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## Pharmacy Malpractice Information and Legal Guide

The pharmaceutical industry is one of the largest and most important parts of modern American industry. The medications the people need to survive and thrive are not cheap, and as such the businesses that provide these drugs thrive in one of the largest growth industries in the world. It would be logical to assume that because these businesses produce so much revenue that quality control would never be an issue, as providing safe and correct medications to their customers would be their stock in trade. Not so, unfortunately.

A recent study conducted by the prestigious Institute of Medicine discovered that as many as 1.5 million Americans suffer adverse health consequences due to pharmacy medication errors. One study discovered that medical pharmacy errors in hospital settings alone cost \$3.5 billion in increased costs of additional treatment, pain and suffering. The same study discovered that Medicare beneficiaries who receive outpatient treatment lose \$887 million each year.

The pharmacy system in America contributes significantly to this disturbing trend. Although recent advances in pharmaceutical technology should make distributing and monitoring medicines easier, unfortunately it has not. A 2003 study of American pharmacists revealed several unsettling facts:

### Pharmacy Malpractice Facts:

- Between 1990 and 2003 2,270 pharmacists and pharmacy assistants were the subject of malpractice complaints
- Pharmacists and pharmacy assistants averaged 1.14 malpractice reports lodged against them between 1990-2003
- Between 1990 and 2003, there were 1,290 medical malpractice incidents reported to the National Practitioner Databank.
- There were 772 malpractice payment reports lodged against pharmacists between 1990 and 1996

Most experts believe that there will be even more incidents in the future as more Americans require more medication to ensure their health. Although some pharmacy mistakes cause no lasting harm, others can cause illness, disability, and even death. Some common pharmacy malpractice errors include:

- Incorrect management of dosage that reflects changes in the condition of the patient
- Failure to recognize what medications conflict with other medications
- Distributing the wrong medication, dosage, or amount to the wrong patient
- Failure to recognize pre-existing allergies that could conflict with the medication
- Incorrect medical advice when distributing medication to a customer.

There are any number of variables that can result in pharmacy malpractice, but the end result is the same; innocent people like you suffer due to the negligence or irresponsibility of another. If you or someone you love was the victim of pharmacy malpractice, you need to consult an attorney immediately. Let our dedicated and professional pharmacy malpractice lawyers help you stand up for your rights and get you the compensation you deserve. You must act quickly, for time restrictions called statutes of limitations give you only so much time to pursue your case. Do not lose your opportunity for restitution. Contact us today.

## Free Case Review

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## Pharmacy Malpractice Statistics

- Over 1.3 million people are injured each year because of medication errors.
- Medication errors cost in excess of \$29 billion per year-one estimate is as high as \$72 billion a year.
- Nearly 100,000 people die every year as a result of medication mistakes
- 3% of all hospital admissions are related to problems with medications
- 42% of the people questioned in a recent survey said either they or someone they knew had suffered because of a medication mistake

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