

Malingering Update

In a recent medical article, one researcher examined the omnipresent question of malingering of pain. Observing that diagnoses of malingering are common in clinical settings when no objectively demonstrable organic abnormality exists and yet the patient still reports experiencing pain, Mendelson (2004) concluded that “there are no valid clinical methods of assessment of possible malingering of pain and thus, the diagnosis of malingering is inappropriate in any medical evaluation. Whether or not someone is malingering is a question for the courts, not the medical professional. (Mendelson, G. [2004] *Malingering pain in the medicolegal context.* Journal of Pain, V. 20 (6), pp. 423-32.)