

Medical practitioners perform procedures and order tests that in many cases are probably not necessary, to cover themselves from being sued for not taking all necessary steps. They feel compelled to be so complete because of lawsuits which award multiple millions of dollars for malpractice and malpractice lawsuits that do not have merit. Consequently, malpractice insurance is tremendously expensive. This cost passed on to consumers and the tremendous cost of procedures and tests, which are probably not needed in the majority of the cases, represent a high percentage of medical costs.

Legislate a cap on malpractice awards and protect practitioners from these exorbitant lawsuits (practitioners who are at fault could lose licensing for specific procedures). The resultant lower malpractice insurance premiums and reduction of procedures and tests would save enough to provide reasonable cost care for those unable to obtain medical insurance.

Also, educate and encourage practitioners to forego procedures and tests which probably aren't necessary. (A small percentage of people may not receive optimum care under this philosophy, but more people could receive adequate care.)