

# Federal Financial Resources Essential to Addressing Opioid Crisis

## **News**

The financial costs of successfully treating opioid addiction are substantial, as are the costs of effective educational programs to stem the epidemic, says Dallas attorney Jeffrey Simon of Simon Greenstone Panatier Bartlett, who represents Texas counties suing drug manufacturers.

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# U.S. States Allege Broad Generic Drug Price-Fixing Collusion

## **News**

The states said the drugmakers and executives divided customers for their drugs among themselves, according to Reuters.

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# Dismissal of \$472 Million

# Verdict v. J&J is Disaster for Talc Plaintiffs

## News

A ruling that throws out a plaintiff's \$417 million jury verdict against John & Johnson will affect many of the nearly 5,000 women who claim they developed ovarian cancer from J&J power containing talc, reports Reuters.

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# Appeals Court Tosses \$72 Million Award in Talcum Powder Case

## News

The appeals court cited a Supreme Court ruling in June that placed limits on where injury lawsuits could be filed, saying state courts cannot hear claims against companies not based in the state where alleged injuries occurred.

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# Lessons Learned: Vendor Sued in Class Action Suit for

# Security Misses

## *Insight*

A recent federal class action suit filed in Pennsylvania against Aetna and its vendor illustrates several new privacy and security considerations for vendors and their customers, writes Eric Begun of King & Fisher.

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# HIPAA Compliance Checklist Webinar

## *Event, Oct. 17, 2 p.m. EDT*

Compliance Group will present a webinar on HIPAA compliance. The event will be Tuesday, Oct. 17, at 2 p.m. ED

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# Key Commercial Questions When Contracting for Digital Health Solutions

## *Insight*

Covington's Digital Health team considers some key questions that companies across the life sciences, technology, and communications industries should be asking as they seek to fit together the regulatory and commercial pieces of the complex digital health puzzle.

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# Register for the Healthcare Enforcement Compliance Institute

***Event, Oct. 29-Nov. 1, 2017***

The event will give participants the opportunity to go beyond legal analysis, learn how to implement systems that ensure the law is followed, and gain practical advice from experts in a one-of-a-kind forum

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# Massive California Verdict Expands J&J's Talc Battlefield

***News***

The \$417 million award by California jury to a California resident suggested so-called forum-shopping may not be the main problem facing J&J, reports Reuters.

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# Big Pharma's Tobacco Moment as Star Lawyers Push Opioid Suits

## News

Six states have sued opioid makers, alleging they have created a public health crisis.

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# Defense Lawyer: Shkreli Would Lose \$65 Million If Convicted

## News

A defense lawyer says former pharmaceutical CEO Martin Shkreli would lose a \$65 million stake in a drug company he founded if he's convicted at his securities fraud trial, reports the Associated Press through ABC News.

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# Buchalter Adds Three New Health Care Litigators in Los Angeles

## News

Buchalter announces that Andrew "Andy" Selesnick, Damaris L. Medina, and Suzanne Cate Jones have joined as shareholders in

the Health Care Practice Group in Los Angeles.

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## Pharmaceutical Company Celgene Settles Suit for \$280 Million

### **News**

The agreement, announced by federal prosecutors, came out of a lawsuit filed by a former Celgene saleswoman who said Celgene submitted false claims to Medicare and health care programs in 28 states and Washington, D.C.

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## After N.F.L. Concussion Settlement, Feeding Frenzy of Lawyers and Lender

### **News**

Some of the ex-players with severe neurological disorders are cognitively impaired and may not understand the terms used by the lawyers who make the pitches, reports *The New York Times*.

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# Potential Medicaid Cuts Put Savings of Middle-Class Elderly at Risk

## *News*

A Houston elder-care lawyer says the health care bill the U.S. Senate is fine-tuning could have profound effects on elderly people who rely on nursing home care.

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# Ex-WellCare General Counsel Pleads Guilty in Florida Medicaid Case

## *News*

Thaddeus Bereday, indicted along with four other former WellCare executives in 2011, faces a maximum of five years in prison.

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# HIPAA 101: The 30-Minute Guide to Understanding

# Compliance

***Event, June 27, 2 p.m. EDT***

Compliance Group will present a free webinar on HIPAA compliance, titled "The 30-Minute Guide to Understanding Compliance."

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## More States Likely to Sue over Opioid Epidemic

***Insight***

States will be very tempted by the significant potential damages that may be awarded in court to try to recoup some of the costs of treatment, says Kent Sullivan of Jackson Walker LLP.

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## Webinar: HIPAA and the Compliance Officer

***Event, August 9, 2017, 10 a.m. PDT***

MentorHealth's webinar will be addressing how practice/business managers (or compliance officers) need to get their HIPAA house in order before the imminent audits occur.



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# Healthcare Developer Fined \$155 Million for Lying About Compliance

## *News*

The settlement marks the first time an electronics health records vendor is being charged for the truthfulness and accuracy of representations made when seeking government certification, reports HIT Consultant.