

CP NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

CORRADINO & PAPA, LLC

SPRING 2010

Lawsuit Leads to \$3.9 Million Recovery



From left to right: Henry P. Apryasz; Scott Diener; center, Jack Vincent Corradino; Michael R. Sucic; Robert C. Papa, Jr.

Our firm had the honor of representing an individual with severe injuries due to malpractice by an Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) physician. On their behalf, we filed a complaint. A confidential settlement was reached.

The individual presented at the ENT's office with a history of symptoms suggesting chronic sinusitis. The ENT ordered a CAT scan of the sinuses and found unilateral opacification. Sinus surgery was recommended. During the course of the surgery, the ENT fractured the lamina papyracea extensively, invaded the orbit and cut muscles within the orbit.

The individual has permanent problems with the right eye that could have been avoided by a competent surgical approach and a judicious operative procedure.

THINGS TO DO IN CASE OF AN AUTO ACCIDENT

1. Most states require that you stop and do not leave the scene of the accident.
2. Contact the state or city police.
3. If possible and if safe to do so, do not move your car. Protect the accident scene until investigating officers arrive.
4. Take safety precautions: Use flags, flares or other warning devices to alert oncoming motorists.
5. If someone is injured, you are required to make sure that they receive proper medical attention.
6. Obtain name, address, phone number, driver's license number and insurance company of the other driver. Make sure the license is current and that the license plate matches the registration.
7. Obtain name of owner, if not driver, including address, phone number, insurance company and policy number.
8. If able, please get names of passengers, including their addresses and phone numbers.
9. If able, please get names of any witnesses and write them down. Not doing so is one of the most common mistakes made by motorists.
10. Take pictures of your car and the other car involved. Also take pictures of the scene of the accident.
11. If you are injured, don't refuse medical attention at the scene. Please be aware that you may not feel the effects of an accident until later on because the body numbs.
12. If your vehicle is towed, get the information on where it is located.
13. Contact your insurance agent or broker and inform them that you had an accident. Get the name of the person with whom you speak.
14. Do not give a statement or sign any forms until you speak to CORRADINO & PAPA LAW OFFICES at 1-877-574-1200.
15. Beware of insurance companies who contact you and tell you that you don't need a lawyer; it's against the law in many states. Statistics show that claimants who are represented receive two to three times more than unrepresented claimants.

Corradino & Papa, LLC • A Personal Injury Law Firm

935 Allwood Road, Suite 240, Clifton, NJ 07012 • 1-877-574-1200 • www.corradinoandpapa.com

Epidural Anesthesia

Epidural anesthesia is the most popular means for pain relief during labor. In fact, more women ask for an epidural by name than any other method of pain relief. Over 50% of women giving birth at hospitals use epidural anesthesia.

As you prepare yourself for “labor day”, learn as much as possible about pain relief options so you will be equipped and ready to make decisions throughout your birth experience. Understanding the different types of epidurals, how an epidural is administered, and the benefits and potential risks of an epidural will prepare you to make an informed decision for you and your baby as your birth unfolds.

What is epidural anesthesia?

Epidural anesthesia is *regional anesthesia* that blocks pain in a particular region of the body. The goal of an epidural is to provide *analgesia*, or pain *relief*, rather than complete *anesthesia*, which is total lack of feeling. Epidurals block the nerve impulses from the lower spinal segments resulting in decreased sensation in the lower half of the body.

Epidural medications fall into a class of drugs called **local anesthetics**, such as *bupivacaine*, *chloroprocaine*, or *lidocaine*. They are often delivered in combination with opioids or narcotics, such as *fentanyl* and *sufentanil*, to decrease the required dose of local anesthetic. This way pain relief is achieved with minimal effects. These medications may be used in combination with *epinephrine*, *fentanyl*, *morphine*, or *clonidine* to prolong the epidural’s effect or stabilize the mother’s blood pressure.

What are the benefits of epidural anesthesia?

- Allows you to rest if your labor is prolonged.
- Relieving the discomfort of childbirth can help some women have a more positive birth experience.
- Most of the time an epidural will allow you to remain alert and be an active participant in your birth.
- If you deliver by cesarean, epidural anesthesia will allow you to stay awake and also provide effective pain relief during recovery.
- When other types of coping mechanisms are not helping any longer, an epidural may be what you need to move through exhaustion, irritability, and fatigue. An epidural may allow you to rest, relax, get focused and give you the strength to move forward as an active participant in your birth experience.
- The use of epidural anesthesia during childbirth is continually



being perfected and much of its success depends on the care with which it is administered.

What are the disadvantages of epidural anesthesia?

- Epidurals may cause your blood pressure to suddenly drop. For this reason your blood pressure will be routinely checked to make sure there is adequate blood flow to your baby. If this happens you may need to be treated with IV fluids, medications, and oxygen.
- You may experience a severe headache caused by leakage of spinal fluid. Less than 1% of women experience this side effect from epidural use. If symptoms persist, a special procedure called a “blood patch”, an injection of your blood into the epidural space, can be done to relieve the headache.
- After your epidural is placed, you will need to alternate from lying on one side to the other in bed and have continuous monitoring for changes in fetal heart rate. Lying in one position can sometimes cause labor to slow down or stop.
- You may experience the following side effects: shivering, ringing of the ears, backache, soreness where the needle is inserted, nausea, or difficulty urinating.
- You may find that your epidural makes pushing more difficult and additional interventions such as Pitocin, forceps, vacuum extraction or cesarean may become necessary.
- For a few hours after birth, the lower half of your body may feel numb which will require you to walk with assistance.
- In rare instances, permanent nerve damage may result in the area where the catheter was inserted.

The Cost of Free — reusablebags.com

Well over a billion single-use plastic bags are given out for free each day. But as the old adage says, nothing comes for free. Here are some facts to illustrate the actual costs paid by our environment and society for the fleeting convenience of unlimited, free, single-use plastic bags. To see the real costs, we must look at the “cradle to grave” multiple impacts and the effects of each phase of a bag’s life.

Phase 1: Production Costs

- The production of plastic bags requires petroleum and often natural gas, both non-renewable resources that increase our dependency on foreign suppliers. Additionally, prospecting and drilling for these resources contributes to the destruction of fragile habitats and ecosystems around the world.
- The toxic chemical ingredients needed to make plastic produce pollution during the manufacturing process.
- The energy needed to manufacture and transport disposable bags eats up more resources and creates global warming emissions.

Phase 2: Consumption Costs

- Annual cost to US retailers alone is estimated at \$4 billion.
- When retailers give away free bags, their costs are passed on to consumers in the form of higher prices.

Phase 3: Disposal and Litter Costs

- Hundreds of thousands of sea turtles, whales and other marine mammals die every year from eating discarded plastic bags mistaken for food. Turtles think the bags are jellyfish, their primary food source. Once swallowed, plastic bags choke animals or block their intestines, leading to an agonizing death.
- On land, many cows, goats and other animals suffer a similar fate to marine life when they accidentally ingest plastic bags while foraging for food.



- In a landfill, plastic bags take up to 1,000 years to degrade. As litter, they break down into tiny bits, contaminating our soil and water.
- When plastic bags break down, small plastic particles can pose threats to marine life and contaminate the food web. A 2001 paper by Japanese researchers reported that plastic debris acts like a sponge for toxic chemicals, soaking up a million-fold greater concentration of such deadly compounds as PCBs and DDE (a breakdown product of the notorious insecticide DDT), than the surrounding seawater.

These turn into toxic gut bombs for marine animals which frequently mistake these bits for food.

- Collection, hauling and disposal of plastic bag waste creates an additional environmental impact. An estimated 8 billion pounds of plastic bags, wraps and sacks enter the waste stream every year in the U.S. alone, putting an unnecessary burden on our diminishing landfill space and causing air pollution if incinerated.
- Recycling requires energy for the collection, processing, etc. and doesn’t address the above issues.

Say no to plastic and bring your own reusable bags.

SPECIAL OFFER!

**“Going Green” Reusable Corradino & Papa Grocery Totes.
Simply call our office at 877-574-1200 to receive a complimentary tote.**