PATIENT SAFETY BLOG

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Treatment Gap Wide For Brain Injury Victims

The following is a guest submitted by the Hawaii injury law firm of Davis Levin Livingston.

As reported by USA Today, there is a large treatment gap for brain injury victims in the United States. Despite the fact that programs like Medicare and Medicaid, and even most insurers, cover medical costs related to brain surgery and intensive care needed to save traumatic brain injury patients, many insurers simply don't provide adequate funds for rehabilitation.

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These rehab programs may cost anywhere from \$600 to \$8,000 a day, depending on the nature and extent of the services provided, according to Susan Connors, president of the Brain Injury Association of America.

Tragically, this lack of coverage for brain injury rehabilitation translates into thousands of TBI patients being discharged every from hospitals to nursing homes or to languish in their beds. Since it is in the early months following injury when their brains are most receptive to healing, many patients who might have otherwise have more successful recoveries simply miss their window according to data from the National Institute for Disability and Rehabilitation Research. As many as two-thirds of patients discharged from rehabilitation hospitals following 16 days of general treatment receive no further treatment.

Unfortunately, this means that countless brain-trauma patients, who but for the lack of treatment, may never regain full use of their limbs, their ability to use language, their emotional balance or their power to think clearly.

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Attorney Mark Davis has been recognized as one of the top trial lawyers in Hawaii and in the United States. The Hawaii injury lawyers at Davis Levin Livingston are able to

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