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## IN THE NEWS

### IN CIRCUIT COURT

A man whose leg was amputated below the knee because of an infection reached a \$3 million settlement Monday with the doctors and hospital involved in his treatment.

When LeRoy Skinkis, 60, was admitted to Christ Hospital in April 1998 with an infected ankle wound, he also suffered from uncontrolled diabetes and from vascular disease from years of smoking. As a diabetic with limited circulation to his foot and ankle area, Skinkis was at high risk of losing the infected leg and needed an angioplasty to normalize circulation in his leg, said Skinkis' lawyer, **Mark E. McNabola** of Cogan, McNabola & Dolan LLC.

Doctors postponed the procedure because of complications and released Skinkis from the hospital so he first could recover from the ankle infection, McNabola said.

But Skinkis alleged that doctors Norman Solliday and Jerry King failed to readmit Skinkis to undergo a procedure to reestablish the blood supply to his leg.

Skinkis' leg was amputated below the knee a month later, McNabola said.

**John V. Smith II** of Pretzel & Stouffer Chtd., who represented Solliday along with **Scott D. Stephenson**, declined to comment on the settlement.

Solliday will pay \$1,675,000, while King and Advocate Health and Hospitals Corp. will pay \$750,000 and \$575,000, respectively, according to McNabola.

**Helaine Wachs Heydemann** of Wildman, Harrold, Allen & Dixon, who represented King, and **Michael J. Morrissey** of Cassidy, Schade & Gloor, who represented Advocate Health and Hospitals Corp., could not be reached for comment.

Lawyers settled the case one day into trial before Cook County Circuit Judge Daniel J. Kelley.

*LeRoy Skinkis v. Advocate Health and Hospitals Corp., et al.*, No. 99 L 12388.