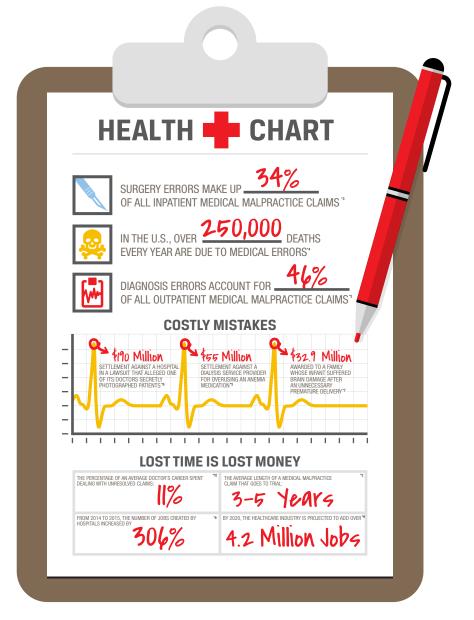


## POLICY PRESCRIP

## How healthy is your clients' medical professional liability coverage?

The 1374 trial of Stratton v. Swanlond was history's first-ever recorded medical malpractice case. Back then, the plaintiff received 40 English pounds: worth about \$38,000 (US) today<sup>1</sup>. In contrast, medical malpractice suits now cost the healthcare sector upwards of \$35 billion with one out of every 14 doctors facing a suit every year<sup>2</sup>. The world has become more litigious since 1374—and chances are your healthcare clients are dangerously underinsured.

To cover the costs of lawsuits/settlements associated with patient accidents or allegations of negligence, talk to your clients about all the different critical coverages available.





Sources: (1\*) Bonezzi Switzer Polito & Hupp Co. L.P.A. The History and Origins of Medical Malpractice Litigation. Retrieved from http://www.bsmph.com/Articles/The-History-and-Origins-of-Medical-Malpractice-Litigation.shtml. (\*2) Neil Chesanow. (September 25, 2013). Malpractice: When to Settle a Suit and When to Fight. Retrieved from http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/811323 print. (\*3) David Goguen, J.D., National Medical Malpractice Statistics. Retrieved from http://www.medicalmalpractice.com/national-medical-malpractice-facts.cfm. (\*4) Vanessa McMains. (May 3, 2016). Johns Hopkins Study Suggests Medical Errors Are Third-Leading Cause of Death in U.S. Retrieved from http://hub.jhu.edu/2016/05/03/medical-errors-third-leading-cause-of-death. (\*5) https://www.lawyersandsettlements.com/settlements/16742/davita-dialysis-centers-settle-lawsuit-55-million.html. (\*6) Trip Gabriel (July 21, 2014). Hospital Agrees to Pay \$190 Million Over Recording of Pelvic Exams. Retrieved from http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/22/us/johns-hopkins-settlement-190-million.html?\_r=1. (\*7) http://www.cochranfirm.com/32-9-million-jury-verdict/. (\*8) John Commins. (January 12, 2016). Healthcare Job Growth Set Records in 2015. Retrieved from http://www.healthleadersmedia.com/hr/healthcare-job-growth-set-records-2015#. (\*9) The Center for Health Workforce Studies. (March 2012). Health Care Employment Projections: An Analysis of Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Projections 2010-2020. (\*10) RAND Corporation. (January 32, 2013). On Average, Physicians Spend Nearly 11 Percent of Their 40-Year Careers with an Open, Unresolved Malpractice Claim. Retrieved from http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23297278.