

Birth Defects & the Apgar Score: What Should You Know?

Did your infant have a low Apgar score and suffer from a [birth injury](#) or [birth defect](#)? Medical malpractice could be the cause. Learn more about the connection between birth defects and the Apgar score here.



→ What is the Apgar score?

The [Apgar score](#) is used to report the status of a newborn baby immediately after birth. On a scale from zero to two, infants are scored based on five criteria including appearance, pulse, grimace, activity, and respiration (APGAR).

→ How are Apgar scores interpreted?

Babies with a score of seven or above are considered normal, scores between four to six are regarded as low, and Apgar scores of three or below are considered critically low.

→ What does a critically low Apgar score mean?

A [critically low Apgar score](#) calls for immediate resuscitation for newborn infants. A score that remains at three or below for more than 20 minutes may indicate that a baby will have longer-term neurological damage.

→ Was medical malpractice the cause of a critically low Apgar score?

Negligent prenatal care or labor procedures may be the cause of a critically low Apgar score indicating the potential for serious injury or other damages to an infant.



Talk To An Expert

If your baby suffered from a birth injury, birth defect, or other long-term damages as a result of medical negligence or [obstetric malpractice](#), you may be able to file a legitimate claim. Speak to a Portland medical malpractice lawyer at Miller & Wagner to find out more about your options for a lawsuit.

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