Delayed Diagnosis

Maryland Delayed Diagnosis Lawyer

How different would your future look if your illness had been diagnosed earlier? A delayed medical diagnosis can change the course of your life. When you seek medical care, you trust that your medical provider will take your symptoms seriously, investigate thoroughly, and act quickly when something is wrong. When that doesn't happen, the consequences can be frightening and deeply disruptive. A delay in identifying a condition can allow an illness to progress, turning a manageable health issue into a medical crisis that requires invasive treatment, a longer recovery period, and emotional and financial strain that could have been avoided with timely care.

At JGL, our Maryland medical malpractice attorneys and delayed diagnosis lawyers understand how overwhelming this experience can be. We are committed to offering compassionate guidance, clear explanations, and strong legal advocacy so you can focus on healing while we focus on protecting your rights. Our team has spent decades handling medical malpractice cases and representing patients harmed by medical negligence, and we know how to uncover what went wrong, why it happened, and who is responsible.

What is Considered a Delayed Diagnosis?

A delayed diagnosis occurs when a doctor or other health care provider fails to diagnose a condition within a reasonable timeframe, despite symptoms, test results, or clinical signs that should have prompted timely action. When an illness progresses unchecked, patients may face more severe complications, more invasive treatment, or a reduced chance of recovery. Determining whether your condition should have been diagnosed earlier is often the first step in evaluating a potential medical negligence claim.

What Are Common Types of Delayed Diagnosis Cases?

Many medical conditions can worsen quickly when they are not identified and treated in time. JGL attorneys have successfully represented clients in numerous medical malpractice lawsuits involving delayed diagnosis. Some of the most frequent types of delayed diagnosis cases involve:

Cancer

A delayed cancer diagnosis – from breast cancer to lung cancer to colorectal cancer – can allow the disease to progress to a more advanced stage, making treatment more difficult and reducing the chances of recovery.

Heart Attack

Failing to promptly recognize heart attack symptoms can result in permanent heart damage or even death, especially when early intervention could have been lifesaving.

Stroke

A delay in diagnosing a stroke can prevent patients from receiving critical treatments such as clot-busting medications, leading to severe neurological impairment.

©2026 Joseph Greenwald & Laake, PA

Infections and Sepsis

When infections are not identified early, they can rapidly worsen and lead to sepsis, a life-threatening condition requiring immediate medical attention.

Pulmonary Embolism

A missed or delayed diagnosis of a pulmonary embolism can cause sudden respiratory failure or cardiac arrest.

Appendicitis

Failure to diagnose appendicitis in time can result in a ruptured appendix, dangerous infection, and prolonged recovery.

Gastrointestinal Disorders

Delayed diagnosis of conditions like Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, or bowel obstructions can cause unnecessary pain, complications, and avoidable surgery.

When Is a Delayed Diagnosis Medical Malpractice in Maryland?

A delayed diagnosis may be medical malpractice when a healthcare provider fails to meet the accepted standard of care, meaning they did not act as a reasonably competent provider would have under similar circumstances. This can include overlooking symptoms, failing to order appropriate tests, misreading imaging or lab results, or not following up on abnormal findings. When this lack of care causes a harmful delay in identifying and treating a condition, you may have grounds for a malpractice claim.

How to Prove a Delayed Diagnosis Claim in Maryland

Proving a delayed diagnosis claim requires showing that the healthcare provider failed to meet the accepted standard of care – for example, by overlooking symptoms, not ordering necessary tests, or failing to follow up on abnormal results – and that this directly caused a harmful delay in your diagnosis.

A successful medical malpractice lawsuit must also show damages, such as additional medical bills, lost income, more extensive treatment, increased pain and suffering, or reduced chances of recovery. Maryland law requires testimony from qualified medical experts to establish these elements. We work with respected medical experts who can clearly explain where the standard of care was breached, how the delay occurred, and how an earlier diagnosis would have likely led to less invasive treatment, improved outcomes, or a greater chance of recovery.

What Compensation is Available For Delayed Diagnosis Claims?

Patients harmed by a delayed diagnosis may recover compensation for:

- Past and future medical expenses
- Hospitalizations, surgeries, and rehabilitation
- Lost income and reduced earning capacity
- Pain, suffering, and emotional distress
- Long-term care needs, assistive devices, and lifestyle adjustments

How a Maryland Delayed Diagnosis Lawyer Can Help You

Delayed diagnosis cases often require a detailed review of medical records, timelines, and provider decisions to determine when the diagnosis should have occurred. Our team conducts a thorough investigation to identify lapses in communication, testing, or follow-up that contributed to the delay. We also work closely with trusted medical experts who can explain how the standard of care was breached and how earlier diagnosis could have changed the outcome.

Beyond building a strong case, we advocate for your full and fair compensation. We handle communication with insurers,

©2026 Joseph Greenwald & Laake, PA

negotiate from a position of strength, and prepare every case as if it may go to trial. Our goal is to relieve your burden, protect your rights, and help you secure the financial resources necessary for your recovery and long-term well-being.

Schedule a Free Consultation at Joseph Greenwald & Laake Today

Taking the next step after a delayed diagnosis can feel overwhelming. Speaking with one of our medical malpractice attorneys can help you evaluate your situation, clarify your options, and decide what to do. The delayed diagnosis attorneys at JGL are here to listen, answer your questions, and help you understand your legal options. With decades of experience holding negligent healthcare providers accountable, we are committed to guiding you through every stage of your claim with compassion, understanding, and skilled advocacy.

If you believe a delayed diagnosis caused you or a loved one harm, contact us today to schedule a free consultation. We are ready to advocate for you and fight for the full and fair compensation you deserve.

©2026 Joseph Greenwald & Laake, PA