

## What you should know about 3M Bair Hugger lawsuits.

### **Have you or someone you know undergone hip or knee replacement surgery since 2009?**

If so, you may have developed a serious infection that can cause severe, prolonged pain and require additional hospitalization or surgeries.

If you believe that you or a loved one developed an infection following a hip or knee surgery, you will have to demand compensation for the harm caused, and you will have to prove your case to receive the damages you deserve.

Recent research suggests that a medical device used in 90% of major US surgeries may cause dangerous infections in joint replacement and exploratory operations.

The Bair Hugger is a disposable plastic blanket and motor manufactured by 3M that is used during joint surgery to keep a patient's body temperature during surgery. Because the device works while patients are under anesthesia, it's likely that you were never aware it was employed during your operation.

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## LEARN MORE

What you should know.

What you should do.

Why you may need a lawyer.

## What you should know.

- **Your doctor is not responsible.** If you or someone you know suffered from an infection following a joint replacement surgery, the manufacturer may be responsible, and you could be entitled to compensation.
- **The approximate time frame when you had a joint replacement surgery.** If you've suffered adverse side effects, you will have to show that those effects were caused by the Bair Hugger in order to get compensation.
- **The type of surgery that you received.** Doctors administer various surgeries based on the relevant joint and the patients' circumstances. The specifics of your surgery could be relevant to a lawsuit.
- **Studies show that the Bair Hugger may compromise the sterility of the operating table.** Forced air-warming systems can cause bacteria to be sucked up from the floor, increasing the chance of infection.

## What you should do.

**1** **Talk to your doctor.** Your physician may be able to help determine whether you've suffered a joint infection that could be attributed to the 3M Bair Hugger.

**3** **Gather records.** Know where you have been treated and by whom so you can obtain the relevant medical records you'll need to help prove your case.

**2** **Document everything.** Record every aspect of your symptoms and treatment in addition to the notes your doctor will take. Never turn your notes over to anyone but your lawyer.

**4** **Speak to a lawyer right away.** A lawyer has two goals—to protect your legal rights and to get you the compensation you deserve.

## Why you need a lawyer. NOW.

- **A lawyer may help you get compensation.** A lawyer can help you demand the damages you deserve from the manufacturer of the device.
- **Your time to sue may be limited.** Victims should seek legal counsel immediately to be sure of filing a lawsuit before any applicable time limitation runs out.
- **You will never pay unless we win.** We work on a strict contingency fee basis. That means you don't pay anything unless we recover money for you.
- **Evidence must be gathered and preserved.** Speaking to a lawyer will prepare you for the record keeping you'll need to start right away.

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24 HOURS / 7 DAYS A WEEK

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