What is dental malpractice?

Malpractice is a type of negligence that pertains to professionals. It is the failure to provide the degree of care required of a professional under the scope of license resulting in injury, death, or damage.

What to do if you have been named in a dental malpractice lawsuit?

If you become aware of a filed or potential professional liability claim against you, receive a subpoena to testify in a deposition or trial, or have any reason to believe that there may be a potential threat to your license to practice dentistry, you should immediately contact your personal insurance carrier.

1. Report claims or potential claims to your insurance carrier, even if your employer advises you that it will provide you with an attorney and/or cover you for a professional liability settlement or verdict amount.

Never testify in a deposition without first consulting your insurance carrier or, if you do not carry individual liability insurance, the organization’s risk manager or legal counsel.

Refrain from discussing the matter with anyone other than your defense attorney or the claim professionals managing your claim.

Copy and retain all legal documents for your records, including summons and complaints, subpoenas, and attorney letters.

1. Types of recoverable damages:

- Medical expenses
- Loss of income
- Funeral expenses
- Dental anguish
- Loss of consortium
- Pain and suffering
- Loss of consortium
- Mental anguish
- Medical expenses
- Loss of income
- Funeral expenses
- Dental anguish
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- Medical expenses
- Loss of income
- Funeral expenses
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- Pain and suffering
- Loss of consortium
- Mental anguish

2. Dental malpractice lawsuits serve two goals

1. One: To compensate victims of negligent dental care.
2. Two: To encourage safe and responsible dental practice.

3. Types of alleged injuries and additional loss types:

- Improper procedure performed
- Wrong tooth (teeth) treated
- Failure to diagnose
- Inadequate precautions to prevent injury
- Unnecessary treatment

4. Top Alleged Injuries and Additional Loss Types:

- Improper procedure performed
- Wrong tooth (teeth) treated
- Failure to diagnose
- Inadequate precautions to prevent injury
- Unnecessary treatment

5. Claims for negligence in dental care include:

- Improper procedure performed
- Wrong tooth (teeth) treated
- Failure to diagnose
- Inadequate precautions to prevent injury
- Unnecessary treatment

6. Professional liability insurance is coverage purchased by dentists to safeguard against dental malpractice allegations by:

- Providing personal protection
- Paying indemnity for economic and non-economic damages
- Covering costs associated with hiring legal representation

7. What to do if you have been named in a dental malpractice lawsuit?

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