination, you may have the right to bring a claim for monetary compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program. It is our job to investigate your case, supply you with educational information and explain your rights. You will always be the ultimate decision maker. We’re simply here to help.

What is the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program?

The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program was created by Congress in 1988 to award financial compensation to individuals who suffer serious injuries caused by vaccinations. Below is a list of many commonly administered vaccines that are covered for consideration in this program.



Vaccines covered under the VICP?:

- Flu Vaccine (Trivalent influenza vaccine - TIV)
- Chicken Pox Vaccine (Varicella vaccine - VZV)
- Hepatitis A Vaccine (HAV)
- Hepatitis B Vaccine (HBV)
- Tetanus Vaccine (DTaP, DTP, DT, Td, Tdap, TT)
- Pertussis Vaccine - Whooping Cough (DTaP, DTP, Tdap, P, DTP Hib)
- Hemophilus influenzae type B (Hib)
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella vaccine or any of its components (MMR, MR, M, R)
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) (Gardasil and Cervarix)
- Meningococcal vaccines (MCV4, MPSV4)
- Pneumococcal conjugate vaccines (PCV)
- Rotavirus Vaccine (RV)
- Polio (OPV and IPV)

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- Any combination of the vaccines above (Trivalent, Quadrivalent, etc.)
- Additional vaccines may be added in the future

Am I eligible to file a claim?

You may file a claim if you or your child received a vaccine covered by the VICP, and believe that you have been injured by this vaccine.

You may also file a claim if you are the legal representative of the estate of a person who has died, who received a vaccine covered by the VICP, and believe that the person's death resulted from the vaccine injury. **You may file a claim even if you are not a United States citizen as long as the vaccine was administered in United States.**

How long do I have to file my claim under the VICP after my vaccinations?

The statute of limitations requires that you file a claim with the U.S. Court of Federal Claims within 3 years from the onset of first symptoms for vaccine related injuries. With regards to a vaccine related death, a claim must be filed no later than 2 years from the date of death.

You may possibly receive compensation for:

Successful argumentation of your vaccine injury case, may allow you to receive compensation for the following:

- Medical Expenses both past and future
- Pain and Suffering both past and future, however there is a maximum recovery of \$250,000.00
- Lost Wages both past and future
- In cases where a death has occurred the maximum recovery is \$250,000.00

Important: Your Lawyers' Fees Will Be Covered

If you are considering filing a claim, you may hesitate when you think of the attorney's fees. You are not responsible to pay attorney's fees. There is no cost to you to hire our law firm. Our firm will pay the cost of litigating your case such as filing fees, medical records copying fees, expert physician fees, etc. At the conclusion of your case, our firm will seek reimbursement of litigation cost and attorney's fees from the Court.

The VICP pays reasonable attorneys' fees and costs separately from any compensation award. Therefore, as the person filing the claim, you do not have to pay any fees or costs.

It is also very important to note that Vaccine litigation is extremely specialized and very complex. Not every personal injury lawyer is experienced enough to handle these cases. We are here to help you navigate these claims and to answer all of your questions. If you believe that you or your child has suffered a vaccine related injury, please contact us and we'll set-up and appointment for you to come in and answer your questions and address your concerns. Always remember, we're here to help and to provide you with information.

Class Actions You Should Know About

Lamictal Side Effects

All over the United States, people are suing pharmaceutical giant GlaxoSmithKline LLC (GSK) for aggressively promoting their anticonvulsant drug Lamictal without fully disclosing its risk of side effects. In July 2012, GSK pled guilty to criminal negligent charges, and paid \$3 billion to resolve allegations of fraud and failure to report product safety data for Lamictal. The settlement was the largest health care fraud settlement in U.S. history.

Lamictal (Lamotrigine) is an anticonvulsant drug marketed in the United States and Europe to treat epilepsy and bipolar disorder, but it has been used for a variety of other off-label uses, such as schizophrenia.

Lamictal is a popular drug and has successfully helped many people with its mood stabilizing properties. Unfortunately, there have been reports of rare side effects such as Steven Johnson Syndrome (SJS) and even toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) that were supposedly caused by Lamictal or the use of the drug in combination with other prescriptions.

Though Lamictal SJS or TEN is rare, there have been enough cases to spark investigations and lawsuits.

GSK is no stranger to litigation. Last summer, the company was ordered to pay \$3 billion to resolve criminal and civil allegations brought by plaintiffs who alleged the company unlawfully promoted some of its prescription drugs by failing to report safety data, and performed false price reporting practices.

The company pled guilty to a three-count criminal offense, including:

- Two counts of introducing misbranded drugs, Paxil and Wellbutrin, into interstate commerce.
- One count of failing to report safety data about the drug Avandia to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

In terms of the plea agreement, GSK had to pay a total of \$1 billion for the criminal charges, which included a criminal fine of \$956,814,400, and forfeiture in the amount of \$43,185,600. The criminal plea agreement also included certain charges or violations not formally listed.

GSK had to pay an additional \$2 billion to resolve the civil allegations with the federal government under the False Claims Act, as well as the varying states. The civil settlement resolved claims relating

to Paxil, Wellbutrin and Avandia, and also resolved price-fraud allegations

Currently, dozens of victims and their families are suing GSK for defective product allegations, including for allegedly mislabeling the safety warnings for Lamictal.

Actos

Actos class action lawsuits and individual cases are being filed nationwide after it's been found that taking Actos (pioglitazone) may have caused bladder cancer in up to 40% of patients who took it for more than one year. Actos users are also 4% more likely to experience heart attacks, heart failure or die, according to a separate study. Other research suggests an even greater risk of Actos heart attack or congestive heart failure.

Takeda Pharmaceuticals released Actos to help improve glucose (blood sugar) control in Type 2 diabetic adults.

Actos Bladder Cancer

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Takeda Pharmaceuticals states that Actos (pioglitazone) helps your body better use the insulin you make. Actos is also supposed to help stop your liver from making more glucose or sugar when it doesn't need to. The Actos class action lawsuit and Actos bladder cancer lawsuits allege that Takeda Pharmaceuticals knew about the risks of developing bladder cancer for diabetics who took Actos for more than one year and didn't warn patients or doctors of the risk.

Actos Bladder Cancer Symptoms

The Actos class action lawsuit investigation does not dispute the claims by Takeda Pharmaceuticals that Actos can help treat type-2 diabetes. Actos lawyers and Actos bladder cancer attorneys are investigating claims that long-term treatment with Actos may cause cancerous tumors in the bladder as a side effect of using Actos.

A 10-year study showed that diabetics who took Actos (pioglitazone) for more than a year had not just a slightly elevated risk of cancerous bladder tumors, but, increased their risk of bladder cancer by 40%. Recently a lawsuit was filed by

an Actos user who only used the type 2 diabetes treatment for four months before developing bladder tumors and being diagnosed with bladder cancer.

There are multiple symptoms of bladder cancer and those taking Actos should be aware of each of them. These bladder cancer symptoms include:

- Painful or frequent urination
- Urinary tract infection(s)
- Blood in your urine

Actos Heart Attacks, Heart Failure

Clinical trials and studies show a link between Actos and congestive heart failure. This risk of Actos heart failure is so significant that the medication now carries a black-box warning, as mandated by the FDA in 2007. The warning states that Actos may cause or exacerbate congestive heart failure in some patients. Patients taking Actos should be monitored “carefully” for signs and symptoms of heart failure, including excessive, rapid weight gain, dyspnea, and/or edema.

One Actos heart failure study published in August 2010 in the American Heart Association journal found that patients taking Actos and Avandia were 4% more likely to experience heart attacks, heart failure, and die. Both medications belong to a class of drugs known as thiazolidinediones, which are designed to lower blood sugar levels by making tissues more sensitive to insulin. Thiazolidinediones have also been known to cause heart problems.

The study took place over 33 months and involved more than 36,000 diabetes patients with an average age of 54 years. Of the total observed time period, 14 months included treatment on either medication.

After the study concluded, researchers found that 602 patients who took Avandia and 599 patients who took Actos suffered either a heart attack, heart failure, or both, or died. There were 217 deaths in each group.

Other Actos heart studies support this research that Actos side effects increase the risk for heart failure, heart attack, or both.

Actos Lawsuits

Hundreds of Actos lawsuits have been filed nationwide. Actos lawyers are investigating all possible injuries connected to Actos side effects.

An Actos class action lawsuit may be filed when many people have experienced the same, or a very similar injury. This could be financial damages, medical expenses, time away from work due to being in the hospital, or even time away from work while caring for an injured or sick loved one who took Actos. Sometimes a class action lawsuit may not

be the best strategy for someone injured by Actos. In that case, an attorney representing you or your loved one personally may be the best course of action.

If you are represented individually because you or a loved one has shown signs of Actos bladder cancer, Actos heart failure or Actos heart attack, you may have a much better chance of being compensated for your injuries, medical treatment and pain and suffering. Individual Actos lawsuits may also be able to compensate the spouse or significant other who took care of their loved one while being treated for bladder cancer, congestive heart failure, heart attack, or other serious side effects of Actos. In addition, Actos attorneys are filing wrongful death lawsuits against Takeda Pharmaceuticals if your loved one died from an alleged Actos side effect.

Pradaxa (dabigatran) was approved by the FDA in 2010 and was quickly found to have possibly caused a multitude of serious, and possibly life threatening injuries. The Pradaxa Internal Bleeding Class Action Lawsuit Investigation is actively researching claims from consumers that were possibly injured by Pradaxa.

If you or a loved one experienced any of the following complications after taking Pradaxa, you may have a legal claim:

- Internal bleeding
- Heart attack
- Kidney bleeding
- Stroke
- Gastrointestinal bleeding
- Brain hemorrhage
- Death

Pradaxa: May Cause Internal Bleeding

Pradaxa (dabigatran) is a relatively new anticoagulant drug manufactured by Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals.

Pradaxa is in a class of drugs called Direct Thrombin Inhibitors, otherwise known as blood thinners or anticoagulants. It was approved by the FDA in October of 2010 as an anticoagulant drug that was superior to the prescription drug Coumadin (warfarin) because it allegedly required less monitoring of the patient and no, or very little, change of diet. However, users of the drug Coumadin (warfarin) who experienced abdominal bleeding could counteract those side effects by flushing their body with Vitamin K, which allows their blood to clot normally once again, stopping internal bleeding. There is no similar solution available to address people who experience internal bleeding while taking Pradaxa.

In just the first three months on the market, the FDA received 307 reports of Pradaxa problems involving internal bleeding, gastrointestinal bleeding, and other serious health complications. Within the first

year, there were more than 260 reported deaths allegedly from Pradaxa due to internal bleeding, gastrointestinal bleeding, hemorrhage and stroke.

Pradaxa side effect lawsuits allege that the problem with Pradaxa is that once a hemorrhage or internal bleed starts there is no way to stop the bleed until the body is flushed of Pradaxa by dialysis. This may take hours and result in multiple blood transfusions for the patient or their death.

In December 2011, the FDA (U.S. Food and Drug Administration) issued a warning notifying users of Pradaxa of the serious risk of uncontrollable internal bleeding which may be attributed to the use of Pradaxa.

A Pradaxa class action lawsuit and dozens of Pradaxa lawsuits have been filed due to the alleged serious side effects of Pradaxa and the alleged misleading of consumers regarding the safety of Pradaxa. Pradaxa lawsuits allege that Boehringer Ingelheim knew of the severe side effects of Pradaxa but didn't notify patients, or their prescribing physicians, of the risk of internal bleeding, hemorrhage, and death while taking Pradaxa.

It's known that all blood thinning and anticoagulant drugs cause bleeding; however, Pradaxa allegedly has an increased risk of excessive bleeding which is a very dangerous side effect.

Symptoms of internal bleeding or hemorrhage include bruising without any known cause, frequent nose bleeds, bleeding from the gums, discolored urine, red or black stools (poop,) coughing up blood, and possibly vomiting blood.

Pradaxa Lawsuits

A Pradaxa class action lawsuit may be filed when many people have experienced the same, or a very similar injury. This could be for financial damages, medical expenses, time away from work due to injury or even time away from work while caring for an injured or sick loved one.

Sometimes a class action lawsuit may not be the best strategy for someone injured by Pradaxa. In that case, an attorney representing you personally may be the best course of action. If you are represented individually because you or a loved one has been injured by Pradaxa you may have a much better chance of being compensated for your injuries, medical treatment and pain and suffering due to Pradaxa side effects.

Pradaxa attorneys are also available to families who lost a loved one allegedly due to a Pradaxa side effect. If your loved one died while taking Pradaxa you may be able to file a wrongful death lawsuit against Boehringer Ingelheim.

Client's Bill of Rights

Lawyers will tell you that it is impossible to offer a guarantee in the legal business. **WRONG!** We say that law firm clients should settle for nothing less! Remember, your attorney works for you – not the other way around.

At Mann Law we believe we can promise our clients quality service with personal attention. We believe that as our client you are entitled to have the:

1. Right to loyalty to you and your cause.
2. Right to be updated regularly and in a timely manner as to the progress of your case.
3. Right to our respect.
4. Right to expect competence from our firm and all who work here.
5. Right to know the truth about your case.
6. Right to prompt attention from us.
7. Right to have your legal rights and options explained in plain English without legal mumbo jumbo.
8. Right to a fair written fee agreement with our firm.
9. Right to a fair fee for the work we do.
10. Right to make the ultimate decision on your case.

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RECIPE OF THE MONTH: RED, WHITE & BLUE DESERT

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 packages (8 oz each) cream cheese softened
- ½ cup sugar
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- ½ teaspoon almond extract
- 2 cups heavy whipping cream, whipped
- 2 quarts strawberries, halved, divided
- 2 quarts blueberries, divided

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a large bowl, beat cream cheese, sugar and extracts until fluffy. Fold in whipped cream. Place a third of mixture in a 4 quart bowl. Reserve 20 strawberry halves and ½ cup blueberries for garnish.
2. Layer half of the remaining strawberries and blueberries over cream mixture. Top with another third of cream cheese mixture and remaining berries. Spread the remaining cream mixture on top. Use the reserved strawberries and blueberries to make a "flag" on top. Makes 18 servings. Total Prep time: 20 minutes

Takata Air Bag Recall

Recently the news has been flooded with information about the 34 million vehicles made by 10 different automakers (within the US) that have been recalled to replace frontal airbags on the driver's side or passenger's side, or both. The airbags which were made by the parts supplier Takata, were generally installed in cars from model years 2002 through 2008. This has now been expanded through 2014, in some cases. The cause for the recall is that some of those airbags could deploy explosively, injuring or even killing car occupants. The different automakers' notices to their customers varied depending on how many Takata airbags they installed and how long they believe it will take them to acquire replacement parts.

Here is one automaker's explanation of the issue: "The propellant could potentially deteriorate over time due to environmental factors [due to many years in high humidity conditions], which could lead to over-aggressive combustion in the event of an airbag deployment. This could create excessive internal pressure within the inflator and could cause the inflator housing to rupture." If the airbag housing ruptures in a

crash, metal shards from the airbag can be sprayed throughout the passenger cabin. This is a potentially disastrous outcome from a life-saving device.

It is Important to put the dangers in perspective

Six fatalities and more than 100 injuries have been linked to the Takata airbags, and in some cases the incidents were horrific, with metal shards penetrating a driver's face and neck. As awful as they are, such incidents are very rare, and it doesn't mean that airbags in general are a danger. The Department of Transportation estimates that between 1987 and 2012, frontal airbags have saved 37,000 lives.

If you have further questions or concerns about this recall or how it may affect you and your loved ones, please visit our website at www.manninjurylaw.com. If you believe you or a loved one has been impacted by a recalled airbag incident while being involved in an auto accident please contact our office at once. We are here to help and will do our best to answer any questions and concerns you may have.