A birth injury is any physical harm suffered by a newborn before, during or after a birth.

EVERY YEAR IN THE UNITED STATES, THERE ARE NEARLY 4 MILLION BIRTHS.
ABOUT 1.7% OF THESE BIRTHS INVOLVE SOME FORM OF BIRTH INJURY.

COMMON TYPES OF BIRTH INJURIES

1. FRACTURES
2. NERVE DAMAGE
3. SOFT-TISSUE DAMAGE
4. BRAIN DAMAGE
5. SPINAL CORD INJURY
6. BRACHIAL PLEXUS PALSY
7. CEREBRAL PALSY

Nearly one-half of all birth-related traumas can be avoided by identifying and addressing potential risk factors. Birth injury risk factors include:

- Abnormal size or weight of mother or child
- Advanced maternal age
- Any pre-existing conditions of the mother
- Unusual positioning of the fetus
- The use of anesthesia during birth
- Births requiring the use of forceps
- Loss of Oxygen
- Excessive Bleeding

WHEN NEGLIGENCE IS THE CAUSE OF BIRTH INJURIES

Failing to identify clear risks to mother and/or child
Failing to act quickly after complications arise
Misusing medical tools, instruments or equipment
Administering or failure to administer medications to the mother

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Sources:
- https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/births.htm