

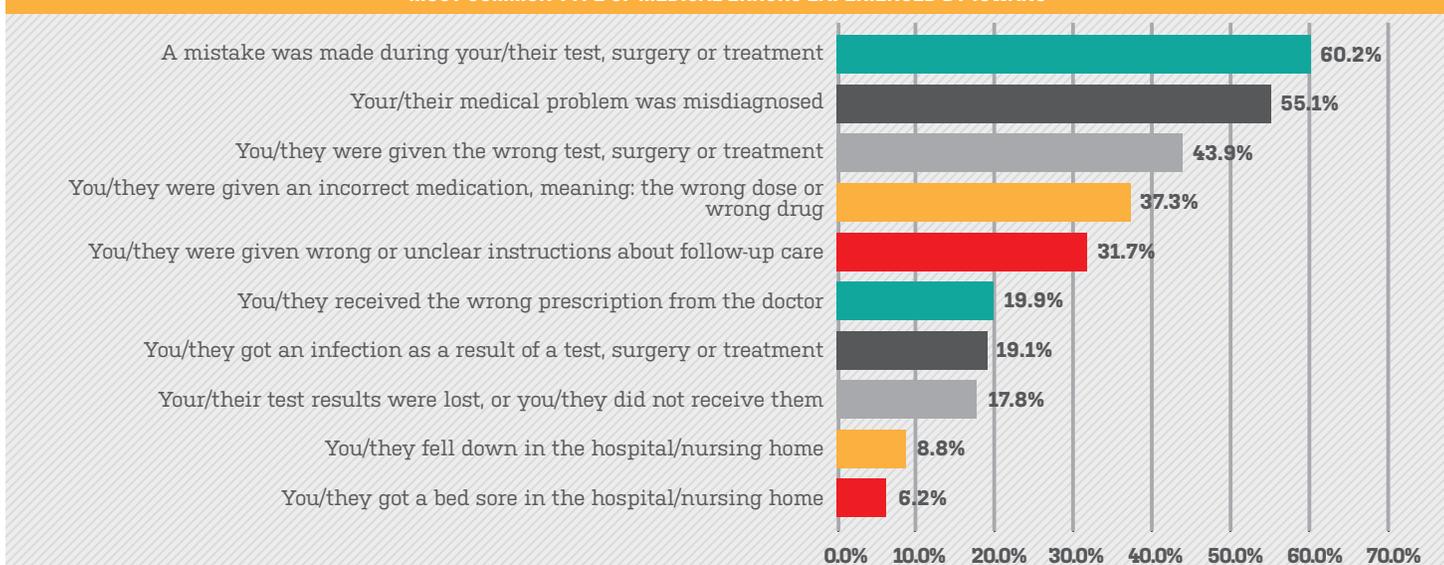
WHAT TYPES OF MEDICAL ERRORS DO IOWANS MOST OFTEN EXPERIENCE?

FINDINGS FROM A SUMMER 2017 SURVEY OF IOWA ADULTS AGE 18 AND OLDER¹

✓ MISTAKES MADE DURING TESTS, SURGERY OR TREATMENTS ARE THE MOST COMMONLY-CITED MEDICAL ERRORS BY IOWANS WHO EXPERIENCED AN ERROR IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

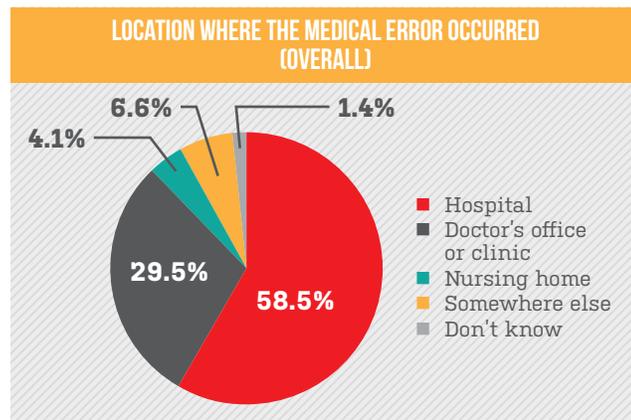
- Sixty percent of Iowans with medical error experience reported this type of mistake. This error was the second most commonly-reported on a national basis.²
- Fifty-five percent say their medical problem was misdiagnosed, not diagnosed, was diagnosed incorrectly, or a diagnosis was delayed. Diagnostic errors are the most commonly-reported type of error reported in a recent national study.³
- Forty-four percent of Iowans with medical error experience say they were given the wrong test, surgery or treatment.

MOST COMMON TYPE OF MEDICAL ERRORS EXPERIENCED BY IOWANS



✓ IOWANS ARE MOST LIKELY TO SAY THEY EXPERIENCED AN ERROR AT THE HOSPITAL.

- Nearly six in 10 Iowans with medical error experience say it occurred at a hospital.
- Three in 10 of the medical errors reported occurred at a doctor's office or clinic.
- Although males and females are similar to one another with medical errors occurring at the hospital (60 percent versus 57 percent), females are more likely to report an error at the doctor's office (33 percent) compared to males (25 percent).



¹ Heartland Health Research Institute. *Iowa Patient Safety Study: Iowans' Views on Medical Errors* 2017

² NORC at the University of Chicago and IHI/NPSF Lucian Leape Institute. (2017) *Americans' Experiences with Medical Errors and Views on Patient Safety*. Pages 13-15. CHICAGO, IL.

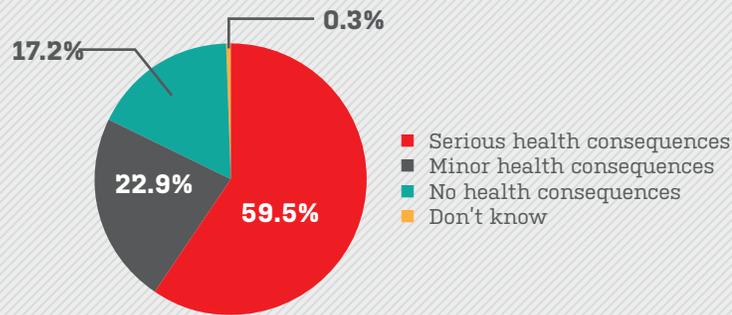
³ Ibid.

FINDINGS FROM A SUMMER 2017 SURVEY OF IOWA ADULTS AGE 18 AND OLDER *(Continued)*

✓ **A MAJORITY OF MEDICAL ERRORS HAD SERIOUS HEALTH CONSEQUENCES.**

- Six in 10 Iowans with a medical error experience report the consequence of the error was serious.
- Twenty-three percent report having a minor health consequence.
- Seventeen percent report no health consequences.

FOR THOSE WHO EXPERIENCED A MEDICAL ERROR, HOW SERIOUS WERE THE HEALTH CONSEQUENCES?
(OVERALL)



✓ **ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF MEDICAL ERRORS HAD SERIOUS FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES.**

- Nearly one-in-three Iowans report having a minor financial consequence because of the medical error.
- Thirty-seven percent report having no financial consequence from the medical error.
- Forty-five percent of Iowans with no more than a high school education and who earn below \$40,000 annually report having a serious financial consequence.

FOR THOSE WHO EXPERIENCED A MEDICAL ERROR, HOW SERIOUS WERE THE FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES?
(OVERALL)

