



PERSONAL INJURY • VETERANS DISABILITY • SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY

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Continued from cover story

risk of serious, debilitating injuries. People injured by drugs and medical devices have a better chance of compensation when they turn to the legal system for help.

**Research presented at the American Academy of Ophthalmology in 2019 revealed that patients taking Elmiron showed clear signs of toxicity.**

At Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law, we have been fighting for victims' rights for more than 25 years. We are knowledgeable, experienced, and successful in taking on Big Pharma



for the clients we serve. If you or a loved one has taken **Elmiron** and is experiencing **vision problems**, please do not hesitate to contact us at 877.526.3457 or [jandils.com](http://jandils.com).

**Elmiron Lawsuit Facts**

**DEFENDANT**

Janssen Pharmaceuticals, subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson

**INJURIES IN LAWSUITS**

Maculopathy, retinopathy, and other vision problems

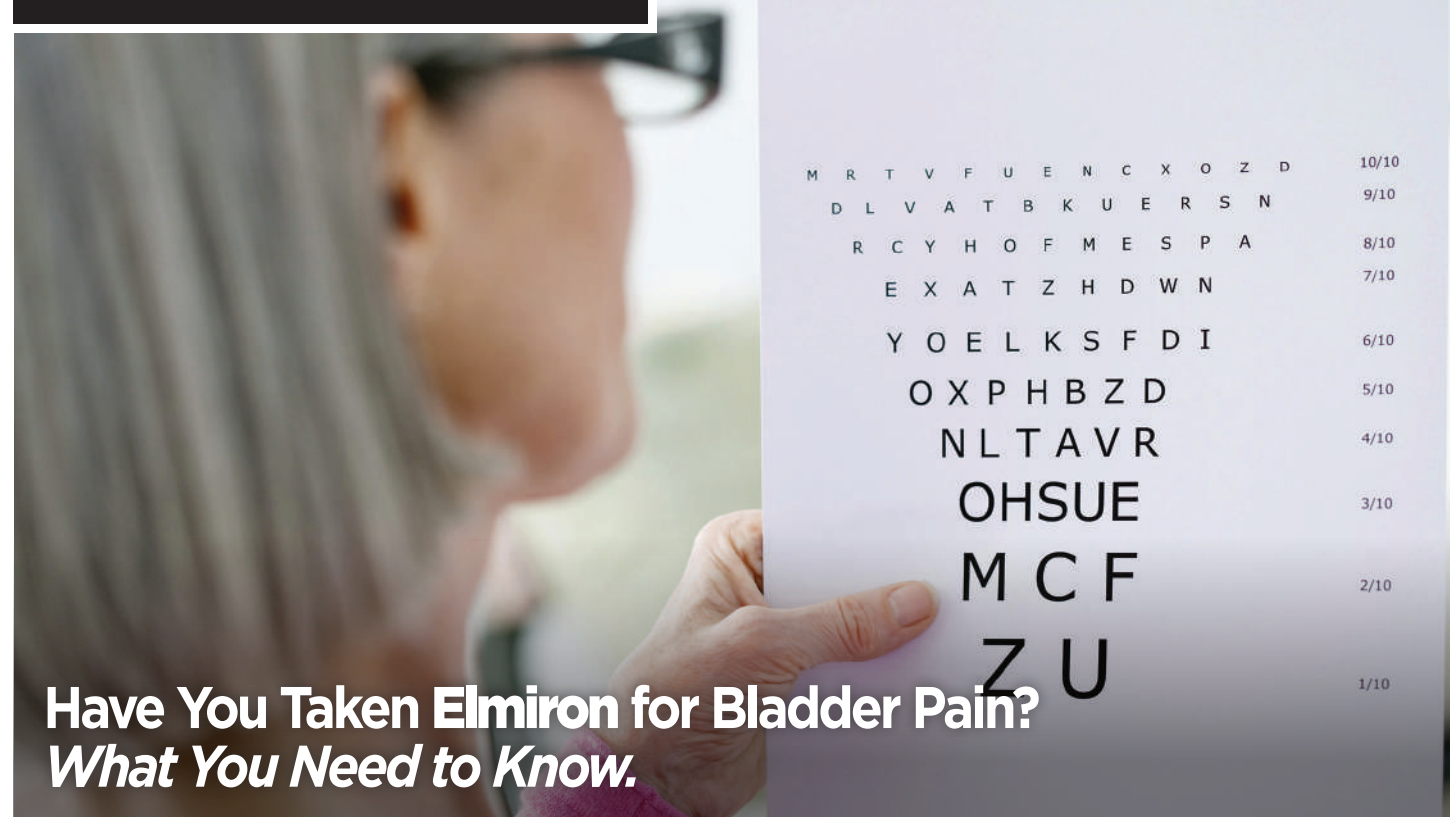
**STATUS**

Beginning stages of litigation

Sources: [www.drugwatch.com/elmiron/lawsuits/](http://www.drugwatch.com/elmiron/lawsuits/)  
[www.drugs.com/news/bladder-elmiron-can-cause-eye-damage-study-85808.html](http://www.drugs.com/news/bladder-elmiron-can-cause-eye-damage-study-85808.html)

**NEWS YOU CAN USE**

**PERSONAL INJURY**



**Have You Taken Elmiron for Bladder Pain? What You Need to Know.**

**I**nterstitial cystitis (bladder inflammation or irritation, also known as IC) is a painful condition that affects more than 1 million people in the United States, mostly women. **Elmiron** (pentosan polysulfate sodium) is the only drug approved in the United States for the treatment of IC. **Elmiron** is a weak blood thinner which also works as a bladder protectant, used to treat **bladder pain and discomfort** caused by cystitis (bladder inflammation or irritation). Recent findings show that one-quarter of patients who have taken large amounts of **Elmiron** had clear signs of **eye damage**.

**Elmiron** lawsuits claim the drug causes an **eye disorder** called **maculopathy**

**and other disorders of the retina** that may lead to **blindness**. People who took **Elmiron** and suffered **maculopathy** or other serious vision problems may be eligible to file an **Elmiron** lawsuit.

**Recent findings show that one-quarter of patients who have taken large amounts of Elmiron had clear signs of eye damage.**

Claimants in **Elmiron** lawsuits accuse Janssen Pharmaceuticals of failing to properly warn the public about the risk of **ocular toxicity and irreversible vision damage**.

Research presented at the American Academy of Ophthalmology in 2019 revealed that patients taking **Elmiron** showed **clear signs of toxicity**.

The drug has been on the market since the late 1990s. It should be noted that all drug and medical device companies are responsible for delivering safe products and warning about potential risks; however, manufacturer negligence and flaws in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval process may put millions at

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**IN THIS ISSUE**

**HAVE YOU TAKEN ELMIRON FOR BLADDER PAIN? WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW.**

**THE SIDE EFFECT OF A HEALTHY LOCAL INDUSTRY: CANCER**

**RECIPE: ZUCCHINI LASAGNA**





## Letter From Jan

It's already August! It seems the clock has been ticking slowly with the pandemic holding on. So much

uncertainty. At Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law, we are still an "essential business" and continue to get results for our clients. This month, we are featuring Personal Injury cases. The first is about the Big Pharma drug Elmiron. It is taken for bladder issues and as a blood thinner, but has recently been linked to serious vision issues. The second is about toxic torts related to asbestos and benzene. The chemical industry is one fifth of the West Virginia job sector, but comes with a cost - the risk of cancer.

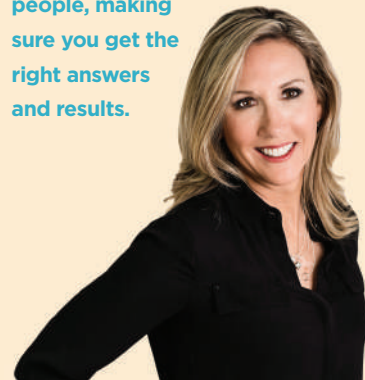
But I also want to discuss another topic - children's mental health. As a mother of two, I worry about the impact of COVID-19 on our

kids of all ages. If you are a parent, I would encourage you to look for signs and keep your family physically, but also emotionally, healthy. Visit [nationwidechildrens.org](http://nationwidechildrens.org) and search coronavirus. Of course, there are many good resources out there. Just be proactive.

Meanwhile, know that we are always here for you for Personal Injury advice. The first consultation is always free. If you have a Personal Injury case, please don't hesitate to visit [jandils.com](http://jandils.com) or call 877.526.3457. We hope you all enjoy your summer and stay safe!

Sincerely,

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! Clinton Johnson

Born and raised in the Mid-Ohio Valley, Clinton is a graduate of Parkersburg South High School. He has been with Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law, for seven years this December. Clinton is a Medical Records Specialist but has worn many different hats. Over the last few months, Clinton has stepped up to stay in the office and be a huge help to our Mail and Scanning Department. When asked about his favorite part of working at the

firm, as no surprise, he responded: "I love the teamwork. I've worked in a few departments during my time here. When another department needs extra help, I'm ready and able to help."

Because of the pandemic, Clinton has enjoyed his extra free time with his seven-year-old son, Caleb. Some play, of course, but there is also the challenge of homeschooling. "The last few months have been a bit rough for everyone. - working, home-school and juggling everything else."



## OFFICE INBOX

During this unprecedented summer, we are grateful to be helping clients and adding to our team. Since our last communication we are thrilled to have brought on **Skylar Sinnett** to Social Security Workup, **Reagan Shriver**, Intern, **Paul Timpone** has joined us as a VA Attorney, **Brittany Hart**, Mail and Scanning and **Abigail McGill**, VA Case Manager.

We are also pleased to announce that **Jolene Redder** has transitioned to Hearing Clerk support and **Chandra Chapman** to Medical Reviewing. We had other "virtual" celebrations as **Jenay Smith** had her four-year anniversary and eight team members had birthdays. Best wishes to **Ami Rush**, **Ciara Carpenter**, **Clinton Johnson**, **Jenay Smith**, **Lisa Stanley**, **Paul Timpone**, **Taylor Lott** and **Wes Mendoza**!

## Community Corner

Although it feels like school's been out for months, it's really only been a short time for our homeschoolers and teachers. Yet our 2020 May **Golden Apple Award** winner has found something positive through the struggles.

**Chad Rinard**, the Principal at Marietta High School, has been in education for 20 years and says this year's virtual graduation was one of the most rewarding moments of his career. "For the first time in my high school administrative experience, it was neat to see graduation with a personal connection with the families. We saw hugs and salutes, because this is the first time that we had family members hand the diploma to the graduates."

Chad is known by his colleagues

to be tough, but empathetic, with an open-door policy that has been helpful throughout COVID-19. Rinard will officially be presented with his Jan Dils Golden Apple Award and a gift from Baker & Baker Jewelers in the coming weeks. If you have a teacher you would like to

nominate, visit the Jan Dils Golden Apple section of [WTAP.com](http://WTAP.com) to submit your nomination.



## The Side Effect of a Healthy Local Industry: Cancer

According to the West Virginia Department of Commerce, the chemicals industry accounts for one-fifth of manufacturing sector jobs and nearly 40% of the manufacturing sector's economic output in West Virginia. West Virginia is home to about 140 different chemical-related companies that provide over 12,800 jobs to the state. This makes West Virginia the location of one of the largest number of chemical manufacturing companies in the world.

While good for the economy, some of these chemicals cause cancer.

### Mesothelioma & Lung Cancer

Caused by **asbestos**, applications include insulation, brakes, shingles, flooring and many other products. Mesothelioma is an aggressive and extremely deadly form of cancer that can take 20 to 60 years to become symptomatic.

Often by the time mesothelioma is diagnosed, the disease is advanced. The five-year survival rate is between 5% to 10%. Most patients with mesothelioma of the lung die as a result of respiratory failure or pneumonia.

### Symptoms of peritoneal (abdominal) mesothelioma can include:

- Weight loss
- Swelling and pain in the abdomen
- Blood clotting abnormalities
- Bowel obstruction
- Anemia
- Fever

### Myeloid Leukemia (AML)

Among the 20 most widely used chemicals in the U.S., **benzene** is used mainly as a starting material in making other chemicals, including plastics, lubricants, rubbers, dyes, detergents, drugs and pesticides. It's also the cause of acute myeloid leukemia (AML).

The five-year survival rate for people 20 and older with AML is about 25%. For people younger than 20, the survival rate is 67%. Although AML is a serious disease, it is treatable and often curable with chemotherapy, with or without a bone marrow/stem cell transplant.

Sources: [www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/asbestos-mesothelioma-lawsuits-what-expect-30340.html](http://www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/asbestos-mesothelioma-lawsuits-what-expect-30340.html)  
[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economy\\_of\\_West\\_Virginia#Chemicals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economy_of_West_Virginia#Chemicals)  
[www.webmd.com/lung/mesothelioma-causes-and-symptoms](http://www.webmd.com/lung/mesothelioma-causes-and-symptoms)  
[www.cancer.org/cancer/cancer-causes/benzene.html](http://www.cancer.org/cancer/cancer-causes/benzene.html)

### Symptoms of AML can include:

- Skin looking pale or "washed out"
- Lethargy
- Breathlessness
- High temperature, and feeling hot or shivery (fever)
- Weight loss
- Frequent infections
- Unusual and frequent bleeding, such as bleeding gums or nosebleeds

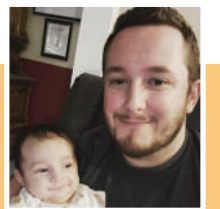
If you or a loved one has been exposed to asbestos or benzene and has been diagnosed with mesothelioma, lung cancer or AML, you may ask, "If I file a lawsuit, can I expect to recover significant money damages?" The answer is usually "yes." People who discover they are suffering from mesothelioma or AML due to working with asbestos or benzene (or, if they are deceased, their spouse) have an excellent chance of achieving compensation.

### We're Here For You

Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law, has represented countless clients for more than 25 years. We are experienced, knowledgeable and compassionate. For more information about our award-winning firm, visit [jandils.com](http://jandils.com) or call us at 877.526.3457. We'll work to get you the compensation you deserve.

## Zucchini Lasagna

As an IT specialist, father and great cook, **Kevin Carson** is a triple threat! Enjoy his favorite recipe.



### INGREDIENTS:

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1 pound lean ground beef (90% lean) | 1 large egg, lightly beaten                     |
| 1/4 cup chopped onion               | 1 can (15 ounces) tomato sauce                  |
| 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano          | 1 cup 2% milkfat cottage cheese                 |
| 1/2 teaspoon dried basil            | 4 medium zucchini (about 1-3/4 pounds)          |
| 1/4 teaspoon salt                   | 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour                 |
| 1/4 teaspoon pepper                 | 1 cup shredded part-skim mozzarella cheese      |
|                                     | Additional shredded mozzarella cheese, optional |

**DIRECTIONS:** Preheat oven to 375°. In a large skillet, cook and crumble beef with onion over medium-high heat until no longer pink, 5-7 minutes. Stir in seasonings and tomato sauce. Bring to boil; simmer, uncovered, 5 minutes. In a bowl, mix egg and cottage cheese. Next, trim ends of zucchini; cut lengthwise into 1/4-in.-thick slices. Layer half of the slices in a 13 x 9" baking dish coated with cooking spray; dust with half of the flour. Top with cottage cheese mixture, then half of the meat sauce. Add remaining zucchini; dust with remaining flour. Spread with remaining meat sauce; sprinkle with 1 cup mozzarella cheese. Bake, uncovered, for approximately 40 minutes. If desired, sprinkle with additional cheese. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.