# MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

# REPRESENTATIVE CASES LIST

#### **General Surgery**

- Plaintiff alleged that the doctor failed to timely diagnose and treat a post-operative infection following appendectomy, resulting in sepsis and post-operative complications. Summary judgment was filed on behalf of the doctor and the case was ultimately dismissed by plaintiff. No money paid on behalf of the defense.
- Represented general surgeon where plaintiff alleged a failure to timely diagnose and treat mesenteric ischemia. Mesenteric ischemia resulted in dead bowel tissue and thrombotic complications leading to small bowel transplant and other medical complications. Case resolved via a confidential settlement.

#### **Neurosurgery**

 Represented neurosurgeon in case alleging failure to timely operate on patient with Cauda Equina syndrome, resulting in permanent neurologic deficits including bowel and bladder incontinence. Plaintiff voluntarily dismissed case just before trial.

### **ENT Surgery**

Represented ENT surgeon who removed thyroid gland due to Grave's Disease.
Following thyroidectomy it was discovered that four parathyroid glands had been inadvertently removed, resulting in permanent hypoparathyroidism and associated medical complications. Case resolved via confidential settlement just before trial.

#### **Psychiatric**

Case involving patient suicide one month after being discharged from psychiatric facility. Represented psychiatrist who allegedly failed to properly diagnose and treat patient's psychiatric disorder and discharged her from facility prematurely. Court granted defendant's motion for summary judgment based on the absence of evidence sufficient to conclude a causal relationship between patient's suicide and care provided by defendant one month earlier.

#### Pain Management

Wrongful death lawsuit alleging failure to properly monitor pain management patient who was prescribed Fentanyl/Duragesic patches. Patient died of Fentanyl toxicity. Case resolved via confidential settlement

#### **Obstetrics and Gynecology**

 Case against OB-GYN alleging failure to timely perform C-section, resulting in vaginal delivery complicated by shoulder dystocia, causing neurologic deficits in infant. Plaintiff voluntarily dismissed case prior to trial.



- Case against OB-GYNs alleging wrongful birth based on claim that physicians failed to diagnose pregnancy, and plaintiff claimed she did not know she was pregnant — patient then delivered baby at home over toilet. Claims included that plaintiff was not provided appropriate pre-natal care. Defendants filed motion for summary judgment as to all claims and plaintiff dismissed case prior to final ruling.
- Represented OB-GYN in case alleging that OB-GYN failed to timely diagnose and treat pre-eclampsia, leading to uncontrolled hypertension and placental abruption and stillborn fetus. Case settled for nominal sum via confidential settlement.

#### **Emergency Medicine**

- Represented emergency physician in case alleging failure to complete diagnostic workup that would have revealed aortic aneurysm and allegedly would have prevented rupture causing death. Case was dismissed as to emergency physician following jury selection for trial with no money paid.
- Represented emergency physician in wrongful death case where patient presented to emergency department after a fall. Work-up in ER was unremarkable and patient was discharged, returning next day with cerebral hemorrhage. Allegation against emergency physician was that he failed to obtain CT scan when patient initially presented. Case resolved via confidential settlement.

#### **Medication Exposure**

- Represented OBGYN who diagnosed woman with a corneal ectopic / non-viable pregnancy. Treatment with Methotrexate was administered to terminate the non-viable pregnancy. Following use of Methotrexate it was determined that pregnancy was a viable uterine pregnancy, and baby was born with complications consistent with Methotrexate toxicity. Case resolved via confidential settlement.
- Representing OBGYN who instructed patient to stop taking Benicar for hypertension because of toxic effects on fetus. Patient disregarded physician instructions and continued taking Benicar, resulting in delivery of child with multiple medical problems.

#### Stroke

- Represented neurologist in case alleging failure to diagnose and timely treat cortical vein thrombosis. Patient was treated and released, and it was alleged that clot extended into sagittal sinus causing stroke and neurologic deficits. Plaintiff dismissed the case one week before trial was scheduled to begin.
- Represented OBGYN in case alleging failure to appreciate signs and symptoms suggesting cerebral vascular event in post-partum woman. Plaintiff alleged that failure to provide full diagnostic work-up following blood patch for headache led to cavernous sinus thrombosis, stroke and neurologic deficits. Case resolved through nominal payment.

# Pulmonology

Represented pulmonologist where allegation was failure to timely intubate patient admitted for respiratory difficulties and pneumonia. Alleged that respiratory complications progressed and patient sustained a cardiac arrest. Case resolved via confidential settlement.

# Oncology/Radiation Oncology

 Represented radiation oncologist in case alleging failure to properly deliver external beam radiation to target areas in head and neck region, resulting in damage to larynx and other structures in the neck region. Plaintiff dismissed case after completion of discovery and shortly before trial.