

## **Case Study: Lawsuit Involving the Failure of Implantable Polypropylene Mesh Produced by Boston Scientific**

**Client: The Mostyn Law Firm Representing the Plaintiffs**

**Problem Statement:** I was engaged by the Client to provide technical expertise and Expert Witness services involving a lawsuit on behalf of women who suffered severe medical consequences from implanted PP transvaginal meshes which failed.

**Background:** The Boston Scientific Company produced transvaginal PP meshes that were implanted into thousands of women. Many of these implants subsequently failed in vivo due to oxidative degradation of the PP resin. Many women suffered excruciating pain and other complications when these devices began to degrade and fall apart. It was later learned that the defendant not only used the wrong grade of polypropylene for the device, which was inadequately stabilized, but they also procured a counterfeit PP grade from China when their domestic source of the resin would no longer sell them the PP grade that they had been using.

**My Role as a Consultant:** I reviewed all of the test data obtained on both the mesh devices and the base PP grades used to make these meshes. I also reviewed and critiqued reports written by the expert witnesses hired by the Defendant. I was also deposed for more than six hours by attorneys working for the defendant. I was able to successfully use my extensive knowledge of polypropylene thermal/oxidative stability as well as my knowledge of the stabilizers that were used in the product, to support a strong case for the Plaintiffs. I was also able to demonstrate that the PP resin that was procured in China was a counterfeit material that was not approved for use in the device.

**Final Disposition of the Case:** This case was settled out of court on terms that were favorable to the plaintiffs.