

## **Does Use of Bair Hugger® During Hip and Knee Joint Replacement Surgeries Increase Risk for Deep Joint Infections?**

Expert Report of Jonathan M. Samet, MD, MS

Dr. Samet addresses general causation in regard to the Bair Hugger device, considering the full range of available and relevant evidence. Specifically he addresses whether use of Bair Hugger during hip and knee joint replacement surgeries increases risk for deep joint infections.

### ***Key Findings:***

- “Use of the Bair Hugger device in the operating room has two consequences that increase the dose of CFU’s [Colony Forming Units], and hence the risk of infection, delivered to the surgical field: disturbance of unidirectional flow across the site and an increase in microbial contamination in the operating room” (Pg.4)
- **“The evidence is thus consistent and coherent, and biological plausibility for the Bair Hugger device to increase risk for deep joint infection is well established.”** (Pg.16)
- **“In my judgment, the full body of evidence is sufficient to conclude that the Bair Hugger device causally increases risk for deep joint infection.”**(Pg.16)

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