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## Class-action breast cancer lawsuit approved

Study shows link between Premarin and breast cancer

Renee Bernard » Aug 05, 2011 18:44:11 PM

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VANCOUVER (NEWS1130) - A class-action lawsuit against a hormone drug-maker Wyeth has been approved by the BC Supreme

Any woman in Canada who took hormone drug Premarin between 1977 and 2003, and developed breast cancer can join the lawsuit.

The medication was marketed to

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ease symptoms of menopause, such as hot flashes and night



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The case began with Sechelt native Dianne Stanway, who started taking Premarin back in 1995, and was diagnosed with cancer in 2003. She is now in remission.

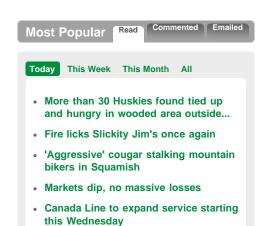
"There have been numerous studies, one of which was a very large study in the US, showing a dramatic link between taking hormone replacement therapy and the development of breast cancer," her lawyer David Klein explains.

He points out the link was so dramatic, the researchers decided to put a halt to the study.

Many Canadian women are expected to join the lawsuit. "Our epidemiological expert tells us the number of Canadians will be in the many thousands," suggests Klein.

He says in the States over a thousand individual lawsuits have been launched, many of which have had successful verdicts for the victims.

This is the second time drug maker Wyeth has failed to block the class action suit. Lawyers for Wyeth originally tried to have the lawsuit blocked and when that failed, argued there were too many individual circumstances to allow the case to proceed as a class action, a claim the judge dismissed.



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