

MEDICAL CHRONOLOGY

Medical Malpractice Chronology

Post-operative infection · septic shock · revision surgery.

CASE OVERVIEW	
CASE NO.	MR-2026-0531
PATIENT	Okonkwo, Marcus J.
DOB	02/09/1962
DATE OF LOSS / SERVICE	08/12/2024 (surgery)
MATTER TYPE	Medical malpractice — post-operative infection
PREPARED FOR	Bexar Trial Group
ATTORNEY	L. Hartman, Esq.
PREPARED BY	D. Whitaker, RN
DATE PREPARED	08/13/2026

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SOURCE PAGES CITED 24	PROVIDERS (PHYSICIANS) 3	FACILITIES 14	FLAGGED ITEMS 4	VERIFIED 20
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Method: every line below is tied to its source page or image. Low-confidence or gap items are flagged, never guessed.

Jul 2024

Date	Time	Source	Facility / provider	Type	Findings / notes	Status
07/30/2024	10:00	p. 008	Lakeside Spine & Ortho — Dr. C. Harmon	Pre-op visit	63-year-old with L4-L5 degenerative spondylolisthesis; neurogenic claudication. Surgery scheduled; medical clearance obtained.	OK

Aug 2024

08/12/2024	07:15	p. 024	Lakeside Surgical Center	Admission / procedure	L4-L5 decompression and posterolateral fusion with instrumentation. Estimated blood loss 350 mL; operative time 3h 40m.	OK
08/12/2024	13:30	p. 031	PACU	PACU	Stable; VS WNL; pain controlled; neuro exam intact.	OK

Aug 2024

08/13/2024	09:00	p. 038	Lakeside Surgical Center	POD #1	Tmax 38.2 C (100.8 F); incision clean, dry, intact; labs: WBC 12.1; continue IV antibiotics (cefazolin).	OK
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Aug 2024

08/14/2024	06:30	p. 044	Lakeside Surgical Center	POD #2 — fever	Tmax 38.8 C (101.8 F); WBC 14.8; HR 108; nursing note flags fever and malaise; discharge planned despite fever per order set.	ALERT
08/14/2024	11:00	p. 048	Lakeside Surgical Center	Discharge	Discharged home POD #2. Discharge note documents 'low-grade fever, presumed atelectasis'; no blood cultures drawn; no wound cultures; no imaging.	ALERT

Aug 2024

08/15/2024	—	p. 055	Home	Post-discharge day 1	Patient called clinic reporting chills, incisional drainage; advised to monitor, offered appointment in 5 days.	ALERT
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Aug 2024

08/17/2024	19:05	p. 063	Lakeside Medical Center — ED	ED readmission	Tmax 39.4 C (102.9 F); HR 122; BP 92/58; incision erythematous with purulent drainage; lactate 3.8; sepsis protocol initiated; admitted.	OK
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Aug 2024

08/18/2024	02:10	p. 074	ICU	ICU admission	Septic shock; vasopressors; blood cultures x2; wound cultures; empiric vancomycin + piperacillin/tazobactam.	OK
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Aug 2024

08/20/2024	10:30	p. 089	OR — Dr. C. Harmon / ID consult	Surgical debridement	Deep wound infection; 400 mL purulent collection; extensive debridement; instrumentation retained; wound vac placed.	OK
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Aug 2024

08/21/2024	—	p. 096	ICU / ID	ID follow-up	Cultures: methicillin-sensitive S. aureus. Narrowed to cefazolin 2 g q8h; planned 6-week course.	OK
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Sep 2024

09/02/2024	—	p. 105	Medical unit	Step-down	Improved; wound vac changes; ambulation with assistance; glucose control.	OK
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Sep 2024

09/18/2024	—	p. 117	Lakeside Medical Center	Discharge	Discharged to home health on IV antibiotics; wound vac in place; PICC line.	OK
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Oct 2024

10/14/2024	—	p. 128	Wound clinic	Wound follow-up	Wound granulating; vac removed; wet-to-dry dressings; cultures negative.	OK
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Nov 2024

11/12/2024	—	p . 136	Ortho follow-up — Dr. C. Harmon	Post-op follow-up	X-rays: hardware intact; no loosening; patient reports persistent back and left leg pain; referred to pain management.	OK
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Jan 2025

01/09/2025	—	p . 147	Lakeside Medical Center	CT lumbar	Mild lucency at left L5 pedicle screw; question of early loosening; MRI with contrast shows residual epidural enhancement.	GAP
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Apr 2025

04/03/2025	—	p . 158	Second opinion — Dr. E. Vance	Orthopedic second opinion	Nonunion of L4-L5 with hardware loosening; chronic pain; discusses revision.	OK
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Apr 2025

04/22/2025	—	p . 172	OR — Dr. E. Vance	Revision surgery	L4-L5 revision with explant of loose hardware, decompression, autograft + BMP, new instrumentation.	OK
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Jun 2025

06/10/2025	—	p . 184	Post-op follow-up — Dr. E. Vance	Follow-up	Healing progressing; left leg pain improved 50%; gait stable.	OK
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Sep 2025

09/08/2025	—	p . 196	Pain management	Pain consult	Chronic post-operative pain; gabapentin, PT, cognitive-behavioral referral.	OK
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Dec 2025

12/12/2025	—	p . 205	Ortho follow-up — Dr. E. Vance	Follow-up	X-rays show consolidation; range of motion limited; permanent restriction: no lifting over 15 lb.	OK
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Mar 2026

03/11/2026	—	p . 214	Lakeside Medical Center	MRI lumbar	No recurrent infection; hardware intact; mild epidural fibrosis at L4-L5.	OK
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May 2026

05/13/2026	—	p . 222	IME — Dr. R. Chen	Plaintiff IME	Permanent impairment 16% whole person; chronic pain; 6-week gap in timely treatment contributed to severity.	OK
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Jul 2026

07/01/2026	—	p. 231	Ortho follow-up — Dr. E. Vance	Final treating note	MMI reached; maintenance gabapentin; annual follow-up; future care plan documented.	OK
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