

Breech Birth: Nurse's Prenatal Care Faulted.

A very complicated series of events resulted in a \$2,450,000 settlement of a malpractice lawsuit filed in the Superior Court, San Joaquin County, California.

The settlement was reported with a stipulation that the names of the family and the hospital will be kept confidential.

Among other things that went wrong, the nurse practitioner who did two outpatient prenatal ultrasounds failed to report to the physicians that the fetus was in a breech position.

When the mother came to the hospital in labor a foot was already protruding and the umbilical cord was prolapsed. Despite the obstetrical team's efforts the baby was born with hypoxic ischemic brain damage.

The family's lawyers were prepared to argue to the jury that the nurse practitioner should have set things in motion for a planned admission for a cesarean. **Infant v. Hospital, 2007 WL 1287709 (Sup. Ct. San Joaquin Co., California, January 4, 2007).**