

# Baby Powder's link to cancer remains unclear, despite \$72 million award for family of ovarian cancer victim

BY JACQUELINE CUTLER, / NEW YORK DAILY NEWS / Wednesday, February 24, 2016, 5:13 PM

AAA

8

SHARE THIS URL

nydn.us/1XNsNV8

## Johnson & Johnson Ordered To Pay \$72 Million

NY Daily News



stays same

Talcum powder is an innocent substance or a cancer-causing agent — depending who you ask.

No study definitively links today's talc to ovarian cancer, but a Missouri jury just

EI

Er  
pt

Jc  
pc

Br

Fi  
ca

M

awarded the family of Jacqueline Fox \$72 million after her lawyer argued that Johnson & Johnson's Baby Powder caused her death from ovarian cancer.

Talc — an ingredient in Baby Powder — once contained asbestos, a proven carcinogen, but that's not been true since the 1970s. Some studies have suggested that women who use talc — a natural substance that includes magnesium, silicon, oxygen, and hydrogen — in their genital area are at risk for ovarian cancer, if the particles wind up internally. But findings have varied, and there's no scientific consensus on the matter.

### JOHNSON & JOHNSON LOSES CARE OVER CANCER LINKED TO ITS TALC

“Developing ovarian cancer from talc-based powder is plausible but not proven,” said Dr. Dana Loomis, deputy director of the International Agency for Research on Cancer of the World Health Organization.

The National Toxicology Program has investigated a possible talcum-cancer link, and ruled that barring further study they can't make a determination. "It's just an unanswered question from our standpoint," says associate director John Bucher.

The plaintiff's attorney, Jere Beasley, whose client used Johnson & Johnson powders, says the products are “toxic” and should not be sold. At the very least, Beasley — who says his office has been contacted by 6,000 families in similar situations — wants warning labels on the packaging.

Johnson & Johnson maintains its products are safe.

Millions of American parents fluff powder onto their babies' bottoms every day — even though the American Academy of Pediatrics shuns it because it “can cause breathing problems.”

“If you feel you must use it, use

de  
Of  
st  
It's  
Br  
Ar  
Ha  
ni  
Tr  
de  
St  
- F  
Jc  
Pf  
In  
Cr  
Le  
Tr  
Cl  
Ha  
Cl  
Fu  
Wa  
La  
Br  
Lo



sparingly,” said Elie Ward, director of policy and advocacy for the New York State Academy of Pediatrics. “Not because of anything other than some guidelines of not introducing irritants to the baby’s skin.”

[jcutler@nydailynews.com](mailto:jcutler@nydailynews.com)

HANDOUT

A Missouri jury awarded the family of Jacqueline Fox \$72 million after her lawyer argued that Johnson & Johnson’s Baby Powder caused her death from ovarian cancer.

TAGS: [cancer](#) , [children's health](#) , [women's health](#)

**JOIN THE CONVERSATION:**

**PROMOTED STORIES**

Sponsored Links by Taboola

**Thursday's Mortgage Rates In Alabama Dangerously Low -- 2.812% APR**

[Bills.com](#)

**These 37 Lost Photos Of History Are Pretty Unnerving**

[Dunzo](#)

E  
lv  
bc

Al  
fa  
11

Te  
Te

Er  
Sp  
sc

W  
W

Er  
wi

Ne  
20

Sr  
yo

Ar  
di

l s  
mi

## **This Grammar App May Actually Make You a Better Writer**

Grammarly

## **We Tried Blue Apron: Here's What Happened**

Liberty Project for BlueApron

## **See More Great Bedroom Sets for Kids**

Rooms To Go

## **Brilliantly Simple Way To Pay Off Your Credit Cards**

LendingTree

## **Here's What Happened When I Tried Dollar Shave Club**

Dollar Shave Club

3  
M

## **The World Was Not Ready For Her Emmys After Party Dress**

Livingly

## **Unnerving Historical Photos That Will Leave You Speechless**

Your Daily Dish

## **MORE FROM NYDAILYNEWS**

### **Meet Sheniz Halil, the model whose rear-end is on 'T.L.O.P'**

Mo



### **Emily Ratajkowski was pressured to hide sexuality growing up**

## **SPONSOR CONTENT ON NYDAILYNEWS**

### **Watch James Marsden Get Challenged by a Group of Lumberjacks**

**BY TOYOTA RAV4 HYBRID**

James drove his RAV4 Hybrid into Hard Knocks Canyon where he confronted death

again and again. But death would have...



**WE RECOMMEND**

1



Best Income Funds

2



Term Life Insurance Rates

3



Best Security Cameras

[Media Kit](#) [Home Delivery](#) [Newsletters](#) [Businesses](#) [Place an Ad](#) [About our Ads](#) [Contact Us](#) [Careers](#)

[FAQ's](#) [Feeds](#) [Site Map](#)

Use of this website signifies your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).  
© Copyright 2016 NYDailyNews.com. All rights reserved.