

Pre-Surgical Consent: Nurse Acted Properly, Court Says.

The patient was scheduled for a diagnostic arteriogram after Doppler studies indicated diminished blood flow in his lower leg.

During the diagnostic procedure the physicians opted to go right ahead with interventional angioplasty and stent placement because of the degree of arterial occlusion they detected. The interventional procedures resulted in an arterial rupture.

The patient sued for lack of informed consent, claiming he should have been awakened from sedation and consulted before the interventional aspects of the case went ahead.

The pre-surgical consent form the nurse had the patient sign for his arteriogram included a handwritten notation that angioplasty and stent placement would also be possible during the procedure.

He testified the nurse explained the form to him and asked if he had questions.

He also spoke with the physician before the procedure.

COURT OF APPEALS OF MICHIGAN
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The Court of Appeals of Michigan approved a jury verdict finding no negligence by the physicians and nurse.

The pre-surgical consent form contained a clear indication that the patient was advised and agreed there was a possibility the physicians, in their best judgment, would elect to go ahead with more than just a diagnostic study. **Beeman v. Covenant Health Care, 2006 WL 3733259 (Mich. App., December 19, 2006).**