

Judge Halves Jury's \$1 Billion Punitive Damages Award in J&J Hip Implant Case

Johnson & Johnson won a ruling cutting almost in half a \$1.04 billion jury award to patients who accused the company of hiding defects in its Pinnacle artificial hips that had to be surgically removed, **reports *Insurance Journal***.

The jury's finding that officials of J&J and its DePuy unit failed to properly warn doctors and patients about the artificial hips' flaws is intact. But U.S. District Judge Ed Kinkeade in Dallas found the panel's punitive-damage awards to six patients were excessive and should be reduced, according to court filings.

"J&J still faces almost 9,000 lawsuits accusing the company of illegally marketing the flawed metal-on-metal hips. J&J stopped selling the devices in 2013 after the U.S. Food and Drug Administration toughened artificial-hip regulations," according to reporter **Jef Feeley**.

Read the *Insurance Journal* article.