

# Heart Surgery Drug Linked to Kidney Failure, Dialysis and Death

The tragic loss of 22,000 lives could have been prevented had Trasylol®—a drug manufactured by Bayer AG and used to reduce bleeding during open heart surgery—been recalled more quickly, according to a *60 Minutes* report.



Trasylol may lead to kidney failure, resulting in dialysis.

According to the *60 Minutes* report, Bayer withdrew Trasylol from the market in 2007 after a large Canadian study was suddenly stopped due to an increased rate of death in patients given Trasylol. Several studies were published describing a link between Trasylol and kidney problems such as kidney failure requiring dialysis, often resulting in death. At the height of its use, as many as a third of all heart bypass patients in the United States received the drug. Dr. Dennis Mangano, whose study was published in the prestigious *New England Journal of Medicine*, has stated that 22,000 lives could have been saved if Trasylol had been removed from the market when he first published his study in early 2006. Instead of withdrawing the drug then, Bayer concealed from the FDA at a September 2006 FDA meeting that the German drugmaker had confirmed the same kidney problems in a secret study Bayer had commissioned from its German headquarters. FDA advisory panel chair Dr. William Hiatt has acknowledged that he would have voted to remove Trasylol from the market had Bayer's study been disclosed.

## SERIOUS ACCIDENTS

*Our firm handles serious accident cases, such as 18 Wheeler Truck Accidents, Wrongful Death, Brain Injury, Product Defects (tires, brakes, seat belts), and other serious injury cases. The lawyers of Aylstock, Witkin, Kreis and Overholtz handle these serious injury cases nationwide, and associate the assistance of top-rated experts, courtroom technology, and highly qualified investigators to seek justice for our injured clients.*

## \$2.1 Million Verdict for Motorcyclist Injured in Crash

After retiring from the Navy and working as a civilian contractor, our client enjoyed spending much of his free time riding his Harley Davidson. He and his wife rode almost every weekend together.

That changed in an instant when he was returning home from work one day. A car suddenly pulled out in front of his motorcycle, causing him to crash into the side of the car and be catapulted over

100 feet in the air. As a result of the wreck, our client suffered an open femur fracture and an explosion injury to his tibial plateau.

He underwent multiple surgeries and extensive physical therapy. As a result of wonderful medical care and hard work through rehabilitation, he is able to walk again and has returned to work. However, he continues to have pain and swelling in his leg which limit his work and social activities.

AWKO partner **Brad Bradford** represented our client against the negligent driver. The case was highly contested. The defendant blamed our client for causing the wreck and argued his injuries were not significant. Despite multiple defenses, at trial Mr. Bradford successfully proved the defendant's negligence was the sole cause of the wreck and that the injuries had severely impacted our client's life. Mr. Bradford obtained a \$2.1 million verdict from an Escambia County, Florida jury on behalf of our client and his wife.



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