



Bergen Jury Awards \$6.3M For Ovary Surgery Gone Awry

A surgical patient on June 1 won a \$6.3 million jury verdict for permanent injuries suffered in the botched procedure, in *Francisco v. Wang*.

On Feb. 16, 2007, Roseann Francisco underwent removal of her left ovary at Barnert Hospital in Paterson. When the obstetrician, Susan Wang, opened the abdominal cavity, she found several adhesions requiring separation. She separated one adhesion between the colon and omentum, causing an injury that became a perforation,



MORE EXPERTISE NEEDED: Donald Caminiti says the obstetrician should have called in a general or colorectal surgeon when she initially found the adhesions or to inspect the bowel before she closed the abdomen.

says Francisco's lawyer, **Donald Caminiti of Breslin & Breslin** in Hackensack.

Five days later, Francisco reported back to Wang that

she was in severe pain. A second procedure revealed sepsis, and a colostomy was performed.

Francisco, now 48, has had several additional surgeries, cannot eat a normal diet and is malnourished, and has nausea, vomiting and extensive abdominal scarring, Caminiti says.

Francisco claimed Wang should have called in a general or colorectal surgeon when she initially found the adhesions or to inspect the bowel before she closed the abdomen.

At trial before Bergen County Superior Court Judge **Rachelle Harz**, the jurors voted 7-1 to find Wang liable. They awarded \$6 million to Francisco for pain and suffering, and \$300,000 on her husband's per quod claim.

Wang's lawyer, **James Sharp** of Cedar Knolls, did not return a call.

— **By David Gialanella**