Stryker LFIT V40 Hip Component Recall

Frequently Asked Questions about Stryker Hip Implants

Since our founding 44 years ago, Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, LLP, has successfully represented thousands of individuals and families in personal injury lawsuits, including patients who received faulty artificial hip implants. With offices located in San Francisco, New York, Nashville, and Seattle, we offer our clients the substantial resources of a national plaintiffs’ law firm necessary to obtain justice from the nation’s most powerful corporations while providing each client with high-level, individualized representation.

1. When were the Stryker LFIT V40 implant components recalled?

Stryker Orthopaedics recalled certain LFIT V40 components hip systems sold before 2011 in the United States in August 2016. These components were often used with the Accolade Stem. Now, doctors are alerting their patients that they must be seen, have blood tests, and possibly X-rays to see if their hip implants need to be removed.

2. Why were the Stryker LFIT V40 components recalled?

On August 29, 2016, Stryker Corporation issued a recall for a series of femoral heads (Stryker hip implant components) manufactured before 2011 because such implants show a high incidence of failures leading to patient injuries including loss of mobility; pain; inflammation; adverse local tissue reaction; dislocation; joint instability; broken bones around the components; leg length discrepancy; and a need for complicated and painful revision surgery. The specific implants included in the recall are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Implant Item Number</th>
<th>ImpHead Diameter</th>
<th>Offset</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6260-9-236</td>
<td>36 mm</td>
<td>+5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6260-9-240</td>
<td>40 mm</td>
<td>+4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6260-9-244</td>
<td>44 mm</td>
<td>+4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6260-9-340</td>
<td>40 mm</td>
<td>+8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6260-9-344</td>
<td>44 mm</td>
<td>+8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6260-9-440</td>
<td>40 mm</td>
<td>+12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6260-9-444</td>
<td>44 mm</td>
<td>+12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. What are the risks of injury from the Stryker LFIT V40 components?

Stryker wrote to orthopedic surgeons who implanted the V40 devices identified above, and listed potential hazards associated with the issue as disassociation of the femoral head from the hip stem;
fractured hip stem trunnion; increased metallic debris; insufficient range of movement; insufficient soft tissue tension; noise; loss of implant; bone fixation strength; increased wear debris (polymetric); and implant construct with a shortened neck length. The noted reported and potential injuries include loss of mobility; pain; inflammation; adverse local tissue reaction; dislocation; joint instability; broken bones around the components; leg length discrepancy; and need for revision surgery.

4. Why do the Stryker Accolade hip implants have to be removed?

Physicians and health regulators have focused attention on the dangers to patients from metallic and other debris as well as the possibility of broken bones around the hip components.

5. What health issues or symptoms have been linked to the recalled Stryker LFIT hip systems?

If the taper lock in the LFIT Anatomic femoral head components fail, as noted above patients can experience loss of mobility, pain, inflammation, adverse local tissue reaction, dislocation, joint instability, broken bones around the components, leg length discrepancy, and a need for revision surgery.

6. What should I do if my Stryker hip implant is failing?

We recommend you consult with an attorney. You have the right to discuss with an attorney your legal rights and claims against Stryker, as well as the legal deadlines applicable to filing a complaint. Many attorneys, including those at Lieff Cabraser, are willing to provide free consultations without obligation.

We recommend that you not sign any documents given to you by a Stryker investigator, lawyer, or agent until after you have consulted with an independent law firm such as Lieff Cabraser that is working for patients, not for Stryker.

7. What are some allegations made against Stryker in lawsuits filed by injured patients?

Lieff Cabraser represents hip replacement patients across America in lawsuits against Stryker to obtain just compensation for their pain, suffering, lost wages, and other losses from the failure of their Stryker hip implants. These patients have suffered metallosis and tissue damage, and many have had to undergo often painful and complicated revision surgery to remove and replace faulty Stryker hip implants.

The earlier lawsuits charge that other Stryker devices are defective because they are prone to fretting, degradation, and fracture. Further, the lawsuits allege that Stryker knew or should have known that some of its hip systems were not safe for the patients, yet Stryker continued to market and sell the products.

8. What types of claims may I be eligible in bringing?

The law in most states provides individuals with legal claims including the right to compensation for past injuries they suffered as a result of a medical device that is defective or fails to perform as advertised under certain
circumstances. These damages may include past and future medical expenses, past and future lost earnings, other out-of-pocket expenses, and damages for pain and suffering.

9. What recovery will I receive?
If Stryker is found liable or settles with you out-of-court through your attorneys’ representation of you, you should expect a settlement or judgment that will fully compensate you for your medical bills, your pain and suffering and humiliation, and other financial losses. If you suffered a personal injury, the defendant will be responsible for paying for your medical care, both past and to be incurred in the future that is attributable to the defective device, your past and future lost earnings and any limitations on your ability to earn money, and compensation for pain and suffering. Your spouse also might be entitled to an award of loss of services and emotional support.

We have economists on retainer who specialize in evaluating injuries and losses and in calculating the lump-sum amounts necessary to determine a fair monetary compensation for your economic damages.

10. Can any money be advanced by Stryker without prejudicing my claim?
It is important to carefully read and study any and all such offers to make sure there are no hidden costs or waiver of rights. Consulting with an attorney prior to signing any legal documents can often help guide appropriate action and reveal potential problems.

11. How quickly must I hire an attorney?
You should not feel pressured to make an immediate decision about hiring counsel. Focusing on restoring your health should take precedence over legal issues at this difficult time. However, keep in mind that there is a deadline for filing lawsuits. Known as the statute of limitations, the deadline varies from state to state. Some states have only a one-year statute of limitations.

12. Will I have to pay a fee for your review of my case?
There is no charge for Lieff Cabraser’s review of your case. If we decide we can represent you, we will discuss our contingent fees (calculated as a percentage of the recovery we obtain) and then provide a written contract to be agreed upon with you in writing.

13. How long will a lawsuit take?
We cannot give any guarantee as to when any case will be resolved. In some instances, a case will settle to our client’s satisfaction shortly after it is filed, or perhaps even before. In other cases, a final resolution may take two years or more.

Lieff Cabraser works swiftly and efficiently to obtain the maximum compensation for our clients and to bring each case to a successful conclusion as quickly as possible, while at the same time ensuring that all legal steps are vigorously pursued. We do not charge our clients hourly fees and earn no compensation for ourselves until you receive your recovery.

14. Do I need a lawyer? Why don’t I just contact Stryker and work it out with their insurance company?
It is usually not advisable to try to resolve on your own a case involving a defective device.

Our Promise to You

- Our injury lawyers have successfully represented thousands of clients across America in personal injury cases involving defective medical devices.
- We provide each client with high-level individualized representation.
- There is no charge or obligation for our review of your injury lawsuit.
- We have retained product safety and medical experts nationwide to assist our clients with their claims.
- In addition to our experienced lawyers, we have a team of nurses, researchers, legal assistants, and case clerks assigned to the prosecution of the Stryker litigation. Our firm employs five full-time nurses, including ones with decades of experience working with patients.

“Representing the best qualities of the plaintiffs’ bar.”
-The National Law Journal
medical device causing substantial and prolonged injuries. An attorney can be critical to properly evaluating your case and advising you of your rights. Without counsel, and the experts counsel hires, you may never know the true value of your case.

It is important to understand that a company like Stryker and its insurers employ the services of lawyers who seek to minimize the legal exposure and financial payments that will be made to the victims of this defective device. In contrast, our duty is to maximize the compensation that our clients are entitled to receive.

Many attorneys, including Lieff Cabraser, are willing to provide free consultations without obligations.

15. How do I select an attorney to represent me?

In deciding on representation, you should seek a law firm with substantial experience in successfully prosecuting similar cases. It is important not only to verify the reputation and experience of the law firm as a whole, but to be sure that your case will be handled by lawyers with appropriate experience.

You should choose a law firm with sufficient financial resources to conduct a thorough investigation to prosecute the case through trial and appeal if necessary.

16. What is Lieff Cabraser’s track record in defective medical device cases, such as the Stryker recall litigation?

Lieff Cabraser has successfully represented thousands of clients across America with defective medical devices in individual lawsuits, including patients with defective hip implants.

We helped hundreds of patients who were forced to undergo revision surgery to remove faulty hip and knee implants manufactured by Sulzer Orthopedics. We played a significant role in negotiating a settlement with Sulzer valued at more than $1 billion.

The Court overseeing all DePuy metal-on-metal hip implant recall lawsuits in federal court appointed Lieff Cabraser lawyer Wendy R. Fleishman to the team of plaintiffs’ counsel responsible for the organization and coordination of the litigation. Our firm represents nearly 200 patients nationwide who received faulty hip implants made by DePuy.

We have retained experts to assist us in any prosecution of the Stryker hip implant lawsuits.