

World's First Abortion-Breast Cancer Settlement

December 28th, 2001

A landmark case involving the world's first known settlement of an abortion-breast cancer lawsuit was heralded by Australian attorney Charles Francis. Mr. Francis revealed that the plaintiff in the case had sued because her physician hadn't told her that researchers had associated abortion with breast cancer. A confidentiality clause in the agreement prohibits the identification of the plaintiff.

Mr. Francis revealed that Australian legal precedent had required doctors to inform their patients of any material risks of a recommended surgical procedure because patients have a right to decide whether or not to assume the risks of the medical treatment. He had this to say about the abortion-breast cancer settlement and other personal injury cases involving abortion providers:

"In Australia the case of *Rogers v. Whitaker* in the High Court decided that before any operation a doctor has a duty to warn the patient of any material risks. Abortionists give the women concerned little or no information about the many risks of an abortion.

"In 1996 two Australian women commenced legal actions because their abortionists gave them no warning that there might be adverse psychiatric consequences. Both these cases, 'Ellen's' case in Victoria and 'Cynthia's' case in New South Wales, were eventually settled for undisclosed amounts.

"Since 1998 cases have been commenced which have also claimed the additional failure to warn of an increased risk of breast cancer caused by abortion. Recently one of those cases has been settled for an undisclosed amount. This is believed to be the first case of its kind in the world. A confidentiality clause which was part of the settlement prevents further discussion.

"In another case to be heard in New South Wales shortly, 'Mary' (not her real name) is suing a hospital and an abortionist for failure to warn her that she might subsequently have a bad psychiatric reaction and for failure to warn of the increased breast cancer risk. You are asked to pray for 'Mary.'"

Mr. Francis' wife, Babette, is the National and Overseas Coordinator for Endeavour Forum, a conservative women's group affiliated with the Coalition on Abortion/Breast Cancer, an international women's group located outside of Chicago.

Karen Malec, president of the coalition, said "We're delighted with the settlement of an abortion-breast cancer case. The abortion industry and its medical experts know that it will be far more challenging for them to lie to women about the abortion-breast cancer research when they are called upon to testify under oath. Scientists know that abortion causes breast cancer, but are afraid to say so publicly in today's hostile political climate."

Mrs. Malec added, "Women and their families are the real victims of this scientific misconduct. Tragically, abortion data from the only Australian abortion-breast cancer study were concealed from Australian women for 7 years. Scientists could have spared women a great deal of suffering if they'd only set aside their abortion ideology and published their abortion data."

The lone Australian study exploring the link between abortion and breast cancer was conducted by Rohan et al and found a 160% elevated risk among women who'd procured abortions. Abortion was not only the study's most significant risk factor, but also its only statistically significant risk factor. In spite of everything, the abortion data were never published in the *American Journal of Epidemiology*. [Rohan, et al, *American Journal of Epidemiology* (1988) Vol. 128, pp. 478-489]

Rohan's abortion data were only revealed to the world with the publication of a meta-analysis of six studies by French researchers, Nadine Andrieu et al, in the *British Journal of Cancer* in 1995. [Vol. 72, pp. 744-751]

"This isn't the first time that data has been withheld from women," said Mrs. Malec. "Data have been concealed in studies conducted on Taiwanese, Chinese and Asian American women too." [Lai et al (1996) *Proc Natl Sci Council, ROC* 20:71-7; Bu et al (1995) *Am J Epidemiol*

141:S85; and Wu et al (1996) Br J Cancer 73:680-6]

Editors at the American Journal of Epidemiology which published the 1988 Australian study by Rohan and the 1995 Chinese study by Bu have repeatedly exhibited a deep aversion to data implicating abortion. In 1994 the journal's associate editor, Lynn Rosenberg, Ph.D. of Boston Medical School, threw rocks at the only study specifically commissioned by the National Cancer Institute whose authors, Janet Daling, et al, found a 50% elevated risk among American women who'd had abortions. Rosenberg editorialized that she couldn't imagine how Daling's findings could be of use to women. [Daling et al, 1994) J Natl Cancer Inst 86:1584-92]

Mrs. Malec asserted that "The notorious Lindefors-Harris study was also published in the American Journal of Epidemiology. Its authors were later accused of having covered up an abortion-breast cancer link among Norwegian women." [Lindefors-Harris et al (1991) 134:1003-8; and Brind et al, J Epidemiol Community Health, 1998, 52:209-11]

The Coalition on Abortion/Breast Cancer is an international women's organization founded to protect the health and save the lives of women by educating and providing information on abortion as a risk factor for breast cancer.