

Using Medical Litigator™ on Westlaw

Medical Litigator is a unique tool that does more than consolidate relevant information on a single page. Medical Litigator also searches a rich collection of medical guides and summaries, medical journals and abstracts, legal texts and periodicals, case law, jury verdicts, and news and information with a single search. Your search result is presented on a single, easy-to-read page, organized by type of information. For example, your result may include a section for medical definitions, a collection of medical journal articles, relevant case law, and jury verdicts relating to your search. In short, Medical Litigator can help you assess claims, educate yourself and your client, find authoritative sources, and save time and money while you work on any case that requires medical information.

Accessing Medical Litigator

You can access Medical Litigator using the tabbed Medical Litigator page. To add the Medical Litigator page to your Westlaw interface, follow these steps:

1. Click **Add/Remove Tabs** at the top of the page.
2. At the Manage Tabs page, select the **Medical Litigator** check box and click **Next**.
3. At the Save Tabs page, select the page to be displayed first when you sign on to Westlaw and click **Save**.

Searching with Medical Litigator

The Medical Litigator page allows you to search both medical and legal sources with a single search. You can use the Terms and Connectors or Natural Language search method. Natural Language is the default search method. To select a different method, click its tab. There is no need to select a database. Medical Litigator automatically searches the relevant content.

Medical Litigator Expanded Term Searching

The Medical Litigator Expanded Term Searching feature automatically adds synonyms and related terms to your search to make your search as accurate and complete as possible. Medical Litigator Expanded Term Searching is automatically selected at the Medical Litigator page. To turn off this feature, clear the **Use Medical Litigator Expanded Term Searching** check box.

Westlaw is available on the Web at www.westlaw.com.

For technical assistance, call West Customer Technical Support at **1-800-WESTLAW** (1-800-937-8529).

For search assistance, call the West Reference Attorneys at **1-800-REF-ATTY** (1-800-733-2889).

If you are a law student, call **1-800-850-WEST** (1-800-850-9378) for assistance.

By default, your search is restricted to the last 10 years. To choose a different date, select it from the *Dates* drop-down list.

To restrict your search to specific jurisdictions, click **change**. Then click **clear all** and select the check boxes for one or more jurisdictions.

To search a single database, click the database name in the *Search Individual Databases* section. To search multiple databases, click **Search Entire Collection** under a category heading. Then select the check boxes for one or more databases.

Reviewing Your Search Result

Medical Litigator arranges documents in your result by category, including the following: Learn About (which provides a basic description of the medical condition, device, or drug in your search); Medical Guides and Summaries; Medical Illustrations; Medical Journals and Abstracts; Cases and Administrative Decisions; Legal Analysis; Briefs; Jury Verdicts; and News. Not every search retrieves documents in all categories.

Medical Litigator Search Results (1181)

Learn About Spinal Fusion

Medical Guides & Summaries (100) [view all](#)

1. Gale Encyclopedia of Surgery.
GALE-SURG 3406200422, Anthony J. Senagore (Editor), Richard Robinson, Database updated November 2006, Spinal Fusion

2. 3 Attorneys Medical Advisor § 28:404
Attorneys Medical Advisor Database updated October 2006 Lee R. Russ, BPS,JD; Bruce F. Freeman, BMus, MA, JD; J. Stanley McQuade, LLB, MD, PhD. Part 4. Treatment Procedures Subpart A. Surgery and Anesthesiology Chapter 28. Special Types of Surgery VII. Neurosurgery C. Spinal Surgery § 28:404. Spinal surgery--Fusion and internal fixation; Artificial intervertebral discs--Fusion's purpose and indications

3. 3 Attorneys Medical Advisor § 28:436
Attorneys Medical Advisor Database updated October 2006 Lee R. Russ, BPS,JD; Bruce F. Freeman, BMus, MA, JD; J. Stanley McQuade, LLB, MD, PhD. Part 4. Treatment Procedures Subpart A. Surgery and Anesthesiology Chapter 28. Special Types of Surgery VII. Neurosurgery C. Spinal Surgery § 28:436. Spinal surgery--Complications related to fusion and fixation hardware--Bone graft "harvest" site morbidity

Medical Illustrations (12) [view all](#)

1. Blausen Medical Illustrations-Premier Figure 13:43.43
Blausen Medical Illustrations - Premier Collection Database updated January 2007 Part II. Body Parts Chapter 13. Back & Spine 13:43.43. Spinal Fusion: Spinal fusion surgery, bone graft taken from pelvis for spinal fusion

2. Blausen Medical Illustrations-Premier Figure 13:44.44
Blausen Medical Illustrations - Premier Collection Database updated January 2007 Part II. Body Parts Chapter 13. Back & Spine 13:44.44. Spinal Fusion: Bone graft used in spinal fusion surgery

3. Blausen Medical Illustrations-Premier Figure 13:41.41
Blausen Medical Illustrations - Premier Collection Database updated January 2007 Part II. Body Parts Chapter 13. Back & Spine 13:41.41. Spinal Fusion: Section of normal lumbar vertebrae for spinal fusion

Medical Journals & Abstracts (100) [view all](#)

1. The Future of Spinal Fusion
Orthopedics Word Count: 1615 8/1/06 ORTHOPEDICS 683 2006 WLNR 13254866 Author:An, HowardPhillips, Frank M;

2. Spinal Fusion Using Bone Morphogenetic Proteins
Orthopedics Word Count: 1363 7/1/04 ORTHOPEDICS 717 2004 WLNR 15246398 Author:Sandhu, Harvinder;

3. Lenke, Lawrence G; White, Deborah K; Kemp, James S;

To view the full text of a document, click its title.

To view all documents in a specific category, click **view all** next to the category.

Medical Litigator Search Results page

When you click a document title at the Medical Litigator Search Results page, the full text of the document is displayed in the right frame. To display the parts of the document in which your search terms appear, click the **Term** arrows at the bottom of the page. To view the next or previous document in the category that you are viewing, click the **Doc** arrows at the bottom of the page.

The Links tab is displayed in the left frame. The Links tab displays KeyCite® information (when available) as well as ResultsPlus® links. ResultsPlus provides quick access to treatises and other secondary sources that relate to the topic of your search. To view the full text of a document in the ResultsPlus list, click its title.

Click the **Result List** tab to view a list of all documents in the category you selected.

Click **Full Results List** to return to the Medical Litigator Search Results page.

While you are viewing a case or other legal source on Westlaw, click a hypertext link for a medical term to display information about a disease, drug, injury, medical device, or medical procedure.

Case retrieved by a Medical Litigator search