

Chicago Daily Law Bulletin®

VOLUME 165, NO. 52

LAW BULLETIN MEDIA.

\$2.6M award to teen after misdiagnosis Hip procedure at 13 leads to replacement at 15, future problems

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A Cook County jury awarded \$2.6 million Tuesday to a woman who had a total hip replacement when she was 15 years old.

A verdict was reached after a five-day trial before Associate Judge Israel A. Desierto.

In July 2012, Prasad V. Gourineni, a pediatric orthopedic surgeon, treated Taylor Ivory, then 13, for left knee pain. Gourineni took X-rays but did not order an MRI, according to court documents.

Gourineni contended a hip impingement, wearing between the left ball and socket of the hip joint, was the cause for her knee pain, court records stated.

On Nov. 23, 2012, Gourineni performed a left hip arthroscopy, acetabular rim

trimming, labral refixation with suture anchors and a femoral neck osteoplasty, according to court records.

During the procedure “significant damage” was done to the cartilage in Ivory’s hip, according to one of her attorneys David R. Barry Jr. of Corboy & Demetrio P.C.

This led to a total hip replacement in 2015 when Ivory was 15 years old.

Barry argued Gourineni should have ordered an MRI before the surgery to confirm his diagnosis.

He said his client’s symptoms and X-ray did not show a hip impingement but rather a temporary dislocated kneecap.

Gourineni’s attorneys at trial argued the cartilage damage was due to chondrolysis, a rare condition that causes rapid disintegration of cartilage in a joint,



David R. Barry Jr.



Michael D. Ditore

which has no known cause, Barry said.

Ivory, now 19, used to play basketball but is no longer able to due to her surgery, Barry said.

A medical expert testified at trial that Ivory could need three or four more hip replacements in her lifetime because she had the procedure at such a young age.

“I always thought that it was a case that should have been settled,” Barry said,

adding there was no settlement offer made prior to trial.

Ivory was also represented by Michael D. Ditore of Corboy & Demetrio.

Gourineni was represented by Charles F. Redden and Joseph C. Sheahan of Cunningham Meyer & Vedrine P.C. They could not be reached for comment.

The case is *Taylor Ivory v. Prasad V. Gourineni, M.D., et al.*, 16 L 626.