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# Medical Professional Liability Experience Fiscal Year 2022

# By Rita Noll Deputy Director and Chief Counsel

This report for the Board of Governors of the Health Care Stabilization Fund summarizes medical professional liability litigation experience in Kansas during fiscal year 2022. (Fiscal year 2022 covers the period of time from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.) The report reflects statistical data gathered by the HCSF in administering the Health Care Provider Insurance Availability Act and is based on all claims resolved during the fiscal year.

Medical professional liability refers to a claim made against a health care provider for the rendering of or failure to render professional services (K.S.A. 40-3403). Health care provider is defined in K.S.A. 40-3401 to include the following individuals: physicians, chiropractors, podiatrists, registered nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and physician assistants. "Health care provider" also includes the following entities: hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, and residential health care facilities. Certain professional corporations and professional limited liability companies may also be defined as a "health care provider".

It should be noted that dollar amounts will not necessarily correspond with the agency's accounting and budgeting documents because claims are not necessarily paid in the same fiscal year that the settlement was approved by the court, or the judgment was rendered by a jury. Data in this report reflects the status of cases at the end of the fiscal year. Data for prior years is for comparison purposes only, as case outcomes may have changed due to subsequent court proceedings.

#### MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY EXPERIENCE

## A. Jury Verdicts

From HCSF data, 16 medical malpractice cases involving 17 Kansas health care providers went to trial during fiscal year 2022. These trials took place in the following jurisdictions:

Sedgwick County	5
Johnson County	3
Cowley County	1
Pottawatomie Co.	1
Republic County	1
Shawnee County	1
Clay Co., MO	2
Jackson Co., MO	2

Nine cases resulted in defense verdicts, in six cases the jury found for the plaintiff, and one case ended in mistrial. Four of the plaintiff verdicts were an amount greater than primary coverage limits. Fund obligations as a result of these verdicts total \$2,782,228.70.

The following chart compares this year's experience to previous fiscal years:

Fiscal	Total	Defense	Plaintiff	Split	Mistrials
Year	Trials	Verdict	Verdict	Verdict	
2022	16	9	6		1
2021*	4	4			
2020*	12	11	1		
2019	10	9			1
2018	12	9	3		
2017	16	14	1	1	
2016	14	12	1		1
2015	18	13	2		3
2014	27	23	3		1
2013	18	14	4		
2012	21	19	1		1
2011	19	16	2	1	
2010	32	21	7	1	3
2009	27	20	5	1	1
2008	34	25	4	1	4
2007	36	31	5		
2006	29	23	6		
2005	34	22	7	3	2
2004	28	23	3	2	
2003	27	23	3		1

<sup>\*</sup>There were no trials the last four months of fiscal year 2020 due to the pandemic.

<sup>\*</sup>The courts were closed most of fiscal year 2021 due to the pandemic.

#### **B.** Settlements

Claims settled by the HCSF. During FY 2022, 75 claims in 64 cases were settled involving the HCSF. Settlement amounts incurred by the HCSF for the fiscal year totaled \$28,612,433.86. This amount does not include settlement contributions by primary or excess insurance carriers. The settlement amounts are payments made, or to be made, by the HCSF in excess of primary coverage or on behalf of inactive health care providers.

Fiscal Year	Number of Claims/Cases	HCSF Amount	Settlement Average
FY 2022	75/64	\$28,612,433.86	\$381,499
FY 2021	50/40	\$17,352,000.00	\$347,040
FY 2020	73/69	\$27,121,225.00	\$371,524
FY 2019	74/61	\$23,407,875.00	\$316,323
FY 2018	73/58	\$24,238,950.00	\$332,040
FY 2017	64/53	\$21,745,583.00	\$339,775
FY 2016	76/66	\$23,539,687.07	\$309,733
FY 2015	60/53	\$24,322,582.00	\$405,376
FY 2014	63/52	\$24,005,914.00	\$381,046
FY 2013	79/62	\$27,610,000.00	\$349,494
FY 2012	67/62	\$21,431,000.00	\$319,866
FY 2011	61/57	\$17,518,727.54	\$287,192
FY 2010	61/54	\$19,745,200.00	\$323,692
FY 2009	81/72	\$23,867,283.72	\$294,658
FY 2008	65/57	\$17,352,500.00	\$266,962
FY 2007	61/53	\$20,929,250.00	\$343,102
FY 2006	89/81	\$24,917,984.00	\$279,977
FY 2005	90/74	\$23,544,658.00	\$261,607
FY 2004	79/64	\$18,905,505.00	\$239,310
FY 2003	87/76	\$17,483,778.00	\$200,963

HCSF settlement amounts fall within the following ranges and are compared to individual claim settlements in previous years:

	FY22	FY21	FY20	FY19	FY18	FY 17	FY 16	FY 15
\$1 - \$50,000	8	5	6	7	8	11	14	7
\$50,001 - \$250,000	27	20	22	30	23	21	26	19
\$250,001 - \$600,000	19	13	32	26	31	19	23	17
\$600,001 - 1,000,000	21	12	13	11	11	13	13	17
Total Claims	75	50	73	74	73	64	76	60

Of the 75 claims, the HCSF provided primary coverage for inactive health care providers in nine claims. In addition, the Fund "dropped down" to provide coverage for two claims in which aggregate primary policy limits were reached.

Primary insurance carriers tendered their policy limits to the HCSF in 66 claims. Six claims involved contribution from an insurer whose coverage was excess of HCSF coverage.

<u>FY</u>	Primary Carriers	<u>HCSF</u>	Excess Carriers	<u>Total</u>
2022	\$13,105,866.14	\$28,612,433.86	\$14,850.000.00	\$56,568,300.00
2021	\$ 8,800,000.00	\$17,352,000.00	\$ 7,650,000.00	\$33,802,000.00
2020	\$12,400,000.00	\$27,121,225.00	\$ 7,700,000.00	\$47,221,225.00
2019	\$11,797,022.00	\$23,407,875.00	\$ 550,000.00	\$35,754,897.00
2018	\$12,755,050.00	\$24,238,950.00	\$ 2,895,000.00	\$39,889,000.00
2017	\$11,057,500.00	\$21,745,583.00	\$ 1,425,000.00	\$34,228,083.00
2016	\$11,000,000.00	\$23,539,687.07	\$ 3,400,000.00	\$37,939,687.07
2015	\$11,200,000.00	\$24,322,582.00	\$14,400,000.00	\$49,922,582.00
2014	\$10,135,000.00	\$24,005,914.00	\$ 3,875,000.00	\$38,015,914.00
2013	\$13,310,000.00	\$27,610,000.00	\$ 6,000,000.00	\$46,920,000.00
2012	\$10,800,000.00	\$21,431,000.00	\$ 5,083,500.00	\$37,314,500.00
2011	\$10,400,000.00	\$17,518,727.54	\$ 4,350,000.00	\$32,268,727.54
2010	\$ 9,400,000.00	\$19,745,200.00	\$14,972,500.00	\$44,117,700.00
2009	\$11,471,170.00	\$23,867,283.72	\$ 4,954,830.00	\$40,293,283.72
2008	\$10,612,500.00	\$17,352,500.00	\$ 2,425,000.00	\$30,390,000.00
2007	\$ 9,488,750.00	\$20,929,250.00	\$ 3,125,000.00	\$33,543,000.00
2006	\$14,580,000.00	\$24,917,984.00	\$ 5,089,425.00	\$44,587,409.00
2005	\$15,800,000.00	\$23,544,658.00	\$10,450,000.00	\$49,794,658.00
2004	\$12,600,000.00	\$18,905,505.00	\$ 8,550,000.00	\$40,055,505.00
2003	\$14,200,000.00	\$17,483,778.00	\$ 2,787,500.00	\$34,471,278.00

Claims settled within primary coverage limits. In addition to the above settlements, the HCSF was notified that primary insurance carriers settled an additional 101 claims in 91 cases.

Fiscal Year	Claims/Cases	<b>Primary Insurance Carriers</b>
2022	101/91	\$ 11,475,868.00
2021	98/88	\$ 9,336,634.00
2020	106/98	\$ 9,868,875.00
2019	120/107	\$ 8,779,783.00
2018	110/97	\$10,537,420.00
2017	82/74	\$ 8,622,021.00
2016	98/93	\$ 8,968,479.00
2015	89/80	\$ 7,268,626.00
2014	97/86	\$ 8,909,740.00
2013	88/76	\$ 6,664,000.00
2012	98/81	\$ 6,603,521.00
2011	99/83	\$ 7,865,915.00
2010	110/92	\$ 8,958,622.00
2009	90/80	\$ 7,182,241.00
2008	104/88	\$ 8,486,032.00
2007	167/146	\$10,870,339.00
2006	110/98	\$ 8,545,218.00
2005	103/88	\$ 8,058,894.00
2004	99/85	\$ 6,978,801.00
2003	122/99	\$ 9,087,872.00

## C. HCSF Total Settlements and Verdict Amounts

During fiscal year 2022, the HCSF incurred \$28,612,433.86 in 75 claim settlements and \$2,782,228.70 in four jury verdicts. The following figures show total Fund settlements and jury awards since the inception of the Health Care Stabilization Fund.

<u>Fiscal</u> Year	<u>Total</u> Claims	Settlements & Jury Awards	<u>Average</u> Per Claim
EV 2022	70		
FY 2022 FY 2021	79 50	\$31,394,662.56	\$397,400.79 347,040.00
FY 2021	73	17,352,000.00 27,121,225.00	371,523.63
FY 2019	73 74	23,407,875.00	316,322.64
FY 2019	74 75	25,219,320.00	
FY 2017	65	22,545,583.00	336,257.60 346,855.12
FY 2016	76	23,539,687.07	309,732.72
FY 2015	62	24,904,319.61	401,682.57
FY 2014	66	25,559,409.00	387,263.77
FY 2014	79	29,382,484.69	371,930.19
FY 2013	67	21,431,000.00	319,865.67
FY 2011	63	19,118,727.54	303,471.87
FY 2011	65	20,970,021.10	322,615.71
FY 2009	85	25,505,208.67	
FY 2009	68		300,061.28
	64	19,085,004.00 22,589,655.27	280,661.82
FY 2007 FY 2006	90		352,963.36
FY 2005	90 97	25,017,984.00	277,977.60
FY 2003	81	26,119,569.91	269,273.30
FY 2004	90	19,055,505.00 18,295,320.32	235,253.15
FY 2003 FY 2002	90 71		203,281.34
		17,467,033.19	246,014.55
FY 2001	58	17,114,748.80	295,081.86
FY 2000	73	20,868,192.91	285,865.66
FY 1999	71	21,344,368.15	300,624.90
FY 1998	66	12,834,705.13	194,465.23
FY 1997	41	13,653,618.34	333,015.08
FY 1996	70	23,258,406.14	332,262.94
FY 1995	45	17,023,882.17	378,308.49
FY 1994	65	21,194,765.96	326,073.32
FY 1993	48	24,614,093.06	492,281.86
FY 1992	35	8,824,834.14	252,138.11
FY 1991	49	19,666,797.32	401,363.21
FY 1990	48	13,627,222.20	283,700.46
FY 1989	58	18,713,543.00	315,750.00
FY 1988	51	13,402,756.00	262,799.00
FY 1987	47	13,296,808.00	282,910.00
FY 1986	42	11,492,857.00	273,639.00
FY 1985	41	15,152,042.00	369,562.00
FY 1984	34	9,538,741.00	280,551.00
FY 1983	25 24	6,522,369.00	260,894.00
FY 1982	24	3,060,126.00	127,505.00
FY 1981	8	1,760,645.00	220,080.00
FY 1980	0	0.00	- 67 067 00
FY 1979	3	203,601.00	67,867.00
FY 1978 FY 1977	0 1	0.00	127 500 00
FI 19//	1	137,500.00	137,500.00

# D. New Cases by Fiscal Year

The Health Care Stabilization Fund was notified of 274 new cases during fiscal year 2022. The following chart lists the number of new cases opened in each fiscal year since the HCSF was created.

Fiscal Year	Number of Cases
2022	274
2021	318
2020	302
2019	323
2018	300
2017	276
2016	248
<u>2015</u>	<u>235</u>
$\frac{2014}{2014}$	$\frac{268}{268}$
2013	229
2012	260
2011	267
<u>2010</u>	290
$\frac{2009}{2009}$	310
2008	329
2007	304
2006	457
2005	336
2004	368
2003	392
2002	361
2001	341
2000	294
1999	319
1998	293
1997	318
1996	296
<u>1995</u>	326
1994	$\overline{247}$
1993	263
1992	245
1991	230
<u>1990</u>	<u>205</u>
1989	<del>251</del>
1988	285
1987	320
1986	276
<u>1985</u>	245
1984	<del>175</del>
1983	153
1982	124
1981	98
1980	87
1979	50
1978	19
1977	02

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# University of Kansas Foundations and Faculty; Residents Self-Insurance Programs/Primary Coverage Reimbursement to the Health Care Stabilization Fund

## I. KU Foundations and Faculty

## **Foundation Self-Insurance Program Costs**

FY 2022 \$1,307,134.02 \$1,073,575.00 \$2,380,709.02	FY 2021 \$1,050,000.00 \$ 713,603.18 \$1,763,603.18	FY 2020 \$ 833,000.00 <u>\$ 732,444.80</u> \$1,565,444.80	Settlement Amounts Attorney Fees and Expenses Totals
10	6	6	Number of settlements
59	54	41	Number of pending clams (end of FY)

#### **Reimbursable Amounts**

FY 2022	FY 2021	FY 2020	
\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	Reimbursement Private Practice Reserve
\$1,880,709.02	\$1,263,603.18	\$1,065,444.80	Reimbursement State General Fund
\$2,380,709.02	\$1,763,603.18	\$1,565,444.80	Totals

## Foundations and Faculty:

Amounts up to \$500,000 are reimbursed from the Private Practice Reserve Fund. Amounts over \$500,000 are reimbursed from the State General Fund.

## II. Residents in Training

#### **Residents Self-Insurance Program Costs**

FY 2022	FY 2021	FY 2020	
\$0	\$231,000.00	\$200,000.00	Settlement Amounts
\$865,070.17	\$517,420.73	<u>\$733,533.33</u>	Attorney Fees and Expenses
\$865,070.17	\$748,420.73	\$933,533.33	Totals
	_		
0	3	1	Number of settlements
36	41	14	Number of pending claims (end of FY)

Residents in Training: All amounts are reimbursed from the State General Fund.

# III. Expenditures by Fiscal Year

Fiscal	Foundations	Total Number	Residents	<b>Total Number</b>
Year	and Faculty	Faculty	in Training	Residents
2022	\$ 2,381,209.02	1,004	\$ 865,070.17	864
2021	1,763,603.18	955	748,420.73	902
2020	1,565,444.80	919	933,533.33	820
2019	2,761,718.05	807	1,877,296.97	843
2018	1,631,654.34	735	1,628,132.34	849
2017	2,673,879.29	650	642,342.05	825
2016	1,028,751.91	652	693,324.56	856
2015	1,917,190.41	583	690,599.54	814
2014	2,175,457.87	573	799,363.81	789
2013	1,537,668.29	557	934,695.09	809
2012	1,759,733.60	506	1,201,108.99	787
2011	1,184,218.79	514	455,621.25	812
2010	1,445,658.21	412	1,201,718.01	698
2009	2,693,099.94	404	812,492.66	712
2008	966,327.58	366	648,269.80	692
2007	2,037,227.63	348	1,194,968.11	682
2006	1,407,837.70	361	871,719.27	675
2005	1,706,763.57	336	1,749,032.25	670
2004	1,825,116.29	317	2,787,112.99	627
2003	1,113,326.84	308	1,418,927.85	643
2002	583,566.19	307	723,834.54	645
2001	1,540,133.41	298	953,304.62	625
2000	691,253.39	310	735,633.12	645
1999	1,371,640.73	295	645,997.65	669
1998	1,018,435.78	283	1,072,324.05	637
1997	1,111,787.72	279	999,388.16	647
1996	4,003,062.51	285	1,331,521.75	641
1995	255,117.85	286	534,124.84	532
1994	1,959,284.79	287	574,758.65	603
1993	1,453,444.21	287	650,033.67	594
1992	645,670.10	281	810,703.77	592
1991	435,540.69	288	458,561.65	615
1990	261,035.55	277	120,796.12	546

# IV. Monies Paid by the Health Care Stabilization Fund for Excess Coverage Claims

	FY 22	FY 21	FY 20	FY 19	FY 18
Residents	0	\$ 800,000	\$300,000	\$ 622,500	\$ 800,000
Faculty, Foundations	\$1,482,500	\$ 290,000	\$535,000	\$2,110,000	\$1,150,000
Total	\$1,482,500	\$1,090,000	\$835,000	\$2,732,500	\$1,950,000