

**MEDICAL ERRORS REPORTING SYSTEM. DEFINITIONS**  
**(January 1, 2006 – December 31, 2008)**

"ASA Class I patient" means a normal, healthy patient.

"Biologics" means a biological product, such as:

- (1) a globulin;
  - (2) a serum;
  - (3) a vaccine;
  - (4) an antitoxin;
  - (5) blood; or
  - (6) an antigen;
- used in the prevention or treatment of disease.

"Burn" means any injury or damage to the tissues of the body caused by exposure to any of the following:

- (1) Fire.
- (2) Heat.
- (3) Chemicals.
- (4) Electricity.
- (5) Radiation.
- (6) Gases.

"Elopement" means any situation in which a registered or admitted patient, excluding events involving adults with decision making capacity, leaves the hospital without staff being aware that the patient has done so.

"Hyperbilirubinemia" means total serum bilirubin levels greater than twenty-five (25) mg/dl in a neonate.

"Hypoglycemia" means a physiologic state in which:

- (1) the blood sugar falls below sixty (60) mg/dl (forty (40) mg/dl in neonates); and
- (2) physiological or neurological, or both, dysfunction begins.

"Immediately postoperative" means within twenty-four (24) hours after either of the following:

- (1) Induction of anesthesia (if surgery or other invasive procedure is not completed).
- (2) Completion of surgery or other invasive procedure.

"Joint movement therapy" means all types of manual techniques, to include:

- (1) mobilization (movement of the spine or a joint within its physiologic range of motion);
  - (2) manipulation (movement of the spine or a joint beyond its normal voluntary physiologic range of motion); or
  - (3) any other type of manual musculoskeletal therapy;
- regardless of their precise anatomic and physiologic focus or their discipline of origin.

"Kernicterus" means the medical condition in which elevated levels of bilirubin cause brain damage.

“Low-risk pregnancy” means a woman sixteen (16) to thirty-nine (39) years of age with no previous diagnosis of any of the following:

- (1) Essential hypertension.
- (2) Renal disease.
- (3) Collagen-vascular disease.
- (4) Liver disease.
- (5) Preeclampsia.
- (6) Cardiovascular disease.
- (7) Placenta previa.
- (8) Multiple gestation.
- (9) Intrauterine growth retardation.
- (10) Smoking.
- (11) Pregnancy-induced hypertension.
- (12) Premature rupture of membranes.
- (13) Other previously documented condition that poses a high risk of pregnancy-related mortality.

“Neonates” means infants in the first twenty-eight (28) days of life.

“Serious disability” means either of the following:

- (1) Significant loss of function including sensory, motor, physiologic, or intellectual impairment:
  - (A) not present on admission and requiring continued treatment; or
  - (B) for which there is a high probability of long-term or permanent lifestyle change at discharge.
- (2) Unintended loss of a body part.

“Sexual assault” means a crime included under IC 35-42-4 or IC 35-46-1-3.

“Surgery or other invasive procedure” means surgical or other invasive procedures that involve a skin incision, puncture, or insertion of an instrument or foreign material into tissues, cavities, or organs. A procedure begins at the time of the skin incision, puncture, or insertion of an instrument or foreign material into tissues, cavities, or organs. Such procedures include, but are not limited to:

- (1) Open or percutaneous surgical procedures.
- (2) Percutaneous aspiration.
- (3) Selected injections.
- (4) Biopsy.
- (5) Percutaneous cardiac and vascular diagnostic or interventional procedures.
- (6) Laparoscopies.
- (7) Endoscopies.
- (8) Colonoscopies.

The term excludes intravenous therapy, venipuncture for phlebotomy, diagnostic tests without intravenous contrast agents, nasogastric tubes, or indwelling urinary catheters.