

PI E-MAIL & FAX ALERT

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Two Different Permanent Disability Rating Systems: By Lewkovich

AMA Impairment Guidelines Method
Vs
State of California Functional Loss Method

The Issue: how to rationally derive a quantitative estimate of permanent disability.

Making the choice as to the AMA vs. California guidelines can have a substantial impact on settlement.

The California FLM is generally superior for your patients. It permits subjective findings, objective findings and work restrictions/loss yield greater value, according to the California Schedule for Rating Permanent Disabilities.

For a complete article email your request to johntawlian@shawnsteel.com

How do you know if your PI atty is "blacklisted"?



Check with the California State Bar at click [here](#) for link.

Any former disciplinary action taken against an attorney is public information.

If you suspect your PI attorney is not on the up and up, then contact other doctors in your area to see what is that attorney's reputation.

If any attorney is suggesting you conduct some sort of illegal activity, you have a duty to report that to either the State Bar Association click [here](#) or to the local authorities click [here](#).

Important Questions about your PI Attorney: when he cuts your fee.

Unless your patient suffers a fracture are your PI fees almost always reduced? Most doctors will answer yes. Many so called "soft tissue" cases are settling from the cost of the medical bills up to two times the medical bills. If the attorney takes his third and the patients gets a third there is very little money for the doctor.

What do you do when the attorney calls to reduce your PI bill?



Solution: How to get paid.

First, we have to understand that no patient has a "right" to get any amount, including 1/3 of the total settlement. Their concern should be primarily to get well and get their bills paid. If your attorney doesn't explain that directly to your patient, then the attorney can turn your own patient against you upon settlement. Your patient becomes your enemy demanding you reduce and reduce.

Secondly, never should any doctor reduce unless the attorney is also reducing his fee by the exact same percentage.

We go anywhere to sign-up PI cases