
Diagnostic

- Error or delay in diagnosis
- Failure to employ indicated test
- Use of outmoded tests or therapy
- Failure to act on results of monitoring or testing

Treatment

- Error in the performance of an operation, procedure, or test
- Error in administering the treatment
- Error in the dose or method of using a drug
- Avoidable delay in treatment or in responding to an abnormal test
- Inappropriate (not indicated) care

Preventive

- Failure to provide prophylactic treatment
- Inadequate monitoring of condition or progress or inadequate follow-up treatment

Other

- Failure of communication
- Equipment failure
- Other system failure

Figure 14.8. Types of errors in clinical settings. (Adapted with permission from Leape, Lucian L., Ann G. Lawthers, Troyen A. Brennan, and William G. Johnson, "Preventing Medical Injury," *Quality Review Bulletin*, Vol. 19, No. 5 (May 1993): 144–149. Copyright © Joint Commission Resources.)

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