Risk Report

CONSTELLATION IS NOW CURI
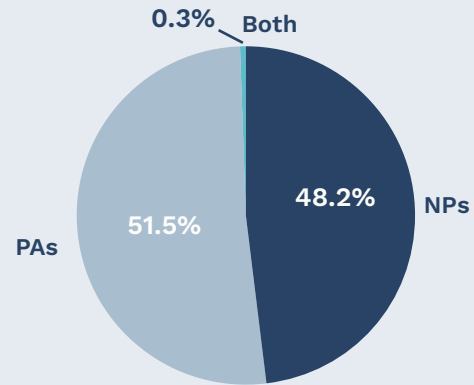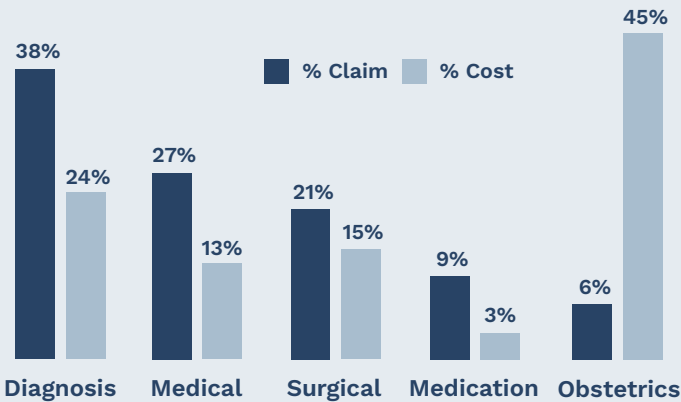MMIC® | UMIA® | ARKANSAS MUTUAL | MPIE

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Reducing Advanced Practice Provider Risk

In an analysis of our medical professional liability claims* involving **advanced practice providers (NPs and PAs), diagnostic error is the #1 most costly and #1 most frequent allegation.**

Allegations Triggering APP Claims

Legend: ■ % Claim ■ % Cost

- Diagnosis: 38% (% Claim), 24% (% Cost)
- Medical: 27% (% Claim), 13% (% Cost)
- Surgical: 21% (% Claim), 15% (% Cost)
- Medication: 9% (% Claim), 3% (% Cost)
- Obstetrics: 6% (% Claim), 45% (% Cost)

APP Cases % Claims

- Both: 0.3%
- NPs: 48.2%
- PAs: 51.5%

Did you know?

The clinical review of these APP cases demonstrates team-related vulnerabilities including:
- Clinical judgment factors due to insufficient mentoring and collaboration opportunities with physicians
- Communication breakdowns among the care team due to absence of teamwork training and skills
- Administrative issues, typically inadequate physician oversight due to role clarity and lack of APP policy
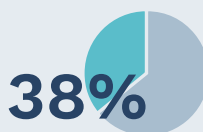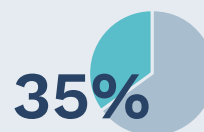
Snapshot of APP Claims
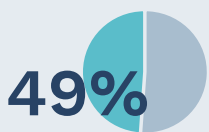
49% of claims occurred in a clinic
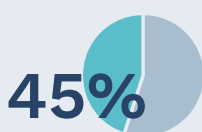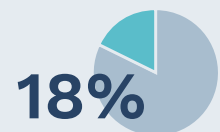
45% of costs involved obstetrics

38% of claims involved diagnostic errors

35% of claims involved communication issues

18% of claims involved administrative issues

*Former Constellation Inc. claims reviewed 12/31/2022

Locations and Responsible APP Specialty
% Claims

Pie chart:
- Outpatient 49%
- Inpatient 34%
- ED 17%

Bar chart (NPs / PAs):
- Family Medicine: NPs 7%, PAs 11%
- Orthopedics: NPs 0.4%, PAs 16%
- OB/GYN: NPs 9%, PAs 0.4%
- Emergency: NPs 3.5%, PAs 4.4%
- General Surgery: NPs 5%, PAs 2%
- Radiology: NPs 4%, PAs 1%
- Cardiology: NPs 2%, PAs 3%
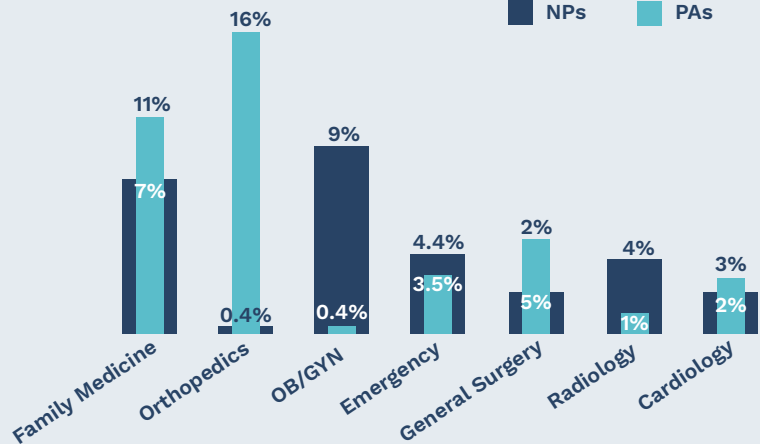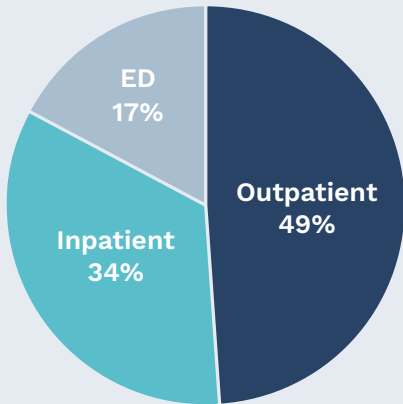
Top Contributing Factors
All Claims

Malpractice claim data shows that the top contributing factors for APPs are the same as those for physicians working in corresponding specialty areas.

Bar chart (% Claim / % Cost):
- Clinical Judgment: 64% / 87%
- Technical Skill: 46% / 42%
- Communication: 35% / 38%
- Medication: 18% / 16%
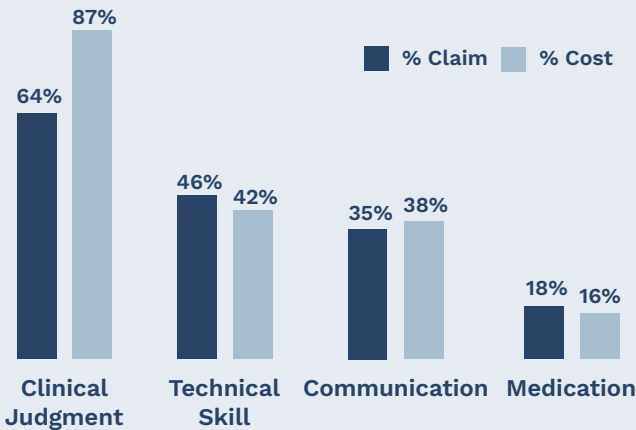
These factors contribute to harm events/malpractice claims and are amenable to risk mitigation strategies. A single harm event may involve multiple contributing factors.

APP Team-related Vulnerabilities

Clinical Judgment	Communication Breakdowns	Administrative
Assumption or delegation of too much responsibility	Hierarchical, non-collaborative, unsafe culture	Lack of role clarity and identifying which physician is responsible for oversight
No clinical guidelines, care protocols or clinical decision support tools	Lack of teamwork skills or tools	Lack of mentoring and collaboration opportunities
Lack of mentoring and collaboration opportunites	Lack of communication training	Lack of policies and procedures to outline team care

What You Can Do To Enhance APPs Roles and Mitigate Risk

LEARN about the causes and contributing factors involved in harm events

EVALUATE APP credentials and ensure competency through physician oversight

ENHANCE communication with patients, senior living residents and families

PROMOTE a safe and collaborative culture