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Negligent Spinal Surgery Results in Physical Impairment For New York Resident

Lake Success, July 2022... The New York medical malpractice/personal injury law firm of [Pegalis Law Group, LLC](#) announces that it has secured a substantial settlement for a man who had surgery performed at the incorrect level of his spine.

In October of 2019, the patient presented to his doctor with complaints of severe pain, tingling, numbness, and weakness in his right leg and back. An MRI of the lumbar spine revealed central spinal stenosis (pressure on the spinal cord and the nerves within the spine). After discussing the findings with his surgeon, it was decided that the patient would undergo surgery to decompress the spine. However, on the day of the operation, the surgeon operated at the wrong level of the patient's spine. The surgeon failed to notice that the MRI of the spine taken pre-surgery did not match the area of the spine which the surgeon was operating on. While recovering after the surgery, the patient had virtually no movement in either foot. This loss of movement indicated a surgical emergency, since the patient's functional status was now worse than it had been before the surgery and involved the previously un-effected left leg. However, the medical staff chose to wait for two hours to reassess the patient, despite the fact there was no reasonable assumption that the loss of foot movement would improve on its own. It was not until 24 hours following the observed loss of movement that a second surgery was performed. Such a delay in surgery increases the likelihood that the nerve roots would suffer further damage, which could be permanent.

The medical experts consulted by Pegalis Law group confirmed that the radiological studies performed prior to the first surgery and then after the first surgery when the patient had bilateral leg weakness confirmed that the surgery was done at the wrong level. The neurologist who examined the patient further confirmed the permanent nerve damage caused by the two surgeries.

The patient has continued to undergo rehabilitation, but he is still severely impaired. He has issues with balance, performing daily activities and has a low threshold for physical activity, such as walking or even standing. Pegalis Law Group was able to secure a settlement of \$875,000 for the plaintiff.

Pegalis Law Group, LLC is a New York law firm for those suffering as a result of avoidable medical errors and personal injury. In 50 years of practice, they have won some of the largest verdicts in New York State history and strive for medical accountability to ensure safer medical practices for better patient care. Learn more about the firm at <https://pegalislawgroup.com> and on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#).