

## **The detection, analysis, and significance of physician clustering in medical malpractice lawsuit payouts.**

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Oshel RE, Levitt P. The Detection, Analysis, and Significance of Physician Clustering in Medical Malpractice Lawsuit Payouts. J Patient Saf. 2016;16(4):274-278. doi:10.1097/PTS.0000000000000326.  
<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/detection-analysis-and-significance-physician-clustering-medical-malpractice-lawsuit-payouts>

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[Prior research](#) demonstrates that a small percentage of physicians are responsible for a significant proportion of paid [malpractice claims](#). This study found that 1.8% of physicians accounted for 50% of paid claims reported to the [National Practitioner Data Bank](#) over 25 years. The authors suggest that the adverse impact of such outlier physicians needs to be addressed in order to ensure patient safety.