

Subject: Initial Reports Reminder , 08/21/2025 KHF PA Meeting

“Whenever you run across a situation which you and/or the provider reasonably believe could lead to a malpractice claim, lawsuit, or even a board complaint, you need to notify Brent Reece at Sterling Seacrest Pritchard immediately. By way of example only, and without intending to be an exhaustive list, here are just a few situations which warrant reporting:

- (i) A patient has an unexpected outcome that has caused you and/or the parents concern;
- (ii) The parents make threatening statements like: “You’ll be hearing from my attorney”; or “We expect you to cover these additional expenses that we had to incur because of your mistake.” – these may be verbal or in writing, including mail, email, or patient portal message.
- (iii) The parents express dissatisfaction with the care provided and transfer their child’s care to another pediatrician.
- (iv) Parent(s) post a negative social media comment about the practice and/or care provided.
- (v) The parents incur additional medical expenses which are directly related to your provider’s care (e.g., patient ends up in the ER shortly after being seen by your provider);
- (vi) The patient has a catastrophic medical event shortly after being seen by your provider or related to the care provided at the practice (e.g., seen for what appeared to be a viral infection; parents later contact you from the hospital saying their child was diagnosed with a bacterial infection).
- (vii) You receive a medical records request from an attorney representing the patient/parents (Brent will first discuss the details with you to see if a report is warranted).

Please keep in mind that when deciding whether to report a situation to Brent, do not base your decision on your opinion about the provider’s liability (e.g., “we knew our care was good so we didn’t notify the carrier”). Rather, the analysis should be whether there is reason to believe that the parents or their attorney *may* try to make something more out of the event. If the latter, err on the side of caution and contact Brent. The reason for doing so is twofold: One, to create a claim “placeholder” for the carrier to hopefully avoid any coverage issues down the road should the parents actually make a claim sometime later; and two, to allow the carrier the opportunity possibly resolve the matter early if warranted.”

Brent Reece, JD, CPCU

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