

Perioperative Care: Nurses Ruled Not Negligent.

A patient sued the hospital where he had arthroscopic knee surgery.

His lawsuit alleged, among other things, that the circulating nurse was negligent for not seeing that his operative leg was securely strapped down.

The circulating nurse testified the operative record was correct in that his operative leg was, in fact, not strapped down. The operative leg is supposed to remain free so that the surgeons can articulate the knee joint as needed during the procedure.

The jury in the District Court, Harris County, Texas, returned a defense verdict absolving the hospital and the physicians from negligence. **Arnold v. Cupic, 2007 WL 816756 (Dist. Ct. Harris Co., Texas, January 18, 2007).**