

Another reason the obstetrician has in pushing for interventions is that they are afraid of lawsuits and having their malpractice insurance rates increase. Seventy percent of obstetricians have been taken to court (obstetricians have the highest rate of lawsuits in medicine and the highest rates of error in prescribing medications). Medical doctors routinely use an electronic fetal monitor without any medical justification. They need some tangible documentation in case they end up in court, so the machine's printout is used just for that purpose. In 2002, 88% of women were subjected to this machine – that's over 3.5 million women. Doctors may also perform a caesarean when there is little or no medical reason. The fundamental part of the Hippocratic oath is to do no harm. But, major abdominal surgery is much more dangerous than vaginal birth for low risk women. But greed and fear make a dangerous mix.