Zimmer Durom Cup problems could have been discovered sooner

July 29th, 2008 by Austin Kirk | PERMALINK

An article in today's edition of the New York Times highlights the lack of tracking system in place in the United States, which may have alerted doctors sooner to the Zimmer Durom Cup problems which eventually led the manufacturer to suspend sales last week. The decision to stop selling the product in the U.S. came months after doctors first started complaining that patients were experiencing loosening of their Zimmer Durom Cup artificial hip and required revisions of their hip replacements at an alarming rate.

INFORMATION: Zimmer Durom Cup Lawsuits

The United States does not have any national artificial joint tracking system which could have sounded the warning bell as the Zimmer Durom Cup problems began to surface. Such databases, known as a joint registry, have proven effective in Australia, Britain, Norway and Sweden, where doctors are able to identify potential problems with devices and elect to only use a particular component after it has been proven to be safe and effective.

The New York Times article outlines how orthopedic surgeons in Sweden were alerted long before doctors in the United States about problems eight years ago with another type of artificial hip implant, made by Sulzer Orthopedics. Swedish doctors were able to identify an alarmingly high rate of replacements after 30 patients received the component, which it was later discovered was contaminated by oil during the manufacturing process. The product was not recalled in the United States until months later, after thousands of Americans received the artificial hip implant.

The recent Zimmer Durom Cup issues were first noticed by prominent orthopedic surgeon, Dr. Larry Dorr, last year. He identified a high rate of problems with the Zimmer Durom Cup, where his patients were experiencing excruciating pain after their hip replacement which was being caused by the artificial hip socket separating from the bone, instead of fusing with it. After his concerns were dismissed by Zimmer, he published an open letter to his colleges in April 2008, which eventually led Zimmer to investigate the Durom Cup problems.

Last week Zimmer announced that they were suspending sales of the Durom Cup, but thousands of individuals received the artificial component during their hip replacement while this was being investigated. Zimmer has not issued a Durom Cup

Recall, but instead indicates that they will re-introduce the component in the United States after they update the labeling to indicate that special surgical techniques must be used and implement a training program for surgeons who wish to use the Durom Cup.

ZIMMER DUROM CUP LAWYERS

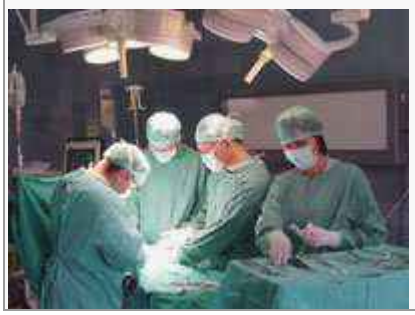
Potential product liability lawsuits are being investigated throughout the United States by the Zimmer Durom Cup Lawyers at Saiontz & Kirk, P.A. Individuals who know that they received this component or suspect that they may be suffering from Zimmer Durom Cup problems, can request a free consultation to have a potential case reviewed by our attorneys. While many people are unaware of the type of artificial hip replacement component used, our lawyers can obtain medical records and investigate whether pain, loosening of the hip implant or revisions of a hip replacement may be caused by the Zimmer Durom Cup.

Zimmer Durom Cup Artificial Hip Lawsuits

A number of doctors have reported problems with the Zimmer Durom Cup. Lawsuits against the manufacturer are being reviewed.
>>REQUEST A LAWSUIT EVALUATION

Potential lawsuits are being investigated on behalf of individuals who have experienced issues with the Zimmer Durom Cup. Doctors have reported a number of problems with the artificial hip replacement component, which have resulted in devastating pain and the need for additional surgeries for many patients.

Zimmer Durom Cup Lawyers



- Zimmer Durom Cup Lawsuits
- Holding Corporations Liable for Defective Medical Products
- No fees or expenses unless you win
- About Saiontz & Kirk
- Defective Product News & Updates

The Zimmer Durom Cup lawyers at Saiontz & Kirk, P.A. are reviewing potential cases for individuals who know they received the hip implant component, or suspect that may have, and suffered

- Unexplained hip pain more than three months after hip replacement
- Loosening of their artificial hip implant
- Hip replacement revision surgery

Potential Zimmer Durom Cup lawsuits are being reviewed throughout the United States. Because many hip replacement patients are unaware of the type of implant used, cases are being investigated for any individuals who have experienced problems after a **surgery since 2006**. There are no fees or expenses unless a recovery is obtained

>>REQUEST A FREE LAWSUIT EVALUATION<<

The Zimmer Durom Acetabular Component is a newer type of artificial hip which was introduced in the United States in 2006. It is designed for use with Zimmer's Metasul Metal-on-Metal Tribological Solution Large Diameter Heads (LDH). Unlike traditional hip replacement components, the Zimmer Durom Cup is made from a single piece of materials.

ZIMMER DUROM CUP RECALL

In April 2008, prominent Los Angeles orthopedic surgeon, Dr. Larry Dorr, notified members of the *American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons* about the Zimmer Durom Cup problems he was encountering with patients who received the component. Problems such as loosing of the components and a higher than expected rate of revisions were identified by Dr. Dorr.

After initially dismissing Dr. Dorr's report of problems, Zimmer agreed to initiate an investigation of the Durom Cup problems in **May 2008**. After reviewing data from over 3,100 cases, Zimmer concluded that the technology and design parameters of the Durom Cup require a higher degree of precision than was common in hip replacement surgical techniques in the United States and that additional instructions and training should be provided to doctors before the devices are implanted.

In July 2008, the manufacturer decided to suspend U.S. sales of the product, but a Zimmer Durom Cup recall was not issued since they did not uncover evidence of any manufacturing defect or design defect. In fact, they intend to reintroduce the artificial hip implant after they develop instructions about the special surgical techniques that doctors need to use to avoid the risk of Durom Cup problems. They have also indicated that they will implement a new training program for U.S. surgeons.

ZIMMER DUROM CUP CLASS ACTION LAWYERS

Over 12,000 people in the United States have had a Zimmer Durom Cup implanted during their hip replacement surgery. Hundreds of these people could experience loosening of the component and the need for additional surgeries which was caused by the negligence of Zimmer Holdings, Inc. They introduced a new product without providing adequate warnings or instructions about the proper use and surgical techniques required.

The Zimmer Durom Cup lawyers at Saiontz & Kirk, P.A. are reviewing potential class action suits and individual Durom Cup lawsuits for those who have experienced problems after their hip replacement. To have a potential case reviewed by one of our product liability lawyers, request a free consultation and claim evaluation. There are no fees or expenses unless a recovery is obtained.

>>REVIEW A POTENTIAL ZIMMER DUROM CUP CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT<<

Zimmer Hip Replacement Settlement Offers

August 25th, 2008 by Austin Kirk | PERMALINK

Hundreds of people throughout the United States have experienced problems following hip replacement surgery where a Zimmer Durom Cup was implanted. The lawyers at Saiontz & Kirk, P.A. have been reviewing potential Zimmer hip replacement lawsuits for individuals who have experienced a loosening of the cup or required additional hip revision surgeries.

Last month, Zimmer announced that they were halting sales of the Durom Cup hip implant due to a large number of problems reported. This decision came months after doctors first reported that the Zimmer Durom Cups were failing and often required revisions. For months, Zimmer has been making statements that attempt to shift the blame for the Durom Cup problems onto doctors, and they have refused to take any responsibility.

However, recently some of the individuals who have contacted our Zimmer Durom Cup lawyers to review a potential hip replacement lawsuit, report that indirect indications are being made by doctors and Zimmer sales representatives, that Zimmer may now be considering offers of compensation for those who required revision surgery. These indirect suggestions of an intention to offer compensation, appear to be simply an attempt to delay victims from obtaining a lawyer.

Our product liability lawyers have seen tactics like this employed in the past by manufacturers who sold a defective device. In most cases, as we saw with the Medtronic Sprint Fidelis Leads last year, direct pre-lawyer settlement offers only provide a small fraction of the actual cost of the surgery their device required and provide no compensation for what the patient was put through. In other cases, the offers are never actually made, and the "overtures" of settlement are only suggested to discourage people from properly investigating and documenting their claim.
In prior orthopedic implant cases, settlement offers have been made by the manufacturer to cover portions of the medical costs associated with the defective devices. However, in our experience, these offers do not fairly compensate for what the patient was put through and are usually only a small fraction of the true value of a case.

ZIMMER DUROM CUP LAWYERS

If Zimmer wanted to do the right thing from the beginning, they would have accepted responsibility for the failures of their Durom Cup hip implants and already would have covered the full cost of subsequent revisions and hip replacement surgeries that people have had to go through. Instead they decided to continuing selling the defective Durom Cups for months with inadequate warnings and instructions for doctors.
If you, a friend or family member have experienced problems after a hip replacement surgery where you suspect the Zimmer Durom Cup may have been used, free consultations are available to help determine if financial compensation may be available. To have a potential case reviewed by our Zimmer Durom lawyers, request a free consultation and claim evaluation.

Zimmer Hip Implant Recall Lawyers

September 25th, 2008 by Harvey Kirk | PERMALINK
In July, Zimmer suspended sales of their Durom Cup hip implant in the United States. The Zimmer hip implant was found to be failing at a very high rate, leading many patients to require surgical revision of their hip replacement months after the cup was implanted.

>>PRIOR POST (7/24/2008): Zimmer Hip Implant Recall

Over 12,000 people in the United States have received a Durom Cup Zimmer hip implant since the orthopedic device was approved in 2006 for total hip replacements, or total hip arthroplasty. Although the hip implant is no longer being used, individuals could continue to experience loosening or failure of the Zimmer implant for months or even years in the future.

According to Zimmer's own investigation released in July, some doctors have experienced hip implant failures with the Durom Cup at a rate as high as 5.7%. Therefore, even conservative estimates suggest that hundreds of people will require a hip replacement revision as a result of the Zimmer hip implant recall.

At the time Zimmer announced that they were stopping sales of the Durom Cup in the U.S., they recommended that hip replacement patients who received their implant contact a doctor if they experience hip pain more than three months after surgery. Unfortunately, as time passes, the number of hip replacement failures involving the Zimmer Durom Cup implant is bound to increase. This could substantially increase the overall Zimmer hip implant failure rate in the United States.

ZIMMER HIP IMPLANT RECALL LAWYERS

The product recall lawyers at Saiontz & Kirk, P.A. represent individuals throughout the United States who are investing a potential Zimmer hip implant lawsuit as a result of a Durom Cup failure. If you, a friend or family member have had a hip replacement surgery since 2006 and have required additional surgery to revise the implant, your problems may have been caused by a Zimmer implant.