



Medmarc Risk Management Webinar Series

Webinar Summary

Life Sciences Claims 2024

What is happening? What you need to know?

Presenters: [Sonia Valdes](#), [Andy Hall](#) & [Lauren Hulbert](#) | Medmarc Claims Department and guest [Jeff Nicoson](#). | Equity Member | Leitner, Williams, Dooley & Napolitan, PLLC

In this on-demand webinar recorded live on December 11, 2024, Sonia Valdes, Andy Hall, and Lauren Hulbert from the Medmarc Claims Department, along with guest Jeff Nicoson from Leitner, Williams, Dooley & Napolitan, discussed the life sciences claims environment in 2024. The panel covered supply chain management, challenges related to international supply chains, and the implications of the Loper Bright case. They also examined the effects of recent legal rulings, including the Zantac decision, and how political and advocacy group influences might impact FDA decisions. Lastly, the discussion ended with a crystal ball outlook of uncertainty which included the potential effects of litigation financing on plaintiff attorneys and mass torts and was optimistic about the use of AI in detecting fraud and inconsistencies in clinical trials.

Full On-demand Recording

On-demand Chapters:

- [00:00](#) - Introduction of the Presenters
- [01:50](#) - What You Need to Know About Doing Business Across Borders
- [15:08](#) - Supply Chain Management - Other Issues & What Can We Do?
- [20:28](#) - What is Loper Bright?
- [28:38](#) - Important 2024 Verdicts and Decisions
- [38:26](#) - Acetaminophen ADHD/Autism lawsuits
- [42:19](#) - Zantac Decisions
- [47:45](#) - Duty to Innovate
- [54:00](#) - Apex Doctrine
- [58:30](#) - Crystal ball -What is on the horizon in 2025?
- [01:06:24](#) - Closing



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JEFF NICOSON, ESQ.

Equity Member | Leitner, Williams, Dooley & Napolitan, PLLC

Jeff Nicoson is an Equity Member at Leitner, Williams, Dooley & Napolitan, PLLC in Memphis. His practice includes products liability defense, healthcare liability, insurance coverage and bad faith litigation, and more. Before pursuing a legal career, he worked for a landscape architecture and architectural design firm in Nashville. Mr. Nicoson holds a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Biology, a Master's degree in Landscape Architecture, and a Juris Doctor. Outside of law, he enjoys reading about history, playing golf, watching motorsport, and spending time with his Weimaraner.

SONIA VALDES, ESQ.

Vice President for Claims | Medmarc

Sonia Valdes is Vice President for Claims at Medmarc. She is responsible for managing a team of dedicated claims professionals as well as overseeing technical and administrative issues within Medmarc's Claims Department. Her responsibilities include directing mass tort litigation, training and developing staff, assisting with policy development, advising underwriters on risk management, and expanding Medmarc's litigation management services.

ANDY HALL, ESQ.

Executive Claims Specialist | Medmarc

Andy Hall, Esq. joined Medmarc in 2017 as a Senior Claims Examiner and recently was promoted to Executive Claims Specialist. He is responsible for claims investigation, coverage analysis, managing reserves, negotiating settlements, monitoring defense counsel activities, and maintaining good client relations. Mr. Hall came to Medmarc from Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman, and Dicker LLP where he was Of Counsel since 2016 and an Associate since 2008. His experience there was with drafting coverage opinions and interpreting insurance policies. Andy also works on the product development team where he assists with drafting language for our new products.

LAUREN HULBERT, CPCU, AIC-M, AIS

Senior Claims Examiner

Lauren Hulbert is a Senior Claims Examiner & Administrative Supervisor at Medmarc Insurance. She partners with insureds and brokers to creatively and efficiently investigate and analyze life science products liability exposures from pro se claimants to mass tort litigation. After spending over a decade handling these claims, Lauren believes this is key to achieving successful claim resolutions.

Lauren earned a BS degree in Mathematics, with a concentration in Actuarial Sciences, from Louisiana State University. During her tenure with Medmarc, Lauren was conferred the Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU), the Associate in Claims–Management (AIC-M), and the Associate in Insurance Services (AIS) designations from The Institutes.