

Physician Legal Consulting Services LLC

Physicians Helping Attorneys Helping People

www.drlcs.com 314-390-9410

Newsletter

August 2023

This Month's Question:

Can a Medical/Legal Consultant Help in Answering Specific Medical Questions Related to Depression in Trauma Cases?

Physician Legal Consulting Services Answer:

We recently had a case of a 52-year-old woman who's vehicle was broadsided in an auto crash. The client had multiple injuries including ruptured discs at C4-5 and L5-S1. The client continues to experience severe neck and back pain which limit her functioning in the activities of daily living and her ability to work. The client's husband was the front passenger seat and was injured as well. The injuries sustained by the husband exacerbated a pre-existing cancer diagnosis and the client's husband died approximately two months after the accident. It is documented in the medical records that the husband's treating doctors felt the auto crash injuries more likely than not contributed to the progression of his cancer and his demise.

Approximately eight months after the auto crash the client complained of several symptoms of depression which were also limiting her ability to function. The attorney asked us to write a report giving our medical opinion regarding if the depression was accident related. Obviously the question arises if the client's depression was due to grief after the death of her husband or related to the traumatic injuries she sustained or both situations. The question was complicated by the nature of the client and her husband's relationship and events prior to his death.

Ultimately it was our opinion that in this specific case the client carried a diagnosis of Depression related to a Medical Condition, specifically her injuries sustained in the auto crash, and we spelled out our reasoning.

Ultimately, the settlement included the depression as a medical damage in the case supported by our report.

[You can read the entire report here.](#)

If you have questions about this case send me an email.

This situation is another example of how we can assist you with all the medical issues in your cases. Please reply to this email or call 314-390-9410 to schedule a time to talk.

Let Us Know How We Can Help You

- Medical Summary Reports for Settlement Letters
- IME Observation & IME Rebuttal Reports
- Reports Answering Specific Medical Questions
- Standard of Care Reviews
- Liaison with Treating Doctors
- Help with Strategies to Promote Medical Theories
- Interpretation of Meaning, or lack thereof, of Medical Reports & Records
- Independent Record Reviews
- Assessment of Case Validity Regarding Medical Issues
- Referral to Expert Medical Witnesses
- Medical Research
- Facilitation of Communication with Clients, Families, Professionals and Service & Governmental Agencies
- Case Coordination
- Deposition & Trial Question Preparation
- Table-side Deposition & Trial Assistance

As you know, **we have purposefully kept our fees exceptionally low** allowing you the opportunity to have us review your cases early in your representation while controlling your expenses.

CONTACT US for information or fee schedule.

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