

Report: Slip and Fall Risks Are Higher for Patients in Florida Hospitals

By: Carmen Dellutri

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Recently released U.S. Department of Health and Human Services data reveals that slip and fall injuries are among the most common accidents in Florida hospitals.

In fact, sixty-nine of the 163 Florida medical institutions included in the government's reporting had fall rates above the national average.

According to a recent News-Press.com article, patients at Lee Memorial Health System's four acute-care hospitals, Lehigh Regional Medical Center and Physicians Regional Medical Center suffered slip and fall injuries at rates that are roughly twice the national average of 0.56 per 1,000 discharges.

The data show that, with the exception of infections, falls may be the greatest avoidable risk patients have while hospitalized. According to a 2004 study by the Society of General Internal Medicine, about a third of falls result in some sort of injury, with between 6 percent and 8 percent resulting in serious injury.

On a more positive note, many Florida hospitals are taking steps to reduce the incidence of slip and fall injuries. For example, any hospitals assign fall risks to patients. Those at higher risk, such as the heavily medicated or those with histories of falling, are monitored more carefully.

About Carmen Dellutri:

The Dellutri Law Group, P.A. provides aggressive and innovative representation for the victims of personal injury, wrongful death, and medical malpractice. Additionally, we represent the interests of Individual seeking a modification for their mortgages. Likewise, we represent Debtors in Bankruptcy and victims of Consumer Fraud.

At the Dellutri Law Group, P.A. our entire staff works hard to earn the respect and trust of our Clients, peers and members of the community. We stress communication with our Clients, and we rely on their input at all stages of their case. We believe a Client deserves to be treated with respect, and we treat our Clients with the respect that we would like to be treated with.

We will always work with our peers toward resolution of a dispute in the most ethical manner, without jeopardizing our Client's legal rights.

The Dellutri Law Group, P.A. is also known for its generosity and involvement in community affairs. Serving our Clients is this firm's most important responsibility. We place a high priority on the responsiveness of attorneys and paralegals. Our strategy also includes the process of assembling the right talent and experience at the right time – what we call the Team Approach. We have divided the firm into two teams: Bankruptcy and Litigation.