

# Vigna Law Group: 'Never Event' Retained Sponge Case Filed in Las Vegas

*Retained surgical sponges are preventable 'Never Events'—RF technology drastically reduces risk*

LOS ANGELES, CA, UNITED STATES, July 4, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- "List of Serious Reportable Events (aka... "Never Events")... 1D. Unintended retention of a foreign object in a patient after surgery or other invasive procedure (updated).

Applicable in: hospitals, outpatient/office-based surgery centers, ambulatory practice settings/office-based practices, long-term care/skilled nursing facilities," National Quality Forum, List of Serious Reportable Events.

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Retained sponges in bodies are preventable when reliable counts are combined with radiofrequency (RF) technology.”

*Greg Vigna, MD*

Read the National Quality Forum List of Serious Reportable Events:

[https://www.qualityforum.org/Topics/SREs/List\\_of\\_SREs.aspx](https://www.qualityforum.org/Topics/SREs/List_of_SREs.aspx)

[Dr. Greg Vigna](#), national malpractice attorney and 'Never Event' attorney, states, “'Never Events' usually result from systematic failures and may cause severe harm. Retained sponges in bodies can be preventable when reliable counts are combined with radiofrequency (RF) technology.

Nursing staff can use an RF wand to scan the patient and surgical areas, detecting retained sponges when counts are off and to quickly locate any retained sponges.”

What does the literature say about surgical counts?

“The rate of retained items was 1 of 7000 surgeries or 1 of 70 discrepancy cases. Final count discrepancies identified 77% and prevented 54% of retained items.

IN THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF CLARK, NEVADA	
GEORGE GREEN,  Plaintiff,  v. SUNRISE HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER, LLC, ESTER L. ROTEDO, NELSON S. URBANO, RN, JESSICA LEMUS, MAGALLY MONTOYA, RN, ZENEN D. BALAHAY, RN, , ROE ENTITIES 1–15; and DOE EMPLOYEES 1 through 10, inclusive  Defendants.	Case No.: _____ Dept. No.: _____  <b>COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES (MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE and NEGLIGENT HIRING, TRAINING SUPERVISION)</b>  Arbitration Exemption Claims: Damages Exceed \$50,000  <b>JURY TRIAL DEMANDED</b>
Case 2024CV001126    Document 6    Filed 02-09-2024    Page 1 of 19 <b>FILED</b>	

Case: 2024CV001126

Count discrepancies increased with surgery duration, late time procedures, and number of nursing teams. Bypass time, intravenous nitroglycerin injections, or myocardial infarction in the previous 24 hours were independent predictors of count discrepancies in CABG surgery.”

Read “Managing the Prevention of Retained Surgical Instruments. What is the Value of Counting?” published in the Annals of Surgery. 2008:

[https://journals.lww.com/annalsofsurgery/abstract/2008/01000/managing\\_the\\_prevention\\_of\\_retained\\_surgical.3.aspx](https://journals.lww.com/annalsofsurgery/abstract/2008/01000/managing_the_prevention_of_retained_surgical.3.aspx)

Dr. Vigna adds, “There is no downside of using radiofrequency technology. Our client has suffered serious injury, and this ‘Never Event’ should not have occurred. Retained sponges cause inflammatory responses, chronic infections that can cause injury to nerves, chronic pain, sepsis, and septic shock.”

What does the literature say about cost-benefit analysis of Radiofrequency Technology?

“Five organizations that implemented RF technology between 2008 and 2012 collectively demonstrated a 93% reduction in the rate of reported retained surgical sponges.”

Read “Retained Surgical Sponges: Findings from Incident Reports and a Cost-Benefit Analysis of Radiofrequency Technology” published in Journal of American College of Surgery. 2014:

<http://www.drlc4.com/Articles/files/117.pdf>

Dr. Greg Vigna is a ‘Never Event’ lawyer, representing those who have suffered amputation, Stage III and Stage IV pressure ulcers, and septic shock from infected polyurethane PICC lines across the country. [The Vigna Law Group](#), along with Ben C. Martin, Esq., of the Ben Martin Law Group, a Dallas, Texas national pharmaceutical injury law firm, jointly prosecute hospital and nursing home neglect cases that result in bedsores nationwide, with offices in California, Connecticut, and Washington DC.

Visit the [Decubitus Ulcer Help Desk](#).

Case Number: 2024CV001126  
IN THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
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