Brooklyn Medical Malpractice Lawyer from The Perecman Firm Comments on Baby's Death from a Lethal Dose of Antibiotics at a Brooklyn Hospital

A 6-month old baby died at Brookdale University Hospital after medical staff gave him the wrong dose of medication.

Medication errors accounted for the death of a six-month-old baby at Brookdale University Hospital. Baby Amaan Ahmmad died after medical staff mistakenly gave him an adult dose of antibiotics, reported the *New York Daily News*.

Ahmmad was given 500 mg of the antibiotic Zithromax after being brought in to the emergency room for a fever. The proper dosage was 80 mg.

"Dosage and prescription errors can be fatal, especially when medication errors are made on young children. Medical professionals must keep in mind the severity of the impact that the slightest pediatric medication error can have," said <u>Brooklyn medical malpractice lawyer</u> David Perecman.

According to *The New York Times*, one in five emergency cases related to medication problems were children or teenagers.

In Ahmmad's case, hospital staffers had determined the baby had early symptoms of pneumonia, according to the *New York Daily News*. As there were no hospital beds available, Ahmmad was administered the lethal dose of the antibiotic through an IV drip while he was still in his stroller.

After Ahmmad was given the antibiotic overdose, the baby rapidly fell into a coma, reported the New York tabloid.

On Wednesday, the New York City Medical Examiner ruled the death of Ahmmad an accident, according to CBS New York. The ME said the death was the result of complications following administration of an adult dose of the antibiotic.

A copy of the hospital's discharge summary states the child was given "Azithromycin (500mg), in error" — which led to "cardiac shock," reported CBS New York.

Brooklyn medical malpractice lawyers understand that child medication errors can occur due to physician error in prescribing, a nurse error in administering, and pharmacist error in labeling or dispensing. A number of child medication injuries are seen with infants and children where the safe dose may be unknown or the dosage was wrong for the size of the child.

For <u>Brooklyn medical malpractice lawyers</u> at The Perecman Firm, Brooklyn medical malpractice cases involving child dosing errors and pediatric medical malpractice are inexcusable

"Medical professionals must carefully check the medication and use their common sense to determine if what they are doing is medically appropriate," said <u>Brooklyn medical malpractice lawyer</u> Perecman, a Brooklyn medical malpractice lawyer for over 30 years.

A 2006 study in the Journal of Pediatric Nurse said, "Harmful pediatric medication errors are common in hospitals and health systems."

A 2008 study of adverse drug events in hospitals published in *Pediatrics* revealed some unnerving statistics:

- 107 out of 960 randomly selected medical charts from 12 children's hospitals contained evidence of an adverse drug event
- 22% of all the averse drug events were deemed preventable
- 17.8% of the averse drug events could have been identified earlier
- 16.8% of the cases involving medication errors could have been treated more effectively

In 2008, 1.9 million people became ill or injured from medication side effects or because they took or were given the wrong type or dose of medication, according to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

"When a child dies of <u>medical malpractice in New York</u>, the family deserves to obtain substantial. It's our job to do everything possible to make sure something like this never happens again."

If your child experienced serious injury or death after being administered any medication in a New York hospital, contact a <u>New York medical malpractice lawyer</u> immediately. New York medical malpractice lawyers at The Perecman Firm are ready to help determine what happened and will assist in obtaining the compensation you deserve.

About David Perecman and The Perecman Firm, PLLC:

For the past 30 years, the New York medical malpractice lawyers, auto accident, and construction accident lawyers at The Perecman Firm, PLLC have handled all types of cases including age and disability discrimination. David Perecman, founder of the Firm, is a Board Director and the past Secretary and Treasurer of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association (NYSTLA) and a chair of its Labor Law Committee. Mr. Perecman's achievements have brought him recognition as an Honoree in the National Law Journal's Hall of Fame, in New York Magazine's "The Best Lawyers in America"

and The New York Times Magazine "New York Super Lawyers, Metro Edition" for the years 2007-2010.

The Firm has recovered millions of dollars for its clients. Among the more recent victories, Mr. Perecman won a \$15 million verdict** for a construction accident, a \$5.35 million dollar verdict*** for an automobile accident, and a

\$40 million dollar structured settlement for medical malpractice****.

^{**}later settled while on appeal for \$7.940 million

^{***} later settled for \$3.5 million

^{****} total potential payout

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