

Thyroid medication RECALLED

Acella Pharmaceuticals has issued a recall for their popular underactive thyroid medication, NP Thyroid. The medication was found to contain up to 115 percent of the labeled amount of liothyronine. This superpotency can cause serious problems for patients. Those who take the medication for an underactive thyroid may experience signs and symptoms of hyperthyroidism (overactive thyroid) which include, but are not limited to, weight loss, heat intolerance, fatigue, muscle weakness, hypertension, chest pain, rapid heart rate, or heart rhythm disturbances. Pregnant women who take the recalled NP Thyroid may also experience negative maternal and fetal outcomes including miscarriage and/or impairment to fetal development.

The specific medications recalled include:

- ▶ **NP Thyroid 30 mg** - NDC number 42192-329-01, Lot numbers M329A19-1 expires December 2020, M329H18-1 expires July 2020, M329J18-1 expires August 2020, M329J18-2 expires August 2020, M329J18-3 expires August 2020 and M329M18-2 expires November 2020.
- ▶ **NP Thyroid 60 mg** - NDC number 42192-330-01, Lot numbers M330J18-2A and M330J18-3, both expire in August 2020.
- ▶ **NP Thyroid 90 mg** - NDC number 42192-331-01, Lot numbers M331G18-1 expires June 2020, M331J18-1 expires August 2020, M331J18-2 expires August 2020, M331M18-1 expires November 2020 and M331M18-2 expires November 2020.

If you or a loved one is taking any of these medications, contact your physician immediately. If you have suffered harm from these medications, contact our office to discuss your legal options.

The latest in HIP REPLACEMENT news

Metal-on-metal hip implants have caused a lot of problems for patients over the years. The metal-on-metal action can cause the release of tiny metal particles, damaging the surrounding soft tissue and bone, and sometimes entering the bloodstream and causing other systemic health issues. Failure can lead to a new surgery to repair or remove the bad implant. The risks are well documented. According to a report in the *British Medical Journal*, average failure rates at seven years were 11.8% for resurfacing hip systems and 13.6% for total hip replacement systems (with some variance among brands), as compared to rates of 3.3% - 4.9% for hip implants made from other materials.

A Texas jury recently awarded \$1.041 billion to six plaintiffs injured by Johnson & Johnson's DePuy Pinnacle hip implants. This was the third major trial regarding Pinnacle implants. Lawsuits continue to be filed regarding these products. Some of the most popular hip replacement systems that have been affected include:

- ▶ **M2a Magnum** – Biomet
- ▶ **Stanmore** – Biomet
- ▶ **Exceed ABT** – Biomet
- ▶ **ASR XL Acetabular System** – DePuy Orthopaedics
- ▶ **ASR Hip Resurfacing System** – DePuy Orthopaedics
- ▶ **Birmingham Hip Resurfacing (BHR)** – Smith & Nephew
- ▶ **R3 Acetabular System** – Smith & Nephew
- ▶ **ABG II Modular Hip System** – Stryker
- ▶ **LFIT V40** – Stryker
- ▶ **Rejuvenate** – Stryker
- ▶ **Conserve Plus** – Wright Medical Technology
- ▶ **Durom Cup** – Zimmer Holdings

If you or a loved one have experienced complications after receiving a metal-on-metal hip replacement, contact our office to find out if you are eligible for compensation for medical costs, loss of income, and other damages.



Avoiding COVID-19 SCAMS

The ongoing pandemic is causing numerous problems for people around the world, including the obvious health consequences involved with Covid-19. One of the sadder problems we now must deal with is unethical scammers trying to take advantage of the situation by preying on people's fears. Fortunately, we can protect ourselves if we know these scammers are out there and what their more common methods are, we can protect ourselves. The following tips from the Federal Trade Commission will help you to avoid these scammers:

- ▶ Don't respond to texts, e-mails, or phone calls about checks from the government. They won't be coming from the government.
- ▶ Beware fake contact tracers. Legitimate contact tracers need health information and contact information for people you may have been in contact with. They will never ask you for financial information or money.

- ▶ Ignore offers for home test kits or vaccinations. Scammers are selling these, as well as "treatments" that are not proven to work.
- ▶ Hang up on robocalls. Covid or not, hang up on robocalls.
- ▶ Don't trust e-mails claiming to come from the CDC or WHO. You can find all the latest information at www.coronavirus.gov.
- ▶ If you wish to make a donation to a good cause, that's great! You should never pay in cash, with gift cards, or by wiring money though. Take a moment to make sure the organization you wish to donate to is real.

Follow these tips and you will be far less likely to be taken in by a scammer. They count on our willingness to trust and desire to help. We can't let them succeed. For more information on Covid-related scams, visit www.ftc.gov/coronavirus/scams-consumer-advice.

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Election Day 2020 is
NOVEMBER 3.



Turnout is always higher in years when the President is on the ballot and we don't expect this year to be any different. With adjustments being made for the pandemic, make sure you know where your polling place will be this year or get your mail-in ballot returned in time for it to be received by the deadline. Whoever you're voting for, we encourage you to turn out and cast your ballot.

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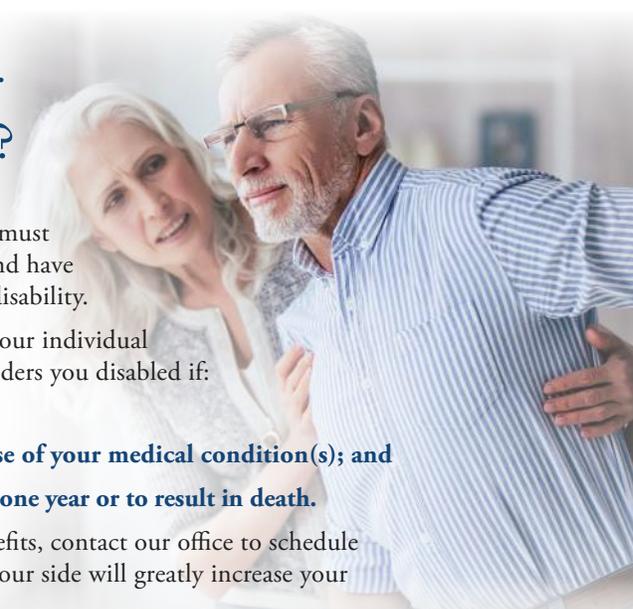
Q: How do I know if I'm eligible for Social Security disability benefits?

A: To be eligible to receive Social Security disability benefits you must have worked long enough in jobs covered by Social Security and have a medical condition that meets Social Security's definition of disability.

The amount of time worked necessary to qualify depends on your individual situation, but is usually around ten years. Social Security considers you disabled if:

- ▶ **You cannot do work that you did before;**
- ▶ **They decide that you cannot adjust to other work because of your medical condition(s); and**
- ▶ **Your disability has lasted or is expected to last for at least one year or to result in death.**

If you think you may qualify for Social Security disability benefits, contact our office to schedule a free consultation. Having an experienced representative on your side will greatly increase your chances of having your application accepted.



S.S. Q&A