

Trials & Litigation

Secret hospital urine test on pregnant woman led to gov't scrutiny over false positive, suit says

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By [Martha Neil](#)

A Pittsburgh woman who says her urine was tested without her knowledge or consent by the hospital where she was delivering her baby has sued the facility for turning over the drug test results to a government agency.

Plaintiff Rachel Devore says the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center obtained a false positive for opiates from the urine test because she had recently eaten bread containing poppy seeds, [WPXI](#) reports.

The result of their interference, she alleges, was scrutiny by state child-welfare officials, including an inspection of her home and a referral for substance abuse counseling even though she had done nothing wrong and her baby tested negative for opiates.

"They performed a secret drug test on a patient in their care. There was absolutely no medical reason why that needed to be done. The second thing they did wrong was they disclosed that information to the government," said Devore's lawyer, Margaret Coleman.

Hospital representatives declined to comment.

The [Associated Press](#) also has a story.

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