Major Complications After IVC Filter Placement &
How To Avoid Them...and (maybe) a lawsuit

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DISCLOSURES
No financial relationships to disclose
Will not be discussing nonapproved uses/techniques of devices or medications

Major Complications After IVC Filter Placement &
How To Avoid Them

• Complications (minor and major)
• Renewed interest
• Techniques to avoid problems

Indications for IVC Filter Placement

• Low complication rate
• Relatively simple procedure
• High gain, low risk

Indications for IVC Filter Placement

• Minor
  - Arterial Puncture
  - Contrast Reaction
  - Bleeding
  - Strut fractures

• Major
  - Vessel Perforation
  - Maldeployment
  - Embolization
  - Strut embolization
  - Caval thrombosis
  - Filter migration
  - Inability to retrieve

Retroperitoneal Deployment

n=2
Retroperitoneal Deployment

PULMONARY EMBOLIZATION

Bard Device

- Allows for twisting of device within sheath
- Crossing of limbs
- Prevents expansion of legs
- Allows for projectile embolization

n=2

n=2

n=1
Techniques to Avoid Complications

- Avoid spinning device within sheath
- Twist entire delivery system (sheath + filter)
- Design improvements by Bard

Perforation of IVC

- $n=2$

Renewed Interest in Complications

- Failure to retrieve
- Complications of fracture
- Embolization
- Perforation
- Thrombosis

Renewed Interest in Complications

- >1600 suits
  - Mosby v. CR Bard and Cook
  - Also v. Argon Medical and Boston Scientific
  - Not yet a class action (8/2017)
  - Multi-district litigation
    - CR Bard -> Arizona
    - Cook -> Indiana
    - Bellwether cases

Renewed Interest in Complications

Cook Medical wins first IVC filter trial

(Reuters) - A federal jury on Thursday cleared Cook Medical Inc of liability in the first trial over the company's vein filters, which a Florida woman said caused her internal injuries.

The jury at the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana found that the company did not defectively design the device, the only claim that was left from the Elizabeth Hill's initial complaint.
Steps to Prevent Complications

• Develop documented follow-up plan
• Informed consent
• Go back and recall your 37191’s!

Renewed Interest in Complications

• Pre-deployment venogram
• Avoid twisting shaft
• Keep axis parallel with IVC walls

STEPS TO PREVENT COMPLICATIONS

Read the label!

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