

Surgical sponge is left in teenager's abdomen

\$535,000 settlement

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The plaintiff was 18 when she underwent a laparotomy at the defendant hospital.

Two nurses and one scrub technician allegedly conducted three separate counts of surgical instruments and sponges during the procedure.

For nearly a year following the procedure, the plaintiff had a low-grade fever and suffered flu-like symptoms. Ultimately, she developed a lump in her groin and underwent a CT scan of her abdomen, which revealed the presence of a foreign object.

She required two procedures to remove a surgical sponge still in place from the initial surgery.

Type of action: Medical malpractice

Injuries alleged: Lump in groin, fever, flu-like symptoms from retained foreign object

Name of case: Withheld

Court/case no.: Withheld

Tried before judge or jury: N/A (settled)

Amount of settlement: \$535,000

Date: Oct. 20, 2008

Attorney: Robert Mazow, Mazow & McCullough, Salem (for the plaintiff)

Detailed Information