Undiagnosed birth condition leads to \$2.25M settlement

by Amber Nimocks

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A medical malpractice claim involving a child born with brain damage and cerebral palsy settled recently for \$2.25 million.

Plaintiff's attorney Bailey Melvin said the case involved a failure to diagnose and treat twintwin transfusion, a rare in-utero condition.

Twin-twin transfusion syndrome (TTTS) occurs as a result of identical twins sharing a placenta and therefore sharing blood vessels. In a small percentage of these cases, one twin receives much more blood than the other, causing TTTS. One fetus receives a disproportionately large amount of blood while the other receives less blood, which causes developmental problems for both. The rate of cerebral palsy among children born of this kind of pregnancy is higher than the norm.

Melvin said the defendants contested both liability and causation. The parties negotiated a premediation settlement.

SETTLEMENT REPORT Medical Malpractice

Injuries alleged: brain damage, cerebral palsy Date of pre-trial settlement: Oct. 17, 2012

Amount: \$2.25 million

Attorneys for plaintiff: Bailey Melvin, Greenville

Has the plaintiff been successful in collecting the judgment? Yes

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