



COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT **MEDICAL MALPRACTICE**

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WHAT IS MEDICAL MALPRACTICE?

Medical Malpractice is a term used to describe situations in which a doctor or other healthcare professional fails to follow the rules of their profession, i.e. the "standard of care", and a patient suffers harm as a result.

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DO ALL MEDICAL ERRORS CONSTITUTE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE?

No. To prove malpractice it must be established that the healthcare professional failed to act in a manner that would be considered acceptable by the medical community.

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HOW DO I KNOW IF I SUFFERED HARM FROM MEDICAL MALPRACTICE?

It's not always easy for a sick patient to know the cause of their condition. If you sought medical treatment and your condition worsened or another injury or illness arose, that could be a sign of malpractice. If you're considering filing a claim, it's best to consult an experienced medical malpractice attorney to find out if you have a case.

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HOW MUCH IS A MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CASE WORTH?

This is a popular question, but it can't be answered without knowing the details of a case. There are many factors to consider, such as the costs of medical treatment needed after the error occurred, the impact of the injury on your ability to do your job, and the effect an injury had on your overall quality of life, to name a few.

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HOW LONG DO THESE CASES TAKE?

Medical malpractice cases are usually complex and take a great deal of time and effort. The typical case involves the filing of a lawsuit and takes several years to resolve.

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WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I THINK I'VE BEEN HURT BY MEDICAL MALPRACTICE?

First, make sure you seek medical care to prevent any further harm. Keep copies of medical bills and any other documents you might encounter during your treatment. You might consider keeping a journal to keep track of the challenges you face. If or when you decide to file a claim, schedule a consultation with an experienced attorney to start the process.

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ARE THESE CLAIMS EXPENSIVE FOR A PATIENT?

The amount of money it will cost you to file a claim depends largely on the law firm you choose to represent you. At Cirignani, Heller & Harman, we work on a contingency-fee basis, so you don't have to pay attorney fees unless you win.

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