Drug Injury Watch: Multaq: Increased Risks Of Side Effects, Including Death, Outweigh Any Benefits Say Researchers Who Reviewed Clinical Data

In Addition, They Are Highly Critical Of Relationship The Sanofi Aventis Drug Company Had With Those Doctors Who Developed Prescribing Guidelines

(Posted by Tom Lamb at <u>www.DrugInjuryWatch.com</u> on March 6, 2014)

SUMMARY: The importance and significance of a February 2014 *JAMA Internal Medicine* article about Multaq is presented well by this report, "Dronedarone and Clinical Guidelines: A Dark Chapter That Must Be Reread", that was published on the *Medscape* website.

From that *Medscape* piece by reporter John Mandrola:

The story of how a marginally effective and perhaps even hazardous drug made it to first-line status of major guideline documents is a hard image to revisit. Also difficult to look back at were the lavish steakhouse dinners, the webinars, the "sponsored" programs, and then the result: legions of general cardiologists and primary-care doctors prescribing [Multaq (dronedarone)] en masse. With [Multaq (dronedarone)], for a time at least, hype trounced science.... [emphasis added]

We know, now, since being approved by the FDA in 2009 and soon becoming an often-prescribed atrial fibrillation drug, Multaq has been associated with increased risks of serious side effects, including liver failure, interstitial lung disease (ILD), stroke, and sudden cardiac death.

Earlier articles by attorney Tom Lamb on the Side Effects Blog:

- For Testosterone Therapy Drugs Like AndroGel / Axiron / Testim: Add "Black-Box" Warning To Label: Public Citizen's Petition To FDA
- <u>Antidepressant-Related Birth Defect: Heart And Lung Disorder PPHN</u>
 Persistent Pulmonary Hypertension Of The Newborn

- Benicar-Induced Enteropathy: Recently Found / New Possible Cause
 Of Villous Atrophy: Symptoms And Diagnosis
- <u>More Evidence Supporting A Link Between Testosterone Therapy</u>
 <u>And Higher Risk Of Cardiovascular-Related Events Such As Myocardial</u> <u>Infarctions Or Heart Attacks</u>
- <u>The Growing Use Of Testosterone Creams, Gels, Injections, And</u>
 <u>Patches Raises Increased Concerns About Risks Of Cardiac Side</u>
 <u>Effects</u>

Attorney <u>Tom Lamb</u> 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. <u>http://www.DrugInjuryWatch.com</u>