

Stages in a Medical Malpractice Claim

The first stage of a medical malpractice claim is to file it. This will require completing certain paperwork and forms. A lawyer will generally assist you with this, ensuring it is completed properly and on time.

Until this point, you will have spent time with your lawyer, discussing the details of your case and assembling the evidence that will be necessary. Your lawyer also will have determined the types of damages you have suffered and may provide an estimate on the amount of compensation you could be entitled to receive.

In some cases, your medical malpractice claim may be settled out of court; however, many of them will go to trial. This is when you will enter into what is called the discovery process, the pre-trial phase.

Although you have already provided some evidence to your lawyer when you began your initial appointments, this is the time when additional evidence is collected. The next stage of your claim involves questioning both the plaintiff and the defendant.

This process may include interrogations, depositions and requests for any documents related to your case. Your lawyer will work closely with you during this stage, providing you guidance on the answers you will need to give to questions.

Questioning Non-Party Witnesses

The next stage is to question what are considered to be non-party witnesses, those who may have some impact on the case but are not directly involved. For instance, your family members may be questioned on how the injuries you have sustained have impacted your quality of life.

Your family can provide insight into how your day-to-day living is affected. This could include your ability to care for your children, work, take care of the home and other important aspects of your life.

Any doctors who have treated you outside of the defendant may also be questioned. They will be able to provide additional information on the severity and extent of your injuries. Additionally, any nurses or other healthcare professionals who may have information about your case will be questioned.

Bringing in Expert Testimony

The final stage before an [Ohio medical malpractice claim](#) goes to trial is the expert stage. This is when your lawyer will hire additional experts who can testify on your behalf. Most of the time it will be a medical expert; however, other individuals may also be included. It will depend on the specific circumstances surrounding your case.

After all of these stages have been completed, the discovery process is done, and your case will move to trial. While this type of case can be lengthy and complicated, you are not on your own.