



E11 “DES Daughters”: The French Experience

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The goal of this presentation is to study of liability of DES in the general action of “DES daughters.”

This presentation will impact the forensic community and/or humanity by demonstrating the impact of French action of liability of manufactories

Diethylstilbestrol is a synthetic nonsteroidal estrogen that was used to prevent miscarriage and other pregnancy complications between 1938 and 1976 in France. In 1971, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued a warning about the use of Diethylstilbestrol during pregnancy after a relationship between exposure to this synthetic oestrogen and development of clear cell adenocarcinoma of the vagina and cervix was discovered in young women whose mothers had taken this treatment while they were pregnant. Women who were exposed in utero to diethylstilbestrol (DES) may have structural reproductive tracts anomalies, an increased infertility rate, and poor pregnancy outcomes. “DES Daughters” have filed lawsuits against the manufacturers of DES, alleging that their exposure to the drug caused various reproductive tract anomalies, including cancer. Examinations and expertises of “DES Daughters” were performed by Department of Forensic Medicine, University of Nantes unit in France. Sixteen 16 cases of “DES Daughters” plaintiffs were exposed. Vaginal adenosis concerns 7 cases, infertility five cases, poor pregnancy outcomes 4 cases, and genetics’ disease one case. Liability of DES is established, and causality of DES to explain the damage is investigative. Damage compensation is estimate for each injury.

Diethylstilbestrol, DES Daughters, Injury