

Hospital Acquired Infections and Lawsuits

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It appears as if Hospital Acquired Infections are beginning to play a greater role in litigation against hospitals and healthcare systems. Two stories linked below provide corroborating evidence.

Health Systems Face Lawsuits Seeking Medicare Refunds

Attorneys in Arkansas have filed a suit against Triad Hospitals, Inc. according to an article in *The Morning News*:

“Hospitals or their insurers should pay extra costs of correcting medical errors they caused, not Medicare and taxpayers, said lawyers in a federal suit against the parent company of Northwest Health System.

The suit, filed Monday by Wilkes & McHugh law firm in U.S. District Court at Little Rock, attempts to collect millions of dollars it claims Plano, Texas--based Triad Hospitals Inc. billed Medicare for mistakes hospitals caused that harmed patients.”

(FULL STORY HERE)

Legionnaire’s Litigation

A Tarrytown, NY family that lost its father after he contracted a Hospital Acquired Infection is suing the New York Presbyterian Hospital. Attorneys for the family say Richard Montesano died after contracting Legionnaire’s Disease while receiving treatment at the hospital:

“The lawsuit seeks answers from New York Presbyterian regarding the painful and protracted death of Richard Montesano that resulted from his contracting Legionnaire's Disease from an infestation of Legionella bacteria in the hospital's water system. Mr. Montesano's stay at New York Presbyterian for routine treatment of a blister on his leg turned into tragedy when he was exposed to the Legionella bacteria. He had been scheduled to undergo heart surgery at the same facility during the summer of 2005...”

(FULL STORY HERE)