

O.R.: Nurse's Documentation Wins Lawsuit.

The patient was diagnosed with blood clots in his left arm and shoulder after sinus surgery.

The patient sued his surgeon, the anesthesiologist and the medical center where the surgery was performed.

His lawsuit alleged that during surgery the blood pressure cuff was erroneously placed on his left arm where he had a peripherally inserted central catheter.

The patient's attorneys tried to bring in a medical expert to testify that a surgeon or anesthesiologist placing the blood pressure cuff on the same arm as a central catheter would be a gross departure from the legal standard of care.

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The New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division, however, concluded the blood pressure cuff was on the right arm, based on the circulating nurse's notes. The nurse apparently was the only one in the room who had jotted down which arm was used for the blood pressure cuff. The patient's case was dismissed. **Anderson v. Beth Israel Medical Center**, __ N.Y.S. 2d __, 2006 WL 1913413 (N.Y. App., July 13, 2006).