

# *Turn to Us*

**Autumn 2021**



## **Your CPAP Machine**

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### *A Lifesaving Device?*

For two years, Susan has required a breathing machine to help her sleep at night. Because of her sleep apnea diagnosis, Susan's breathing becomes obstructed and she wakes up in the middle of the night gasping for air without the machine.

However, in June of this year, Susan and millions of others learned that more than a dozen Phillips brand breathing machines had been recalled because of potential health risks caused by the machine. According to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the harm results from the foam in the machines that is used to reduce sounds and vibration, which can break down and be swallowed or inhaled by the user. The risk of this exposure to the user's organs could be toxic and potentially carcinogenic.

As a result of the recall, lawsuits are already mounting against Phillips and a multidistrict litigation petition has been filed which would allow

all the cases against Phillips to be consolidated in one state.

With regard to the recalled machines, Phillips must now create a "repair and replace" program, which will ultimately require FDA approval for the repair and replacement of the devices. For now, though, the recall leaves users like Susan between a rock and a hard place—continue to use the machine knowing the possible health risks, or discontinue using the machine and risk the serious consequences of sleep apnea?

If faced with this question yourself, it's best to consult your doctor for advice and to register your device on Phillips' website to learn more about the recall and Phillips' plan to repair and replace your recalled device.