

## 730 NuvaRing Lawsuits Filed As Of December 31, 2010 Per Merck Annual Report

### 610 Cases Were In Federal Court NuvaRing MDL And 110 Complaints Filed In New Jersey State Court

(Posted by Tom Lamb at [www.DrugInjuryWatch.com](http://www.DrugInjuryWatch.com) on March 28, 2011; see <http://bit.ly/dSvj7w>)

The following information about the number of NuvaRing lawsuits that had been filed before January 2011 comes from page 129 of the [Merck & Co., Inc. Form 10-K Annual Report For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2010](#), which was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 28, 2011:

Beginning in May 2007, a number of complaints were filed in various jurisdictions asserting claims against the Company's subsidiaries Organon USA, Inc., Organon Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc., Organon International (collectively, "Organon"), and Schering-Plough arising from Organon's marketing and sale of *NuvaRing*, a combined hormonal contraceptive vaginal ring....

As of December 31, 2010, there were approximately 730 *NuvaRing* cases. Of these cases, 610 are pending in the *NuvaRing* MDL in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri before Judge Rodney Sippel, and approximately 110 are pending in consolidated discovery proceedings in the Bergen County Superior Court of New Jersey before Judge Brian R. Martinotti. Four additional cases are pending in various other state courts.

As background, in August 2008 the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation (JPMDL) granted a petition filed by plaintiffs in 11 *NuvaRing* federal court lawsuits seeking creation of a *NuvaRing* multidistrict litigation (MDL).

By means of this August 2008 *NuvaRing* MDL order, those 11 *NuvaRing* cases and the 719 additional *NuvaRing* lawsuits filed in the federal court system (as of 12/31/11, according to Merck) have been centralized, or consolidated. The federal court *NuvaRing* MDL case is called *In re: NuvaRing Products Liability Litigation*, No. 08-md-1964, JPML.

In March 2009 the New Jersey Supreme Court designated all pending and future *NuvaRing* cases as a "mass tort" and assigned them for centralized management in Bergen County by Judge Jonathan N. Harris, who has since been replaced by Judge Martinotti.

At present, it appears that the [first trials will begin some time during the spring or summer of 2012](#) in the federal court *NuvaRing* MDL and the NJ *NuvaRing* consolidaton.

Generally, these *NuvaRing* lawsuits involve blood clot-related injuries such as [pulmonary](#)

[embolism \(PE\), deep vein thrombosis \(DVT\), strokes, and heart attacks allegedly caused by use of the NuvaRing birth control product.](#)

More NuvaRing lawsuits have been filed in the first part of 2011 and other new NuvaRing cases will be filed later this year by our law firm and other attorneys who are active in the this still-growing NuvaRing litigation.

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Attorney [Tom Lamb](#) represents people in personal injury and wrongful death cases involving unsafe prescription drugs or medication errors. The above article was posted originally on his blog, **Drug Injury Watch** – with live links and readers' Comments.

<http://www.DrugInjuryWatch.com>