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When a Cleveland Medical Malpractice Attorney is Needed for a Doctor's Mistake

With an unplanned emergency room visit, you don't have the ability to choose your doctor or even to consent to medical treatment in some circumstances. Decisions are oftentimes made quickly in order to prevent a disabling or fatal injury. In the midst of all the rushing, a mistake can be made.

Types of Emergency Room Errors

In general, emergency room malpractice includes misdiagnosis, failure to detect a medical condition or mistakes with test results. A doctor's mistake in any of these areas could lead to catastrophic consequences.

Let's say you suddenly experience discomfort in your chest and are taken to Cleveland Clinic's emergency department. You explain to the medical staff that you are experiencing a slight pain in your chest area but you don't appear to have any of the "classic" heart attack symptoms.

If the emergency room doctor decides to not perform an EKG and indicates that you probably pulled a muscle, but it later turns out to be a true heart attack, this would be a misdiagnosis. The consequences could be that preventable damage is done to your heart or the outcome could even be fatal.

This type of doctor's mistake would warrant seeking legal advice from a Cleveland medical malpractice attorney. An attorney will investigate the details of your case to determine if you have a legitimate claim.

Failure to diagnose a medical condition is another type of serious error that can happen in an emergency room. A malpractice claim may be filed if you were seriously injured after medical staff ignored or dismissed symptoms.

It may seem hard to believe that a patient who complains about symptoms wouldn't be taken seriously, but it happens more often than you would think. Even your pain level might not seem to be as extreme to the doctor as you are saying.

Mistakes with test results also can happen. In some cases it may be that the right kinds of tests aren't run, or the emergency room doctor doesn't order any. Even if tests are done, a misinterpretation of the results could be a serious type of doctor's mistake with dire consequences.

Causes of Emergency Room Errors

With such a hectic, fast-paced environment, it is not a surprise that errors could happen in an emergency room. A malpractice claim can hold liable the responsible party, whether that is the doctor, nurse, anesthesiologist or other medical professional who has acted in a negligent manner.

A doctor's mistake can happen when there is a staff shortage. Too many patients and not enough hands increase the risk for errors to happen. Even if there is adequate staff available, miscommunication could lead to an error. Not passing along important details, scribbling information that cannot be read or failing to complete the patient's medical records are some examples.

No matter what type of error has occurred or what the cause, when it results in serious or fatal injuries, then you could be entitled to pursue a claim. By consulting with a Cleveland medical malpractice attorney, you can better learn what options are available.

When you have suffered physically or emotionally as a result of a medical malpractice, a claim may provide compensation for your damages. Contact a [Cleveland medical malpractice attorney](#) as soon as possible in order to protect your rights.