

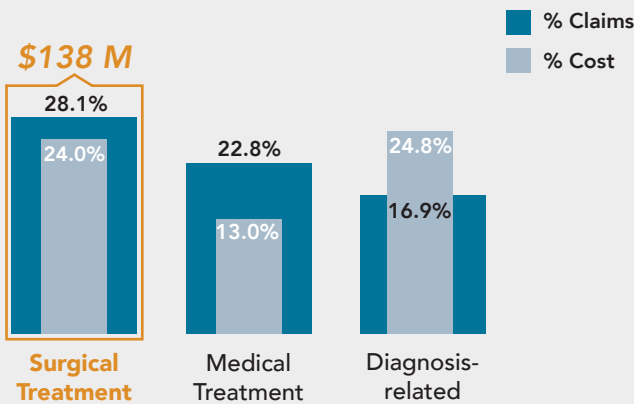
Risk Report



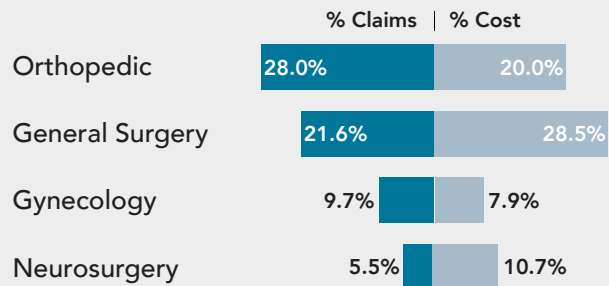
Reducing Orthopedic Surgery Patient Harm Events

In our analysis of Constellation medical professional liability (MPL) claims*, surgical allegations are #1 in occurrence and #2 in cost. **Orthopedics is the most frequently cited specialty team** responsible for care at the time of the alleged patient injury with **28% of claims and 20% of costs**.

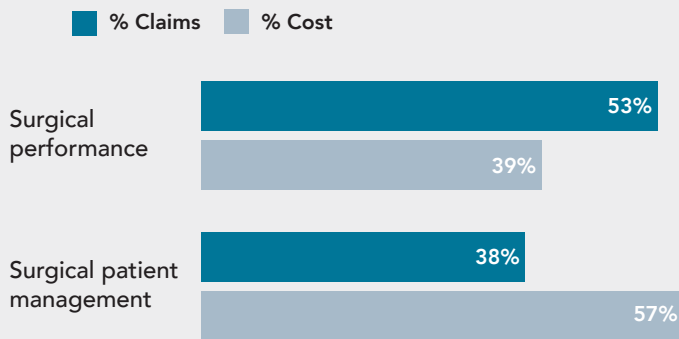
Allegations Triggering All Claims



Specialties & Teams Involved in Surgical Claims



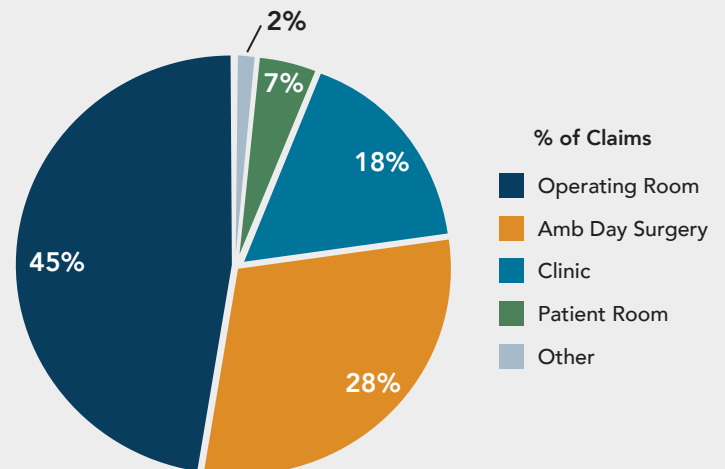
Allegations Triggering Orthopedic Surgical Claims



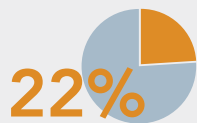
Surgical performance - Occurs in the operating room

Surgical patient management - Steps taken pre-, intra-, and postoperative

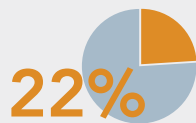
Locations of Orthopedic Surgical Claims



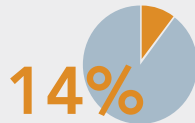
Top Procedures % Claims



Knee



Spine



Hip

Top Injuries % Claims

Need for additional surgery **12%**

Pain **9%**

Nerve damage **9%**

Infection **8%**

Contributing Factors** % Claims

Orthopedic surgical performance allegations

Technical skill and technique, including known procedural risks

89%

Clinical judgment in the selection of surgical procedure and patient assessment with failure to respond to repeated symptoms

43%

Patient factors - seeking care due to dissatisfaction with the orthopedic surgeon's care and/or outcome

39%

Orthopedic surgical management allegations

Clinical judgment in the selection of surgical procedure and patient assessment with failure to respond to repeated symptoms

80%

Technical skill and technique, including known procedural risks

61%

Communication breakdowns with patient and family including poor rapport, informed consent and discharge instructions

39%

**These factors contribute to injuries/malpractice claims and are amenable to risk mitigation strategies. A single harm event may involve multiple contributing factors.

What You Can Do To Reduce Orthopedic Harm Events

Learn about the causes and contributing factors to orthopedic surgery harm

Ensure orthopedic surgeon technical skill with a robust credentialing and privileging process

Enhance communication with patients and among the surgical care team

Analyze surgical harm events and implement strategies to reduce risk

Good for care teams. Good for business.

