

California jury awards \$29M in baby powder cancer case

March 14 2019

Johnson & Johnson must pay \$29 million to a woman who claimed its baby powder gave her terminal cancer, a California jury ruled Wednesday.

A Superior Court jury in Oakland found the world's largest health care company mainly liable for Teresa Leavitt's mesothelioma. The verdict said that the [baby powder](#) was a "substantial contributing factor" in her illness.

Her suit is one of many that link cancers to asbestos in Johnson & Johnson's talc-based products and contend that the company concealed the health risk for decades.

Requests for comment from the New Jersey-based comment were not immediately answered.

Johnson & Johnson is facing some 13,000 similar lawsuits around the country.

The company has insisted that its talc-based products are demonstrably safe but it has lost a string of court cases.

Last year, a Los Angeles jury awarded \$25.7 million to a woman who blamed her cancer on the powder.

A jury in Missouri last year awarded \$4.69 million to 22 women.

Johnson & Johnson's [stock price](#) dropped nearly 2 percent after hours on Wednesday before recovering to close at \$139.41.

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Citation: California jury awards \$29M in baby powder cancer case (2019, March 14) retrieved 3 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2019-03-california-jury-awards-29m-baby.html>

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