



# Medical Malpractice Early Event Reporting Guide

## Why It Is Important to Report

Timely reporting allows for identification of patient and visitor safety incidents and provides insight into opportunities to improve. Early reporting permits timely investigations and preservation of evidence of unexpected occurrences which enables us to engage early on in meritorious claims and aggressively defend any events that lack merit.

## What Should be Reported to LHA Trust Funds

### Medical Malpractice Early Event Reporting Criteria

- When an incident has occurred that is likely to become a claim
- If you receive a verbal or written demand asserting liability or damages
- Total or partial loss of a limb or loss of use of the limb
- Sensory organ or reproductive organ impairment
- Any injury to anatomy that is not undergoing treatment
- Any inadvertent disability or disfigurement
- Disability or disfigurement
- Any assertion by a patient or a patient's family that the patient has been medically injured
- Misdiagnosis of the patient's condition resulting in mortality or increased morbidity
- Injury/Death to either the child or mother during delivery including dystocia resulting in fracture or other injuries
- Any assertion by a patient or patient's family that no consent for treatment (medical/surgical) was given
- Any assertion or act of violence
- Medication errors leading to injury, death, or higher level of care
- Retained foreign body incidents
- Injuries alleged from use of medical devices or equipment
- Wrong site, wrong patient, wrong procedure
- Suicide or death of any patient within 72 hours of discharge
- Elopements of patients under a Physician's Emergency Certificate or similar 72-hour hold
- Any incidents related to unexpected death, brain, or spinal damage
- Any other unexpected adverse condition or outcome that you feel could result in a claim

## When and How to Report

### Early Event Reports can be made by any of the following:

If you know your assigned Claims Consultant or Risk Consultant at LHA Trust Funds, you may call them directly or email them to discuss the event.

If you do not know your assigned Claims Consultant, you may contact our main office to discuss the event with a Claims and/or Risk Consultant at 800-542-4754 (option 4) or [info@lhatrustfunds.com](mailto:info@lhatrustfunds.com).

If you prefer to be set up to directly report events via our secure portal site, please contact our offices for access and education.