

The MILFORD DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY JUNE 9, 2022 | MILFORDDAILYNEWS.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Doctors group appeals \$7.2M award

Jury finds in favor of plaintiff in case against Charles River Medical Associates

Jesse Collings

The MetroWest Daily News | USA TODAY NETWORK

FRAMINGHAM – Charles River Medical Associates, which provides primary care physicians to residents throughout MetroWest, is appealing a jury's decision to award \$7.2 million to a 46-year-old Uxbridge woman who sued the medical group for negligence after she suffered a stroke nine years ago.

According to a press release issued on behalf of the woman's attorneys, Jane Duket and Mark Grimm of the Providence law firm Marasco & Nesselbush LLP, the woman was 37 when she suffered "life-altering injuries" as a result of a stroke caused by the failure of a medical team to diagnose and treat her severe headache symptoms in a timely manner.

On May 2 a Worcester Superior Court jury awarded the woman \$7.2 million in finding the medical group negligent.

"We are grateful to the jury for its verdict in this case," said Duket, in a statement. "It sends an important message that medical service providers will pay a steep price for medical negligence that results in serious and life-long injuries."

When reached by the Daily News, Brian Parillo, executive director of Charles River Medical Associates, said that because the company is appealing the decision, it could not comment on the pending litigation.

Charles River Medical Associates is a Framingham-based medical group of health care providers with locations throughout MetroWest. The organization has 20 offices in 11 communities, stretching from Hudson to Wellesley.

It's unclear in which of those offices the woman was treated.

The suit alleged the plaintiff suffered the stroke due to slow treatment from medical professionals. Attorneys for the plaintiff argued the medical team failed to properly explain the plaintiff's symptoms, conduct proper testing or diagnose her condition in time, saying such treatment would have prevented the stroke, which in turn has led to life-altering injuries and conditions.

Medical experts testifying on behalf of the plaintiff said MRI imaging on her suggested the presence of neurosarcoidosis, and that had the patient been treated with steroids, she would not have suffered the stroke, according to the law firm's statement.

Attorneys say the untreated condition caused inflammation in the blood vessels of the plaintiff's brain, severe headaches, double-vision and, ultimately, a stroke.

The jury sided with the plaintiff after a three-week trial.

"While our success won't erase our client's suffering, we're pleased the jury agreed with our arguments, held the corporation accountable for their negligence, and provided financial security for our deserving client," Duket said in a statement.