



January 2014

YOU SHOULD KNOW

IN THIS ISSUE /

**Deadly Mistakes
Tips to Survive
Protect Your Rights**



**Paul F. Oliveri, Esq. -
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Dear Subscriber,

The last thing on your mind when you go to a hospital is the possibility that you will be hurt instead of helped. But that is exactly what's happening to thousands of Americans every year. Patient safety can help you protect yourself and others.



THE DOCKET /

> **#1 YOUTUBE SEARCHED
VIDEO FOR NEW YORK
PERSONAL INJURY LAWYER**
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Our Patient Safety Survival Guide

Report Puts Medical Errors as Third Leading Cause of Death

If an airliner crashed every day of the year because of pilot error, would you travel by air? Probably not. If your doctor wanted to admit you to a hospital for a needed medical procedure, would you refuse? Probably not. But consider this: a [recently-published study](#) estimates that 210,000 hospital patients die each year from



Many are unaware that medical errors kill thousands and injure millions of Americans.

preventable medical errors, roughly equivalent to 365 jumbo jet disasters. That puts medical errors as the third leading cause of death in the United States after heart disease and cancer. Refusing care is not an option for most, but **you should know** how patient safety can help you survive a hospital stay. [Videos and more. >>>](#)

BY THE NUMBERS /

98,000
180,000
210,000
440,000
Deaths

The 1999 study *To Err is Human* first projected that as many as 98,000 people die each year from medical mistakes. In 2010, the [Office of the Inspector General](#) estimated 180,000 deaths. A [new study](#) from the *Journal of Patient Safety* puts the number between 210,000 and 440,000.

40
Per Week

Some estimates put the national incidence of wrong site surgeries, which includes wrong patient, wrong procedure, wrong site and wrong side surgeries, as high as 40 per week.

Source: *Wrong Site Surgery Project, Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare*

Medical errors could be costing Americans nearly \$1 trillion per year due to additional medical costs,

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REVIEWS, TO BE POSTED ON
A CONSUMER WEBSITE

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PERSONAL INJURY LEGAL
ELITE LIST

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ACHIEVED AN AV
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EXAMPLES

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\$1 Trillion Problem

productivity losses and shortened life spans.

Source: *The Economics of Health Care Quality and
Medical Errors*, Journal of Health Care Finance, 2012

BOOKMARK FAVORITES /

Service Grades Hospitals A to F on Safety

Check a hospital's safety score before you check in through this [national service](#) provided by the Leapfrog Group. Grades from A to F are based on 28 measures of publicly available hospital safety data.

Safely Navigate Your Health Care Experience

Safely navigate your health care with help from the National Patient Safety Foundation. Start at the [resource page](#), watch the [Ask Me 3](#) video, and join efforts to promote [Patient Safety Awareness Week](#), March 2 to 8.

Phone: (800)427-9546 or
(212)987-1100. [Continue reading.](#)



Limiting Your Rights Not the Answer

Instead of focusing on the widespread devastation caused by preventable medical mistakes, some special interests want to limit the legal rights of injured patients.

[Read report](#)



Hospital Insider Shares Her Perspective

Mary Anne Hillard, Chief Risk Counsel and Vice President of Safety and Patient Experience at Children's National Medical Center, shares an inside perspective on medical mistakes.

[Listen now](#)

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