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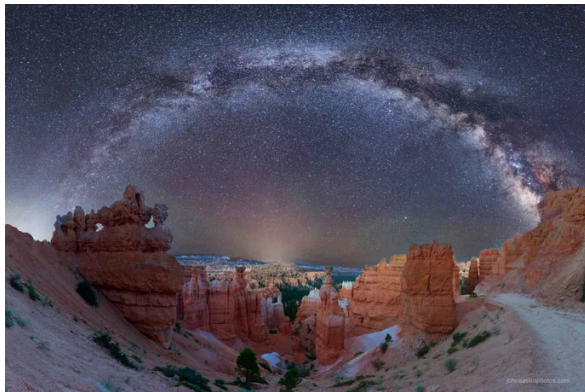


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APRIL 2025

Special Newsletter for

Personal Injury

Attorneys

This Month's Question:

Can a Medical-Legal Case Review find Overlooked Medical Damages in Cases?

GO MD Review Answer:

Yes. Absolutely.

Frequently, there is more to a case than first meets the eye. With our experience, training, and background, we have identified Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS) in several cases submitted for review.

We recently consulted on a case involving a penetrating extremity injury in a client with diabetes--resulting in a wound infection that re-

quired multiple surgical procedures. Initially, symptoms included significant pain at the wound site, but within weeks, complications arose, including tendon and muscle involvement due to cellulitis.

As treatment progressed, the client reported escalating pain that was disproportionate to the injury, accompanied by neurological symptoms. The pain changed character and became more regional in distribution rather than following typical neurological patterns. The client experienced alternating sensations of heat and cold, with skin exhibiting variable dryness and sweating, indicating autonomic nervous system dysfunction.

Over time, other extremities became affected, raising concerns about potential exaggeration for personal gain; however, this was not the case. The evolving symptom pattern aligns with Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS), which often follows mild trauma and leads to dysesthesias that can involve both peripheral and central nervous systems.

CRPS symptoms include allodynia (unexpected pain from non-painful stimuli) and hyperalgesia (intense pain lasting longer than expected). Underlying pathologic mechanisms may consist of physical and chemical changes in nerve transmission, potentially affecting all parts of the nervous system, including the brain. Disruptions in the immune system may also be a factor. Prognosis varies widely, and treatment, significantly when delayed, is often unsatisfactory.

In this case, we acted as Medical/Legal Consultants to the attorney. Our review identified the diagnosis of CRPS, and we recommended the client see the appropriate specialists, who confirmed our assessment. Medical/Legal Consultants can clarify causation and support the credibility of a client's case by identifying overlooked diagnoses.

ALLOW ME TO ASSIST WITH YOUR CLAIM & OPTIMIZE ITS VALUE

- * Assessment of Case Validity and Value**
- * Determination of Future Medical Care**
- * Assistance with Strategies to Promote Medical Theories & Causation**
- * Medical Summary Reports for Settlement Letters**
- * Medical Research and Delivery of Medical Journal Articles**
- * Answering Specific Medical Questions**
- * Interpretation of Meaning, or lack thereof, of Medical Reports & Records**
- * Standard of Care Reviews**
- * Deposition & Trial Question Preparation**
- * Facilitation of Communication with Clients, Families & Professionals**
- * IME Observation & IME Rebuttal Reports**

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Best regards,

Joe Schifilliti MD, MJ

P.S.---Please reply if you have a case to discuss!

P.P.S. ---If you found this newsletter helpful, please reply with: Yes

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