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They're at it Again ...

Man Sues NFL After His Favorite Team Misses Playoffs

Ah, the ups and downs of football

1. NEW Online Courses Focus on Fellowship Renewal

Attention ISMIE Fellows: the Fellowship Renewal curriculum has changed for 2014. [Login and find out today what you need to do to renew.](#)

If you completed or renewed your ISMIE Fellowship in **2012**, pay close attention: To continue earning a 10% premium discount for two policy years, effective on your next renewal date, you must renew your Fellowship by taking the following three required online courses this year:

- **Fellowship Renewal: Cognitive Biases**
- **Fellowship Renewal: Difficult Conversations**
- **Fellowship Renewal: Handoffs**

No reruns here. The content covered in the 2014 Fellowship Renewal curriculum is entirely different from the 2012 classes. You have until the end of the

fandom. When one's favorite team loses, expletives and/or aluminum cans can fly freely. While this temporary loss of rational thought is typical among sports fans, one individual took his frustration a bit too far.

[He filed a lawsuit.](#)

Seeking a "temporary emergency injunction," the suit argues that because of a missed officiating call, the man's beloved Pittsburgh Steelers lost out on this year's NFL playoffs. He demands the post-season be suspended until this wrong is righted.

Let's hope the officials in charge of this case make the right call ... and punt this frivolous lawsuit far away from our already overbooked court system.

year to take the above courses, so plan accordingly.

Please note: **If you completed or renewed your ISMIE Fellowship in 2013, then you are not required to take any Fellowship courses in 2014.** You will, however, need to complete the ISMIE Fellowship Renewal in 2015.

Questions? Contact the Risk Management Division at 800-782-4767 ext. 3300 or by [email](#).

2. Going Part Time? Online Form Eases Transition

From time off for child rearing to transitioning toward retirement, there are many scenarios when a physician might choose to reduce work hours.

You may qualify for lower premium rates if you can demonstrate a reduced practice for a six-month period through number of hours, number of scheduled days, patient volume or activities insured elsewhere.

Simply complete and send in the [Part-Time Application Form](#) on ISMIE's website.

Each request is considered on an individual basis.

For more information about this policy feature, [email](#) the Underwriting Division

or call 800-782-4767 ext. 3350. If you utilize an insurance broker, you may also wish to contact him or her.

3. Could Federal Liability Reform Save U.S. Health Care?

According to recent commentary in the academic journal [Health Affairs](#) - yes, it could.

The article argues that enacting federal medical liability reform, modeled after the non-economic damage caps of California and Texas, would not only curtail litigation and stabilize premiums, but would also improve patient outcomes.

The essay also states that if physician anxiety over lawsuits and "defensive medicine" is reduced nationally, the process of improving patient care and lowering costs would be greatly streamlined.

Whether you agree or disagree, it's encouraging to see federal medical liability reform touted as a serious remedy to the ills of our current health care system. Let's hope this "gem" of an article can shine further light on this critical issue.

Please send your comments to e-news@ismie.com.