

PI E-MAIL & FAX ALERT

03/04/2008

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Measuring the Severity of Injuries

Using Croft Whiplash Guidelines

Not only is careful diagnosis vital to assessing the value of PI injuries, equally important is grading the severity.

Gary Lewkovich recently published an overview of Croft's Cervical Grading Scale.

The 5 grades include:

- 0 no objective complaints
- 1 pain, tenderness
- 2 Loss of range of motion
- 3 Pain with passive motion
- 4 Positive ortho tests
- 5 Dislocation or neuro injury

Each PI case ought to employ a Grading Scale. For a complete copy contact JohnTawlian@shawnsteel.com

DOCS CAN SUE TOO

Hats off to Peter Dykeman DC, Los Angeles. He suggests don't turn down low impact cases, because attorneys will not sign a lien. Instead give the patient care, charge a reasonable fee and help the patient sue the defendant.

Dr. Dykeman offers "Collision Med" a service that will process small claims from start to finish. He will file the lawsuit, locate defendants, prep the case, provide in court doctor or accident recon testimony, reappear for appeals and provide monthly status reports.

The patient may sue up to \$7500. Dr. Dykeman charges \$500.00 plus costs. You can reach him at 866-300-5758.

Orange County Jury Gives Diabetic Chiro Patient Award

Stephen Marcum was struck in an intersection in Irvine. He claimed a permanent swallowing disorder caused by the swelling of a tortuous artery, exacerbated by diabetes. Other injuries included cervical and lumbar plus bruising on the left elbow and arm.

Jury award was \$41,612. Marcum vs. Neff Orange County Superior Court 06CC 06902

Doug Murray DC teamed up with internist Rod Wishnow MD vs. Stewart Shanfield ortho and Peter Singer MD endocrinology.

PRACTIC TIP: Jury are very open minded to unusual injuries so long as you have 51% of the proof. The jury believed the DC and the internist over the ortho and specialist.

Wanted docs victimized by 21st Century med pay denials, discounts and delays.



Next Teleconference
More on med pay cuts and denials.
USAA's strategy to deny everything.

Wednesday, March 26 @ 1:00 pm
E-mail johntawlian@shawnsteel.com for telephone # and pass code.