



Emma C. Ross, M.D.

Partner / Chicago

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A physician by training and litigator by profession, Emma helps her clients achieve success by developing litigation strategies rooted in reliable science. Clients value Emma's strategic thinking, creativity, and ability to identify and communicate nuanced scientific and medical themes.

Emma represents leading pharmaceutical and medical-device companies in high-stakes litigation, helping them build a compelling scientific narrative of the case. Emma is trial counsel for Bayer in litigation involving the herbicide Roundup, including in a recent St. Louis trial where she and partners Tarek Ismail and Shayna Cook secured a complete defense verdict. Emma also co-leads the national science team in litigation involving Merck's HPV vaccine Gardasil. And, she was a key member of the team that secured landmark *Daubert* victories in two separate Mirena MDLs.

Emma maintains a robust *pro bono* practice focusing on reproductive justice, choice, and access to care. She recently led a Goldman Ismail team advocating on behalf of women who received coerced, unindicated, and unconsented gynecologic care while in immigration detention. She also co-chairs the Reproductive Justice Working Group of the Law Firm Antiracism Alliance, an organization that aims to harness the resources of the private bar in the effort to end systemic racism.

Representative Litigation

Gardasil Litigation

Co-leads the expert and science team in state and federal litigation involving Merck's HPV vaccine. Recently, Merck tapped Emma to present at the MDL Science Day on Gardasil's safety, effectiveness, and the lack of reliable scientific support that Gardasil causes the injuries plaintiffs allege.

In re Roundup Products Liability Litigation

Trial counsel for Bayer, including *Ferro v. Monsanto*, tried to a full defense verdict in November 2022, where Emma cross-examined both of plaintiffs' general causation experts. Since 2018, Emma has played a leadership role on the national science and expert team in nationwide Roundup products liability litigation, taking key depositions of plaintiffs' causation experts, advising on overall strategy, and developing science themes (and experts to deliver them) that reshaped litigation-wide defensive strategy.

Consumer Electronics Litigation

Represented a Fortune 10 consumer-electronics company in patent-infringement cases relating to telecommunications, user-interface, computer-security, and battery technologies. Following the dismissal of several of these suits, the remaining actions are pending in the summary-judgment and discovery phases.

In re Mirena IUD Products Liability Litigation

Played key roles in two separate Mirena MDLs, serving on national strategy and science teams that achieved litigation-dispositive *Daubert* and summary-judgment victories. Involved in fact and expert discovery, including the development of science themes, coordination with discovery teams, expert depositions and *Daubert* strategy, and defense of key company scientific witnesses.

In re Ethicon Inc., Pelvic Repair System Products Liability Litigation

Represented Johnson & Johnson and Ethicon in federal MDL concerning prescription pelvic mesh products used for the treatment of pelvic organ prolapse and stress incontinence.

Spilker v. Medtronic, Inc.

Represented Medtronic in a product liability action concerning its cardiac cryoablation device. Coordinated defense expert development.

Private Practice

Partner, Goldman Ismail Tomaselli Brennan & Baum LLP

Associate, Goldman Ismail Tomaselli Brennan & Baum LLP

Education

Duke University School of Medicine (M.D.)

- Dean's Full Tuition Scholarship
- Vice President, American Medical Student Association

Columbia University School of Law (J.D.)

- James Kent Scholar
- Hamilton Fellow

University of California at Berkeley (B.A., Political Science, *summa cum laude*)

- Dean's Honors List
- Golden Key Scholar
- Dean's Full Tuition Scholarship

Publications

Emma Neff, *From Equal Protection to the Right to Health: An Evolutionary View of Impact Litigation*. 43 Columbia Journal of Law & Social Problems 151 (2010)

Anthony N. Galanos, Emma C. Neff, Roschelle A. Heuberger, and Connie W. Bales, *What is "Optimal Nourishment" for Older Adults at the End of Life? A Conversation*, 29(4) Journal of Nutrition for the Elderly 386 (2010)

Brian S. Coan, Emma Neff, Srinivasan Mukundan & Jeffrey Marcus, *Validation of a Cadaveric Model for Comprehensive Physiologic and Anatomic Evaluation of Rhinoplastic Techniques*, 124(6) Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery 2107 (2009)

Of Note

Named by *Attorney Intel* as one of the Top 25 Biotechnology and Life Sciences Attorneys (2024)

Selected for *Bloomberg Law's They've Got Next: 40 Under 40* (2023)

Selected for *Benchmark Litigation's* 40 & Under Hot List (2022-2023). Ranked a Future Star (2023)

Selected by *Lawdragon* as among the "all-star litigators" "who excel at representing principally corporations and other organizations" in complex litigation, especially product liability, in the 500 Leading Litigators in America guide (2022-2025)

Fellow, American College of Legal Medicine

Selected by *Super Lawyers* as an Illinois Rising Star (2019-2025)

Co-Chair, Law Firm Antiracism Alliance
Reproductive Justice Working Group

News

[Emma Ross Named one of the Top 25 Biotechnology and Life Sciences Attorneys of 2024](#)

[Emma Ross Named U.S. Rising Star by LMG Life Sciences](#)

[Goldman Ismail 2024 Chambers and Partners Rankings](#)

[Goldman Ismail and Partners Receive Top Rankings in Benchmark Litigation 2024](#)

[Emma Ross Profiled in Bloomberg's They've Got Next: The 40 Under 40](#)

[Goldman Ismail Helps Bayer and Monsanto Company Secure a Defense Victory in Roundup Trial](#)

[Goldman Ismail Partners Named to Benchmark's List of Top 250 Women in Litigation and the 40 & Under Hot List](#)

[Goldman Ismail Partners Named to Benchmark's List of Top 250 Women in Litigation and the 40 & Under Hot List](#)

[Goldman Ismail Wins Motion to Dismiss In Uniloc Patent Litigation, Impacting Dozens of Cases Nationwide](#)

[Bayer Wins Dismissal of All Cases in the Mirena IIH MDL](#)

[Second Circuit Affirms Orders Dismissing All 1200+ Cases in Mirena Perforation MDL](#)

[Federal Judge Dismisses All 1225 Cases in Mirena Multidistrict Litigation](#)

[Landmark Daubert Victory for Goldman Ismail—Federal Judge Excludes Plaintiffs' Experts](#)

[Goldman Ismail Partners Receive Top Rankings in Benchmark Litigation 2025](#)

[Goldman Ismail Partners Named to Benchmark's 40 & Under Hot List](#)

[Emma Ross Selected in Crain's 40 Under 40 Class of 2023](#)

[Goldman Ismail Partners Named to Benchmark's List of Top 250 Women in Litigation and the 40 & Under Hot List](#)

[Goldman Ismail Furthers Partnership with Law Firm Antiracism Alliance \(LFAA\)](#)

[Goldman Ismail and Partners Receive Top Rankings in Benchmark Litigation 2023](#)

[Goldman Ismail and Partners Receive Top Rankings in Benchmark Litigation 2022](#)

[Goldman Ismail Elects to Partnership Allyson Julien and Emma Ross](#)

[Second Circuit Court of Appeals Affirms Bayer's Summary Judgment Win in the Mirena IIH MDL](#)

[Bayer Wins Daubert Ruling Excluding All Plaintiffs' Expert Witnesses in the Mirena IIH MDL](#)

[Law360 Picks Mirena IUD Products Liability Litigation MDL Ruling as One of Year's Most Significant](#)

[Second Circuit Affirms Mirena MDL Dismissals](#)

Bar & Court Admission

State of Illinois

State of Colorado

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of
Illinois

Selected Presentations

Emma C. Neff, *Gender and Access to Care in Northern Tanzania*, Yale University Global Health & Innovation Conference, April 17, 2011
(Invited platform presentation)

Other Experience

Legal Intern, Center for Reproductive Rights

Resident Physician, Duke University Medical Center
Department of Surgery

Postdoctoral Associate, Duke University Medical
Center Department of Surgery

Investigator, UCSD Department of Physics:
Investigated the behavior of molecules in non-
Newtonian (polymer) solutions.
