

PI E-MAIL & FAX ALERT

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How to get your money from Small Claims court

Since Small Claims have increased to \$7500.00 more doctors and patients are using the fast, fair and friendly confines of the Judge Judy small claims court.

But what happens when you win? Where is the money?

Generally, when you sue an insurance company OR their insured, the carrier will promptly write a check. The problem is greater when you sue a person or a lawyer. Yep. Lawyers get sued and sometimes don't like to pay. They just sit back and see what you will do.

Here are the easy "Lewkovich DC" steps for collecting your small claims victory:

1. Garnish their wages
2. Levy their bank account...very effective for atty's trust accounts
3. Keeper's levy. We know a doctor who hired the county sheriff to "open" the lawyer's morning mail and took the checks.
4. Lien on real property. This is good.
5. Suspend the debtor's driver's license.

For a copy of detailed explanation contact johntawlian@shawnsteel.com

Most PI patients require Home Exercise

We strongly recommend David Cruz, DC amazing web exercises program. To "show" your patient the exact exercises they need for rehabilitation. See his web site at www.webexercises.com

Most judges expect your patients to have a home exercise program. Prove it with Web Exercises.

Hot new "headache" codes for 2009

Sam Collins of H.J. Ross billing fame presents a menu of newly minted ICD-9 codes that we should see more often in PI cases. Remember if you tend to use the old standby 784.0. Colossus will "think" you are treating a trivial case.

To escape the Colossus trap consider the following next time you have a high trauma patient:

Headaches:

- 339.00 Cluster syndrome
- 339.11 Episodic tension
- 339.20 Posttraumatic
- 339.21 Posttraumatic acute
- 339.85 Primary stabbing
- 346.90 Migraine

DC Implications:

Most trauma patients suffer extensive headaches from their accident. MANY are not completely recovered upon release. Many are still taking aspirin long after treatment.

The key is accurate diagnosis.

ANNUAL ADVANCED PI SEMINAR

Sponsored by CCA

Saturday, May 16 @ LAX Marriott
8 AM to 5 PM

8 hrs of CEU's pending Approval by the
Chiropractic Board

Smart PI Management

Guest lecturers include:

- Jeffrey Gross, MD, Neurosurgeon
- Robert Rose, MD, Neurologist
- Peter A. Fields, MD, DC
- Shawn Steel, Chiropractic Attorney
- Armen Gregorian, Esq.

For more questions call John Tawlian at
(310) 697-9000