



# Dangers In Your Home

#### Written By: Alexa D'Amato Barrera, Esq.



I am a mother, wife, sister, daughter, friend and an attorney. I am bringing this information to you in my capacity as all of those roles. As an attorney, I am recommending that if any of these products have caused any of the diagnoses referenced below to you or a family member, you contact me so I can put you in touch with the right attorney to help you. While I have fact-checked and am giving you links to do your own research, I am NOT a doctor, so please consult your medical professional regarding the information I am providing to you.

#### **Talcum Powder**

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Check the ingredients of your baby powder and if it contains talcum

powder or talc, stop using it near your genitals. Baby powders containing talc have been implicated in increased incidence of ovarian cancer since 1971 when scientists discovered talc particles in ovarian and cervical cancer cells. There have been two cases against Johnson & Johnson that recently went to trial and both juries found that Johnson & Johnson knew of the cancer risks associated with its products containing talc but failed to warn consumers. A recent article in The New York Times discussed the lawsuits and cited some studies that are unbelievable:

"In 1982, a Harvard professor, Dr. Daniel W. Cramer, and his colleagues compared 215 women with ovarian cancer and 215 healthy women who served as a control group . Compared with nonusers, women who used talcum powder were at nearly twice the risk for having ovarian cancer, and those who used it regularly on their genitals and sanitary pads were at more than three times the relative risk. At least 10 subsequent studies echoed the results, with varying degrees of increased risk."

If you have powder in your home that contains talc, I would recommend you stop using it immediately and buy a talc-free brand. In our house we use The Honest Company baby powder, which is talc free. If you have been using baby powder with talc and have been diagnosed with any form of ovarian or cervical cancer, please contact me.

#### **Heartburn Medicine**

Either by prescription or over the counter, there are various medications available to treat conditions caused by the overproduction of stomach acid, like gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), heartburn, peptic or stomach ulcers, and damage to the lower esophagus caused by acid reflux. There have been two studies published recently that relate kidney disease to the use of proton pump inhibitors (PPIs), such as Nexium, Prilosec, Prevacid and Protonix. According to data from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs,

96% of patients who used PPIs developed kidney failure. Those who took histamine H2 receptor blockers instead had a 28% chance of developing chronic kidney disease. There was a study reported in the Journal of American Medical Association in January of this year that had virtually the same findings. Please consult with your medical professional if you are currently taking one or more of these products before stopping any medication.

### **Cleaning Products and Parabens**



Parabens are used in many cleaning products, including shampoo, antiperspirants, makeup and sunscreen, just to name a few. In a 2014 study, parabens were found in 99% of the breast tissue of 40 women who had undergone mastectomies after a diagnosis of breast cancer.

In 2015 a U.C. Berkeley study looked at the causes of cancer specifically in estrogen tissue, like the breast, and found that when "parabens interact with other biochemical changes in breast cancer cells, the effect is much stronger and could lead to faster, more aggressive growth of tumors and formation of malignant cancer." While there is currently



no active litigation relative to parabens that I am aware of, I have limited the use of parabens in my household and thought you might want to consider this information and do the same.

I hope you have found this information helpful and useful. Please consult with your doctor before changing any medication and call me if you have questions or need legal advice on any personal injury or civil rights matter.

## For more information, call 609-926-3300 or visit www.damatolawfirm.com.

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