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## Amputee's malpractice claim against hospital, doctors rejected

A Broward Circuit Court jury rejected a woman's \$60 million malpractice claim blaming Memorial Hospital West and three doctors for the amputation of her arms and legs.

The jury found in favor of the Broward Hospital District and the doctors Monday after nearly two months of trial before Judge Charles Greene,

Lisa Strong, a mother of two, went to the Pembroke Pines hospital in pain in 2003. She went into shock following an ultrasound to find out the cause of the pain, which turned out to be an infection caused by kidney stones.

The doctors, trying to stabilize her, administered the drug dopamine, which increases blood pressure near the heart but lessens the volume of blood pumped to the extremities, according to defense attorneys Jim Nosich and Mark Rosen.

Her arms needed to be amputated at her elbows and her legs at the knees because of the length of time she was in shock and the limited blood supply reaching her limbs.



Nosich



Rosen

Rosen of Lubell & Rosen in Fort Lauderdale, who represented one of the doctors, said the dopamine treatment was necessary to save her life.

"Everyone in the hospital tried to do what they needed to save her life," he said.

Nosich of McGrane Nosich & Ganz of Miami, who represented the emergency room physician, said Strong was offered a "ton of money" in a settlement that she rejected. He said his case focused on a doctor involved in Strong's case who was not named as a defendant.

Strong's attorney John Shipley from Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley in West Palm Beach said he was surprised by the result and is meeting with an appellate attorney.

"She lost her hands, she lost her feet, she lost her case, she's lost her hope," Shipley said. "She doesn't have any money at all and doesn't know what she's going to do for the rest of her life. It's a disaster." ■

— Jordana Mishory