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As of September 2012, DePuy Orthopaedics and its parent company, Johnson & Johnson, faced more than 8,000 lawsuits from patients who were injured as a result of problems with DePuy's ASR hip replacements. DePuy recalled the ASR XL Acetabular System and ASR Hip Resurfacing System hip implant systems in August 2010 after reports emerged that the products were significantly more likely to fail prematurely than other hip replacements.



Research that was conducted prior to the <u>hip replacement recall</u> found that the DePuy ASR hip replacements failed within five years for about one in eight patients—twice the accepted failure rate for artificial hips. These findings prompted health officials in Australia to take the hip implants off the market in that country before they were recalled in the US several months later.

According to lawsuits filed against DePuy and Johnson & Johnson, normal wear and tear on DePuy's ASR and ASR XL all-metal hip replacements can cause metal debris to become loose in the patient's body. This debris can lead to a number of serious complications, including cobalt and chromium poisoning and damage to nearby tissue. This tissue damage can lead to symptoms such as broken bones

In August 2012, Johnson & Johnson agreed to pay approximately \$600,000 to settle the first three DePuy ASR hip replacement lawsuits brought against the manufacturer. The next state court cases are scheduled for trial in January 2013 in Maryland and California. The first federal trial over the devices is expected in March or April of 2013

If you or a loved one has experienced problems with a <u>DePuy metal-on-metal hip</u> replacement, you may be eligible to file a lawsuit. For a free legal consultation, contact

the lawyers at Hissey Kientz, LLP by calling toll-free at 1-866-275-4454, or by filling out a free <u>case evaluation form</u>.