

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE 101



DID YOU KNOW...

MORE THAN 250,000 More than 250,000 deaths occur every year in the U.S. due to medical error?

Just **1% of doctors** account for nearly **1/3** of all paid medical malpractice claims?



HOWEVER, NOT ALL MEDICAL ERRORS CONSTITUTE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE. MALPRACTICE CLAIMS TYPICALLY INVOLVE...

- 1** A healthcare provider did something that fails to meet the accepted standard of care in the medical community.
- 2** The patient suffers serious harm because of the doctor's negligence.

EXAMPLES OF MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

- SURGICAL ERRORS
- MISDIAGNOSIS
- ANESTHESIA ERRORS
- MEDICATION-RELATED ERRORS
- BIRTH INJURIES
- INFECTIONS

Of these errors, the most common negligent act named in medical malpractice lawsuits is misdiagnosis, also referred to as a diagnostic error.

HOW MEDICAL MALPRACTICE HAPPENS



- Communication errors between doctors, nurses, aides, or departments within a medical facility
- Distracted or inattentive healthcare providers
- Fatigue or burnout among workers in a facility
- Understaffing within a facility

NEGLIGENT MEDICAL CARE CAN OCCUR IN MANY SETTINGS, INCLUDING...

- Hospitals
- Emergency rooms
- Ambulances
- Nursing homes

CONSEQUENCES OF MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

1. Worsening of a condition
2. New complications stemming from negligent care
3. Expensive medical care to diagnose and treat a patient
4. Loss of income due to time missed at work or reduced work capacity
5. Wrongful death

IF YOU BELIEVE THAT YOU HAVE SUFFERED SERIOUS HARM FROM NEGLIGENT MEDICAL CARE IN TEXAS, PLEASE CONTACT US IMMEDIATELY AT 713-973-8888 OR 800-444-5000.



Mr. Terry Bryant is a Former Judge and Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by Texas Board of Legal Specialization

Sources:
<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/medical-malpractice-lawsuits-fewer-claims-succeed-payouts-rise/>
<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2016/01/28/464691741/a-few-doctors-account-for-outsize-share-of-malpractice-claims>
https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/news/media/releases/study_suggests_medical_errors_now_third_leading_cause_of_death_in_the_us