Professional Liability Costs for Hospitals and Physicians Continue to Rise, Outpacing Inflation

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CHICAGO, Oct. 12 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Hospitals and physicians should prepare for increasing liability costs [1], according to the 2010 Hospital Professional Liability and Physician Liability Benchmark Analysis [2] created by Aon Risk Solutions [3], the global risk management [4] business of Aon [5] Corporation (NYSE: AON [6]), in conjunction with the American Society for Healthcare Risk Management [7].

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In its 11th year, the study confirms an emerging change in the liability environment: The frequency of claims against hospitals has entered a growth phase. Combined with continued claim severity growth, this uptick is expected to drive liability costs up at a rate higher than general inflation.

U.S.-based hospitals [10] are expected to face more than 44,000 claims arising from incidents occurring in 2009, according to the report, with anticipated costs exceeding $8.6 billion. Claims resulting from incidents in two key hospital risk areas, the obstetrics unit [11] and the emergency department [12], make up more than a quarter of that e
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SOURCE [13]

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