

Phenergan: IV Infiltration, Nurse Held Responsible For Complex Regional Pain Syndrome.

Following her hysterectomy the forty-seven year-old patient had an order for Phenergan 25mg prn for nausea.

When the medication was started the patient reported an immediate burning sensation from infiltration of the IV into her hand, along with pain, swelling and limitation of movement. She was diagnosed with complex regional pain syndrome which required a spinal cord stimulator for pain management. She has not returned to her former employment as a hair stylist.

The patient's expert witness testified that the nurse allowed the Phenergan to run too rapidly, and when the IV infiltrated the surrounding tissue it caused tissue damage.

The jury in the Court of Common Pleas, Cuyahoga County, Ohio awarded the patient \$1,056,000 from the hospital. **Russo v. Southwest General Health Center, 2010 WL 4633450 (Ct. Comm. Pl. Cuyahoga Co., Ohio, October 6, 2010).**