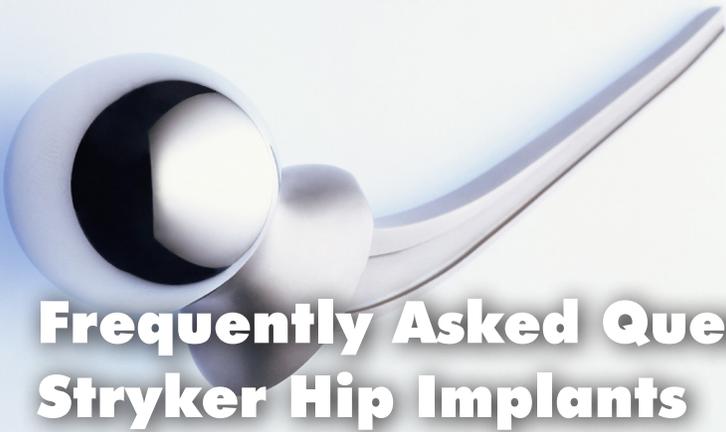




Stryker Hip Recall



Frequently Asked Questions about Stryker Hip Implants

Free Case Review

Lieff Cabraser represents persons across America injured by faulty Stryker Rejuvenate or Stryker ABG II hip implants. To contact an experienced injury attorney for a free, no-obligation case evaluation, please call us toll-free at **1-800-541-7358** and ask to speak to attorney Lexi Hazam or visit www.LieffCabraser.com/Stryker

Since our founding 41 years ago, Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, LLP, has successfully represented thousands of persons across America in individual personal injury lawsuits, including patients who received faulty artificial hip implants. With offices located in San Francisco, New York, and Nashville, we offer our clients with 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 Rejuvenate and ABG II recalled?

Howmedica Osteonics Corporation, which operates under the name of Stryker Orthopaedics, recalled the Stryker Rejuvenate Modular Primary Hip System and Stryker ABG II modular neck hip system in the United States in June 2012. Stryker began selling the Rejuvenate hip system in 2009 and the ABG II hip system in 2010. Now, doctors are alerting their patients that they must be seen, have blood tests, and possibly X-rays to see if their hip implant must be removed.

2. Why were the Stryker Rejuvenate and ABG II hip implants recalled?

The Stryker Rejuvenate and ABG II are a bit different from the all-metal hip implants because they use a ceramic ball rather than a metal one. Since the major problem with the metal-on-metal hip implant design is the fact that the ball and acetabular cup rub against one another causing tiny metal ions to shear away and lodge in the surrounding tissue or bloodstream, it was believed the ceramic ball of the Rejuvenate and ABG II would effectively circumvent this issue.

Unfortunately, the design turned out to have some different problems; however, the result was the same—metal ions are released into the the body leading to metallosis.

Metallosis can cause serious adverse health symptoms for the recipient of the hip implant, many of which may be irreversible, even when the implant is removed.

The Stryker Rejuvenate and ABG II were recalled due to the risk of fretting and corrosion at the neck juncture. It was later found out that the metal trunnions, located at either end of the neck piece are made of metal as well. Body fluids can become trapped underneath the trunnions, corrosion occurs, and metal ions are released into the body just as with the all-metal implant. The trunnions on the neck snap into the stem on one end and the ball on the other, giving surgeons the ability to select the size components for each individual patient's anatomy and needs.

3. What are the risks of metallosis from the Stryker Rejuvenate or ABG II hip implant?

Any level of cobalt and chromium can be too much. In persons who are particularly



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Newsletter from the national law firm of LIEFF CABRASER HEIMANN & BERNSTEIN, LLP

sensitive to these metals, even small amounts can make them very sick. Others with a relatively high tolerance for the metal ions may not notice any adverse effects until the levels in their body have built up to an alarming amount, then they may fall very ill. The following health issues are common in cases of metallosis: kidney problems and renal failure, neurological issues, cardiovascular problems, blood problems, loss of vision and hearing, disruption of DNA, thyroid problems, fatigue, anxiety, depression, loss of memory, chronic headaches and brain "fog," dizziness and vertigo, skin disorders, gastrointestinal disorders, and the development of pseudo-tumors.

Those who have a Stryker Rejuvenate or ABG II—or any other metal hip implant—in their body should take special precautions. You must have regular blood work to monitor the levels of cobalt and chromium in your body, and your doctor may also want you to have a bone scan to determine whether there is any deterioration of the bone or tissue surrounding your implant.

4. Why do the Stryker rejuvenate and ABG II hip implants have to be removed?

Physicians and health regulators have focused substantial attention on the dangers to patients from the release of tiny metallic particles. Stryker's Rejuvenate and ABG II modular-neck hip stem systems are made of chromium and cobalt, and the stems are coated with titanium. They do have a metal-on-metal junction and can release metallic debris into nearby tissue and the blood stream.

5. What health issues or symptoms have been linked to the faulty Stryker Rejuvenate or ABG II hip system?

In April 2012, Stryker issued an "Urgent Safety Alert" to surgeons for the two hip replacement systems. The Alert stated that "excessive metal debris and/or ion generation" is one of the safety risks to patients.

According to Stryker's Safety Alert, the following problems may result:

- metallosis (release of metal ions into the tissue and blood stream),
- necrosis (premature tissue death); osteolysis (bone dissolution), and,
- pain and loosening of the hip implant requiring revision surgery.

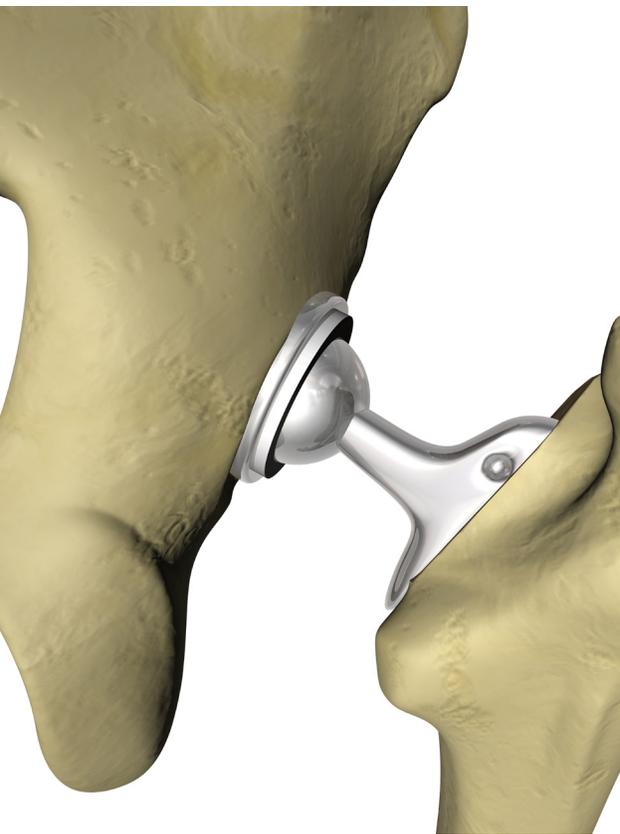
Stryker recommends that surgeons perform a clinical examination, test the blood and get diagnostic film studies that show cross section imaging on patients who received the Stryker Rejuvenate or ABG II hip system.

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 lawsuits charge that the Rejuvenate and ABG II devices are defective because the modular neck is prone to fretting, degradation, and fracture. Further, the lawsuits allege that Stryker knew or should have known that the Rejuvenate and ABG II hip systems were not safe for the patients, yet 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

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.



Contact a Stryker Hip Replacement Personal Injury Attorney

If you or a loved one have been injured by a Stryker artificial hip, please visit us at www.LieffCabrer.com/Stryker or call us toll-free at 1-800-541-7358 and ask to speak to attorney Lexi Hazam. We will promptly review your case for no charge and without any obligation on your part.

**Lieff
Cabrer
Heimann &
Bernstein**
Attorneys at Law

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 Cabrer 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 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 Cabrer, 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 Cabrer's track record in defective medical device cases, such as the Stryker Rejuvenate recall litigation?

Lieff Cabrer 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.

In January 2011, the Court overseeing all DePuy metal-on-metal hip implant recall lawsuits in federal court appointed Lieff Cabrer 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 the prosecution of the Stryker Rejuvenate and ABG II hip implant litigation.

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