

Healthcare Risk Management

SUMMARY

Risk management is a major issue in the provision of health care. Hospitals require both a proactive and a reactive approach.

Our extensive experience acting for hospitals in the defence of medical malpractice claims provides us with a broad knowledge base of various situations involving patient safety and risk management issues that have previously led to poor outcomes.

This experience provides valuable insight that we use to analyze and consider our clients' patient safety and risk management situations.

We also apply this knowledge to other healthcare institutions like long-term care facilities where risk management is a critical component of resident care.

We routinely make recommendations with respect to changes to policies or practices to reduce risk, as well as advice on responding to incidents in order to reduce the risk of future litigation.

Our team has experience advising hospitals on credentialing and related issues for professional staff. We frequently advise medical advisory committees appearing at Hospital Board hearing and appeal boards.

PUBLICATIONS

- Meghan Payne, "Is Genetics Reshaping the Physician's Duty to Patients — Updates from an Evening with the Medico-Legal Society of Toronto and Dr. Ronald D. Cohn," *Health Matters* April 2013.
This article was originally published in Health Matters, the official newsletter of the Ontario Bar Association Health Law Section.
- *Canadian Health Law Practice Manual*, LexisNexis Butterworths.
- John J. Morris, *Canadian Nurses and the Law*, LexisNexis Butterworths.
- Morris & Clarke, *Law for Canadian Health Care Administrators – 2nd Edition*, LexisNexis Butterworths.
- Michael K. McKelvey, *Ontario Health Legislation: An Annotated Guide*, Canada Law Book.
- "Update on Physician-Assisted Death: Superior Court Issues Practice Direction with Requirements for Bringing an Application," February 2016.
- "Physician-Assisted Death in Canada: the Next Four Months," January 2016.

REPRESENTATIVE WORK

- Advice on responding to adverse events and unexpected outcomes, including investigations and disclosure to patients, residents or family members.
- Drafting of adverse events policies.
- Advice on professional staff privileges and appointments.
- Advice on dealing with police requests for information and staff interviews, including working with police liaisons to develop standard policies.

- Advice on responding to patients in distress on hospital grounds including consideration of Code Blue policies.
- Incident reviews, including preservation of necessary evidence.
- Advice on dealing with disruptive patients.
- Advice on documentation standards.