



Are You or Have You Taken Truvada? Here's Something You May Want to Know.

Did the Maker of HIV Drugs Fail to Warn Its Product Can Cause Serious Kidney Problems, Low Bone Density and Related Health Problems?

Let the courts decide! Gilead Sciences, Inc. is facing multiple lawsuits that claim its tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (TDF) HIV medications Truvada, Viread, Atripla, Complera and Stribild led to kidney problems and bone loss. Several lawsuits are pending, including individual cases in state and federal courts and a class action lawsuit in California.

Side effects include rash, diarrhea, headache, pain, depression, asthenia and nausea. The most serious side effects include decreases in bone density, liver problems, kidney problems, lactic acidosis and worsening HBV symptoms

after stopping treatment.

HIV products are big moneymakers for Gilead. They make up about 67% of the company's revenue. The company made \$14.6 billion from HIV drugs in 2018, an increase from \$13 billion in 2017.

Lawsuits also claim the drug maker purposely delayed releasing a more effective, safer version of the drug called tenofovir alafenamide fumarate (TAF) to maximize profits from TDF. Releasing TAF sooner could have prevented patients from experiencing as many side effects, lawsuits allege.

So far, lawsuits against Gilead are pending in five federal courts in Louisiana and California as well as

California state court, according to Gilead's 2018 annual report. The drug maker said it intends to vigorously defend itself but expressed concern that a plaintiff win could mean financial losses.

At Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law, we have a proven track record of holding Big Pharma accountable.

Contact us with health issues related to these pharmaceuticals, too:

- Taxoter
- Uloric
- Valsartan
- Zofran
- Opiods
- PPI - Nexium, Prilosec, Prevacid
- Testosterone Replacement Therapy (TRT)

Sources: Gilead Sciences Inc. 2018 annual report / www.drugwatch.com/tenofovir-disoproxil-fumarate/lawsuits/

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Letter From Jan

If you also happen to get our eNews, you may already have some insight into the potential dangers of Truvada. Manufactured by Gilead Sciences, Truvada is one of several HIV medications that has led to kidney problems and bone loss. At Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law, we have a proven track record of holding Big Pharma accountable. If you believe you or a loved one have suffered at the hands of Gilead Science and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (TDF) HIV medications, do not hesitate to contact us.

In the second article, many of us at Jan Dils know firsthand that having a baby is a beautiful

and life-changing moment. And it is for most. However, approximately 3% of new parents face complex medical complications that lead to a birth injury or even fetal death. Was the doctor negligent? If you are in that percentile, you deserve to know. Please read the article, "Could Your Child's Birth Injury Have Been Prevented?" and consider taking action. A lawsuit may not reverse a dire situation, but it will help with medical cost and expenses. Contact us at jandils.com, or give us a toll-free call at 877-526-3457.

Sincerely,
Jan Dils



Jan Dils brings her expertise to issues that affect you and millions of other Americans every day. While her knowledge spans the critical areas pertaining to Personal Injury, Veterans benefits, Social Security disability benefits and related appeals and claims, her practice remains focused on people, making sure you get the right answers and results.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT!

John Weber

John is a West Virginia native. He attended Parkersburg High School – go Big Reds! He went on to attend Colgate University and graduated in 2016 with a Bachelor of Arts in History. He continued his education at WVU College of Law, graduating in 2019. He had been one of our star interns and was hired by our firm in August 2019, as a Personal Injury Specialist. Since then,

John has successfully passed the Bar exam and will be joining our legal team once he has been properly admitted to the state and federal bar. "It's the family atmosphere here that brought me back for a career

after graduation." Outside of work, John enjoys reading, traveling, and cheering on his favorite football team – the Pittsburgh Steelers!

We are excited to be expanding our Personal Injury legal team, and we're proud to have John representing our clients. Welcome back, John.



OFFICE INBOX

Former intern **John Weber** joined our Personal Injury team in August and passed the Bar exam in September. Read all about him in this issue's Employee Spotlight. In September, **Devin Dye** came on board as a Market Development Specialist. Serving our Veterans, **Devon Burnfield** was promoted to VA Case Management Team Leader, **Jaime Caverly** to VA Case Manager, and **Chad Lockhart** is new to the VA Leads & Intake POD. Also promoted, **Stephanie Copen** earned the position as Social Security Hearing Clerk Support Specialist.

Community Corner

Congratulations to Melissa Birge, the latest recipient of the Jan Dils **Golden Apple Award**. This award is given to local teachers who excel at the work they do and truly champion their students. Melissa is a teacher at St. Mary's Catholic School. She was nominated by the mother of one of her students, who said, "Every child needs to have an amazing teacher at least once in their lives and Ms. Birge is that teacher. The one teacher you will remember for the rest of your life." Thank you for everything you do, Melissa!





Could Your Child's Birth Injury Have Been Prevented?



egligence during delivery is one of the leading drivers of medical malpractice lawsuits.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), birth defects affect one in every 33 babies. Many defects or injuries could have been prevented. They include:

- Cerebral palsy
- Erb's palsy (also called brachial plexus palsy)
- Brain swelling or hemorrhaging
- Skull fractures or other bone damage
- Nerve damage
- Brain damage due to lack of oxygen (hypoxia)
- Fetal death

When Do Birth Injuries Lead to Legal Action?

It's very possible that the doctor did something – or failed to do something – during the birth process, and that conduct amounted to medical malpractice. But it's not as simple as that. The results alone (a baby with a birth-related injury) don't support a conclusion of malpractice.

In every medical malpractice case, it's first necessary to establish the appropriate level of care under the circumstances – the degree of care and skill of the average healthcare provider

Birth defects affect one in every 33 babies.

who practices the same specialty, taking into account the medical knowledge that is available to the physician in

that particular situation. This is a legal concept known as the Medical Standard of Care.

After you've documented what a similarly skilled care provider would have done under the circumstances, you need to show how that standard was breached – in other words, what did the defendant actually do (or not do) that

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CABBAGE SOUP

With only 261 calories per serving, this low carb keto recipe comes from the kitchen of our new Market Development Specialist **Devin Dye**.



INGREDIENTS:

- 2 pounds ground beef, 90% lean
- 10 oz. Ro-tel® diced tomatoes
- 1/4 large onion, diced
- 1 can green chilies
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 4 cups water
- 1 tsp. ground cumin
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 large head cabbage, chopped
- 4 cubes bouillon

DIRECTIONS: Brown ground beef over medium heat. Add onion and cook until translucent. Next, transfer ground beef and onion mixture to stock pot. Add garlic, cumin, cabbage, bouillon cubes, Ro-tel® diced tomatoes, green chilies and water to the stock pot. Mix ingredients thoroughly and bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat to medium low and simmer covered for 30 - 45 minutes. Serve and enjoy!.



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fell short of the benchmark?

In some traumatic childbirth scenarios, fast action is required on the part of the doctor and especially in cases where the health of the newborn or the mother is in danger. A birth injury may be considered a practical (or even necessary) risk if the circumstances of the situation call for drastic measures. But obviously, in cases where no complications exist and labor is proceeding normally, a doctor may well be deemed negligent if the baby ends up with a serious physical injury.

Alternatively, if a quick response to a dangerous situation is necessary, and the doctor fails to act, that may also be considered medical negligence, and the medical professional would be on the legal hook for any resulting injuries. This is often the case when a baby is in danger – perhaps deprived of oxygen – in the womb, and the medical staff fails



to execute a C-section in a reasonable amount of time. If oxygen deprivation – hypoxia (too little oxygen) or anoxia (no oxygen) – leads to brain damage in the newborn, the medical staff could be liable.

In such emotionally charged (not to mention legally and medically complex) cases, it's best to discuss your situation with an experienced medical malpractice attorney. If you suspect negligence, contact us for a free consultation at jandils.com.