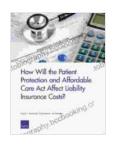
# How Will The Patient Protection And Affordable Care Act Affect Liability?

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), also known as Obamacare, is a landmark piece of legislation that has significantly impacted the healthcare landscape in the United States. One of the key concerns raised about the ACA is its potential impact on liability. This article will explore the various ways in which the ACA may affect liability for healthcare providers, insurers, and other stakeholders.

#### **Impact on Healthcare Providers**

The ACA includes several provisions that could potentially increase liability for healthcare providers. For example, the ACA:



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★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.6 out of 5 : English Language : 2073 KB File size Text-to-Speech : Enabled : Supported Screen Reader Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 105 pages : Enabled Lending



 Expands access to health insurance, which could lead to an increase in the number of patients seeking care.

- Requires healthcare providers to adopt new electronic health record (EHR) systems, which could increase the risk of data breaches and other security incidents.
- Creates new quality-of-care standards, which could lead to increased liability if providers fail to meet these standards.

In addition to these specific provisions, the ACA also includes a number of general provisions that could affect liability. For example, the ACA:

- Creates a new private right of action for patients who are harmed by health insurers.
- Increases the amount of damages that patients can recover in medical malpractice lawsuits.
- Makes it easier for patients to file class-action lawsuits against healthcare providers.

These provisions could make it more difficult for healthcare providers to avoid liability for injuries to patients.

#### **Impact on Insurers**

The ACA also includes several provisions that could affect liability for insurers. For example, the ACA:

- Creates new health insurance exchanges, which could increase the risk of lawsuits against insurers by patients who are denied coverage.
- Requires insurers to cover a wider range of benefits, which could increase the cost of insurance and the risk of lawsuits against insurers by employers.

 Prohibits insurers from denying coverage to patients with pre-existing conditions, which could increase the risk of lawsuits against insurers by patients who are denied coverage for other reasons.

These provisions could make it more difficult for insurers to avoid liability for their actions.

#### **Impact on Other Stakeholders**

The ACA also includes several provisions that could affect liability for other stakeholders in the healthcare system. For example, the ACA:

- Creates new requirements for employers to provide health insurance to their employees, which could increase the risk of lawsuits against employers by employees who are denied coverage.
- Provides funding for new health care programs, which could increase the risk of lawsuits against the government by patients who are denied access to these programs.
- Creates new regulations for the pharmaceutical industry, which could increase the risk of lawsuits against drug manufacturers by patients who are injured by their products.

These provisions could make it more difficult for other stakeholders in the healthcare system to avoid liability for their actions.

The ACA is a complex law that has the potential to significantly impact liability for healthcare providers, insurers, and other stakeholders in the healthcare system. It is important for these stakeholders to be aware of the potential risks and to take steps to mitigate these risks.



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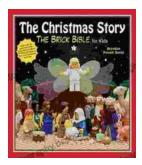
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