Clinical Trials Liability Policy Case Study

During a global multi-site Phase III trial, 5 research participants suffered an unexpected adverse immune system

response to the study treatment.

A global news network ran the story of the injured research subjects and halted trial, and speculated that poor manufacturing controls

As a precaution, the sponsor halted the trial and ordered all sites to return unused study drug for analysis.

It was discovered there was a higher than expected level of active ingredient in the drug.



were to blame for the incident. Several key investors indicated they were considering withdrawing funding on the back of the negative press.

As a precaution, a further 20 research subjects who had been treated with the contaminated batch but showed no side effects were

monitored with monthly testing for

12 months by their study doctor.

A lawyer representing affected research participants issued a writ against the sponsor seeking compensation for their clients.

Uninjured research subjects made claims for medical monitoring expenses.



Injured research subjects made claims via their lawyers for:

- medical expenses for additional treatment
- lost income from time off work
- general damages for pain, suffering and emotional distress.

Coverage Response



Loss: Medical expenses incurred by uninjured research subjects exposed to contaminated drug for monitoring tests.

Clinical Trials Extras, Medical Monitoring Expenses would cover the costs of the medical testing performed on these research subjects.



Loss: Compensation claims brought by research subjects who had suffered adverse immune system response.

Clinical Trials Liability coverage would respond to cover costs associated with investigating claims and negotiating settlement of these claims. Would also cover the settlement amounts agreed to with the injured research subjects. Claim investigation expenses would not reduce policy limits, leaving the full amount of those limits available for compensating injured research subjects.

Additional Benefits with Chubb's Clinical Trials Liability Wording



No fault reimbursement for Medical Expenses paid by the Insured to treat a Research Subject injured by the medical product being tested in an insured Clinical Trial.



Automatic Extended Reporting Periods for claims made by a Research Subject after policy has expired.



Extended Liability feature covering claims made during the Extended Reporting Period for injuries happening to Research Subjects after the policy expires, but that are related to claims previously made by other Research Subjects or to Circumstances notified during the Policy Period.







Indemnity for third parties such as Clinical Trial Contractors, Contract Research Organisations, Ethics Committees and independent Data Safety Monitoring Boards.



Cover for Privacy Injury or Reputational Injury to third parties caused by an Act in connection with an insured Clinical Trial.



Cover for expenses incurred by insured following a Privacy Data Breach in connection with an insured Clinical Trial.

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