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Nursing home negligent: lawsuit

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A lawsuit has been filed against Lexington Health Care Center of Lake Zurich.

The lawsuit, filed Feb. 24, alleges nursing-home negligence in the care of Edna Kneidek, now 83. Attorney Steven Levin, representing Kneidek's family, said Kneidek suffered a hip fracture at the home, leaving her permanently immobile. Levin said Lexington Health Care Center, 900 S. Rand Road, failed to institute proper fall precautions.

Kneidek's daughters admitted her to Lexington Health Care on Dec. 29, 2006, because her dementia progressed, according to a press release issued by Levin.

The lawsuit alleges that Kneidek fell five times from February through August 2007. On Aug. 7 she suffered a fall and later complained of severe hip pain to nursing-home staff, according to the lawsuit. The nursing home did not address the pain or transfer her to the hospital for X-rays for five days, according to the court document. An X-ray revealed that her left hip was shattered, according to the lawsuit.

"Edna's family trusted Lexington to care for her, but the home was negligent on a number of levels," Levin said in a statement. "The nursing home failed to properly assess Edna's risk for falls or protect her from falling.

"After allowing her to fall, the home did not respond to her complaints of pain or transfer her to the hospital in a timely fashion."

Efforts Monday and Tuesday to reach Lexington Health Care Center for comment were unsuccessful.



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