



From Subprime Loans to Financing Lawsuits

by Jeff Segal, MD, JD, FACS

Here's history in the making.

At one time, before many of us were born, plaintiffs had to bankroll their own lawsuits. There, they would pay the attorney for his time and counsel. The plaintiff bore the entire risk for the outcome. But, if he won, he kept the entire pile of money, minus his expenses paid to the attorney.

The next - and dominant - paradigm: contingency fees. There, the risk is transferred to the attorney. In exchange for accepting that risk, the attorney keeps a healthy portion of any settlement / judgment after expenses. That amount is generally 33 to 40%. Naturally, the plaintiff's attorney must diligently assess the risk / benefit for each opportunity. If the attorney loses, the plaintiff does not go bankrupt.

Enter the modern age.

Third party financing of lawsuits...

[Read Dr. Segal's article and join the conversation here](#)

Cell Phones, Health Information and Physicians

by Michael J. Sacopolos, Esq. General Counsel, Medical Justice

Last week the Pew Internet and American Life Project released results of a study it had conducted by

In the News

Should patients use web-sites to rate physicians just like plumbers and roofers? What are the benefits and dangers? The **Chicago Tribune** posed those questions to Medical Justice Founder and CEO Dr. Jeff Segal this week in the **Chicago Tribune** article; *Doctors: Web ratings flawed.*

[Read the full article and Dr. Segal's comments here.](#)

Dr. Segal also discussed the current state of doctor rating sites on CNBC's Power Lunch. [Watch the video clip here.](#)

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A 15-Minute Call

Princeton Survey Research Associates between August 9th and September 13th of this year. The study looked at the use of cell phones to access health or medical information. Here's what they found: 17% of cell phone users have used their phone to look up health or medical information. When the specific demographic of cell phone owners, ages 18 to 29, was looked at, that number jumped to 29%. The Pew Internet Project went on to find that 85% of American adults surveyed used a cell phone. The full report may be [viewed here](#)

The take home message from this study? The Internet continues to be an ever growing presence in medicine; which presents both opportunities and risks for healthcare providers. Healthcare providers would be wise to develop strategies to respond to this ever grow impact of the Internet upon the medical profession.

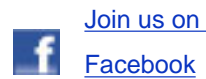
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What Your Colleagues Are Saying

"Thanks for all you do. You provide peace of mind in an arena that you would think would not be possible."

- R.P. MD

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"I learned that if you want to make it bad enough, no matter how bad it is, you can make it."

- Gale Sayers

