

10 WAYS TO PROTECT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY AGAINST MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

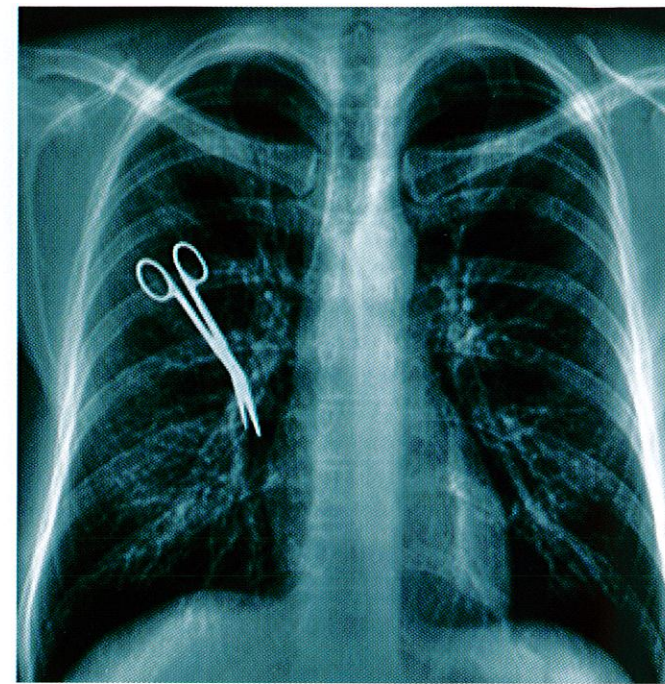
- 1. Be your own advocate:** You, or an authorized friend or relative, should be involved throughout your medical treatment. Hold the medical staff accountable for the personal and individualized treatment you deserve.
- 2. Ask lots of questions:** You have a right to know your providers error rate compared to other health care providers. Make sure you ask questions to fully understand all medical procedures and medications.
- 3. Make sure the doctors and nurses caring for you have your COMPLETE medical history:** Be sure to inform them of past surgeries and any medications you are taking.
- 4. Know the "5 Rights of Medication Administration":**
 1. Right Patient;
 2. Right Drug;
 3. Right Dose;
 4. Right Time; and
 5. Right Route (IV, oral, etc.)
- 5. Make sure health providers wash their hands before working with you:** This will cut down on infections; which are the leading cause of extended hospital stays.
- 6. Mark your surgical site:** Make sure the surgeon will be operating in the correct area.
- 7. Research your doctor and hospital:** Information regarding patient satisfaction and error rates are available online.
- 8. Keep yourself healthy:** Research indicates that patients who are otherwise healthy usually suffer fewer complications.
- 9. Never assume "No News is Good News" after a test:** Be diligent in finding out test results, even if it means contacting the hospital yourself.
- 10. If you sense that something is wrong with your care, it probably is:** Trust your instincts and speak up if something is troubling you (pain, dissatisfaction, etc.).

FORMS OF MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

- Labor and Delivery - Birth Trauma
- Emergency Room
- Surgery
- Surgical Tools Left in Patients
- Wrong Site Surgery
- Wrongful Death
- Dental Damage
- Diagnosis and Treatment
- Administration of Medication
- Incorrect Record Keeping
- Anesthesia Errors



SHANKS LAW FIRM
Free Consultation
Offices in Nebraska & Iowa
888-322-2608
Randy@ShanksLaw.Net
ShanksLaw.Net



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How do you prevail in a medical malpractice case?

It must be shown that there was a doctor/patient relationship which creates a duty for the doctor, the medical care provider breached that duty, and the breach caused an injury to the patient.

2. Did I waive my rights when I signed a consent form?

No, the consent form acknowledges risks only. It does not give the doctor a license to commit malpractice.

3. What is the first step in pursuing a malpractice claim?

First, you must suspect something has gone wrong with your treatment. Next, consult an attorney who will confer with medical experts to help determine if malpractice has occurred. Often this process involves reviewing medical records and other important patient information. If the attorney feels the evidence is adequate, a written notice of the claim will be sent to the appropriate health care provider.