

# Physician Specialties & Medical Malpractice Risks

This checklist outlines the basics of medical malpractice claims as they relate to physician specialties.



## → **Medical Malpractice Rates Vary By Specialty**

Although there is a risk for medical malpractice claims in all practices, some specialties have a substantial variation in risk. Payment amounts to plaintiffs also differ greatly depending on the healthcare provider's specialty.

## → **Who Is Most Likely To Be Sued?**

Surgeons are the most likely to be sued for medical negligence. Neurosurgeons, cardiovascular surgeons, general surgeons, and OB/GYNs have the highest risk for medical malpractice lawsuits.

## → **Who Is Least Likely To Be Sued?**

Psychiatrists, pediatricians, and family general practitioners are the least likely to be sued for malpractice damages.

## → **High-Risk Specialties Don't Result In the Highest Payouts**

The specialties that are most likely to be sued for damages do not incur the highest payout amounts to plaintiffs. For example, while pediatrics has one of the lowest risks for medical malpractice claims, it has the highest payout amount for damages.



### **Talk To An Expert**

For more information about the relationship between physician specialties and medical malpractice rates, [contact Miller & Wagner](#) to speak with an experienced attorney.



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