

INTEGRITY LEGAL NURSE CONSULTING PDX NEWSLETTER
Helping you understand medical issues,
giving you more time to practice law

MAY/JUNE 2017

- *BIRTH-RELATED MEDICAL ERRORS**
- *IMPROVING HOSPITAL COMMUNICATION**
- *POTENTIAL INJURIES ASSOCIATED WITH INTRAMUSCULAR INJECTIONS**
- *HIPPA RIGHTS AND OUR STREAMLINED RECORD RETRIEVAL SERVICE**
- *CONSEQUENCES OF MOLD EXPOSURE**



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SERVICES INCLUDE:

- * Providing medical record evaluation, analysis and summaries**
- *Screening cases for merit,**
- *Developing chronology of events and timelines,**
- * Providing cost projections**
 - *DME attendance,**
- *Locating and vetting expert witnesses,**
 - *Serving as TE**
 - *Record retrieval**

UNDERSTANDING BIRTH-RELATED MEDICAL ERRORS

Though childbirth has become a much safer procedure in the modern era, about 5 to 7 of every 1,000 births in the U.S. result in some sort of birth trauma

- Birth-related errors fall into three categories: wrongful pregnancy, wrongful birth and mother or infant injuries
- Wrongful pregnancy cases occur when parents aimed to avoid pregnancy, but those methods failed due to medical staff negligence
- Wrongful birth cases relate to instances where doctors failed to warn parents about their child's imminent birth defects
- Common causes of mother or infant injuries include over-use or misuse of labor-inducing drugs, unnecessary use of forceps or vacuum extraction, missed signs of fetal distress, improper resuscitation technique, and delayed c-sections
- These errors primarily occur because of problems related to communication between members of the birthing team
- Birth-related errors can be minimized if birth team communication is improved through combined medical staff training, assuring that mothers are hooked up to a fetal heart monitor and IV promptly after being admitted for delivery, responding quickly to abnormalities, and consulting parents before using a vacuum or forceps

Our specialized legal nurse consultants are skilled at interpreting and analyzing your potential birth related medical negligence case

IMPROVING HOSPITAL COMMUNICATION

The increased complexity of patient care has resulted in positive increases in specialization, but has made communication between care team members and their patients exceedingly complicated

- About 50% of information requests by clinicians are met by colleagues, rather than by documented sources. Medical staff members then rely heavily on how team members communicate
- Doctors and nurses work in a highly interruptive environment, which can interfere with their ability to remember to complete important tasks or give important information. Therefore, asynchronous methods of communication - such as emails, handwritten notes, or texts - can be encouraged as methods to communicate important information without interrupting a procedure or professional's train of thought
- Having standardized procedures and cross-trained employees can lead to more open, consistent, and frequent communication between departments and different members of the medical team
- Physicians need to improve their listening skills when in consultation with patients.

We are experts at determine best practices as well as piecing together the whole story with our chart reviews and analysis

TESTIMONIALS

"When we use Wendy, we get a thorough and complete report. She finds issues that I had never considered and her thorough analysis is worth every penny."

[Kelly L. Andersen, Esq.](#)

"Thank you very much for your hard work on the case thus far - what I learned with you will surely help us out at mediation."

[Kristen West McCall, Esq.](#)

"Very nice report, the report will be useful to cut and paste into my settlement demand."

[Jan Kitchel, Esq.](#)

"Thank you so much for your help. Your report was both concise and thorough. The case disposition was a direct result of your report."

[Ron Cox, Esq.](#)

"Wendy provides prompt, professional, courteous service with a ready smile that sets clients at ease. She lasers in on the medical issues that matter most to highlight them for legal review as we consider how to best represent our medical cases to the triers of fact."

[Jenna Harden, Esq.](#)

"Thank you for the hard work and detailed report."

[Judy Snyder, Esq.](#)

"Excellent report and you uncovered important areas I had not considered."

[Robert A. Miller, Esq.](#)

"Because of several large cases going on at the same time, I had to find someone to do the medical review that my legal assistant normally does. I contacted Wendy and hired her for the job. The review was in the format and style I requested. It was every bit as thorough, perhaps even more, than my legal assistant. It was exactly what I needed. I would not hesitate to use Wendy again, in fact I am."

[Jim Dwyer, Esq.](#)

"Thank you for your help with this. I needed an unbiased evaluation."

[Sarah Freeman, Esq.](#)

"Thank you for your speedy work and comprehensive spreadsheet."

[Jim Nelson, Esq.](#)

"You did an excellent job."

[Michael H. Bloom, Esq.](#)

POTENTIAL INJURIES ASSOCIATED WITH INTRAMUSCULAR INJECTIONS

Required by even the healthiest of individuals, IM injections must be administered properly so as not to cause serious complications

- Common IM injection sites include the deltoid muscle (in the arm), vastus lateralis muscle (in the thigh), ventrogluteal muscle (in the hip), and dorsogluteal muscle (in the buttocks, with no distinct advantages)
- Injury to the peripheral nerves, blood vessels, bones, as well as muscle fibrosis, tissue necrosis, abscess, cellulitis, maematoma, and sometimes tendonitis are all possible risks
- Shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (SIRVA) can occur when the vaccine is injected too high on the arm and instead of penetrating the muscle, the needle goes into the bursa, causing the immune system to launch an attack on that area. This leads to pain and sometimes a frozen shoulder

We are able to determine best practices and note and assist you with your IM injection caused injury cases

HIPPA RIGHTS AND OUR STREAMLINED RECORD RETRIEVAL SERVICE

HIPPA gives us the rights to access our medical records, but do you know how to procure them?

- HIPPA's Privacy Rule states that all people have the right to inspect, review, and receive a copy of their medical and billing records; these records include lab reports, medical test results, treatment plans and doctor's notes
- One way for attorneys to save crucial amounts of time, money, and resources when acquiring medical records is through electronic retrieval and management
- When handled internally, the sheer volume of medical record requests can become overwhelming, payment logistcs burdensome, record tracking unavailable, and less than ideal turnaround time. In contrast, *online record retrieval* with Integrity Legal Nurse PDX can streamline the process while containing costs and providing you peace of mind.

We provide the reliability and speed you need with our record retrieval services

CONSEQUENCES OF MOLD EXPOSURE

Though we encounter mold on a daily basis, some tpyes can have serious effects on our health

- Indoor exposure to mold can result in upper respiratory tract symptoms, coughing, nasal stuffiness, eye irritation, wheezing, and skin irritation
- Severe reactions include fever and shortness of breath, fungal lung infections, or hypersensitivity pneumonitis. Those with asthma or mold allergies will also be triggered more easily and will suffer more severely from exposure to mold spores
- Though some molds can produce toxins, there is no such thing as "toxic mold"
- Unfortunately the CDC reports no significant proof connecting rare health conditions such as pulmonary hemorrhage and memory loss to mold exposure

We're experts in analyzing medical records and symptoms in cases where individuals may be suffering from mold exposure or other ailments at home or in the workplace.

NEWSLETTER RESOURCES

Please feel to contact us for the newsletter's sources, as all information is thoroughly explored and researched.