

(b) (1) The provisions of §§ 3-212 through 3-217 and 3-220 of this article are applicable to proceedings under this subtitle.

(2) Except for the provisions of the Maryland Rules relating to time for the completion of discovery, the provisions of the Maryland Rules relating to discovery are applicable to proceedings under this subtitle. All discovery in any action under this subtitle shall be completed within 270 days from the date on which all defendants have been served, unless extended by the panel chairman for good cause shown.

(3) Properly authenticated hospital records and the records of treating health care providers are admissible without the necessity of calling the physician, subject to reasonable notice and the right of the opposing party to depose.

(c) The attorney member of the panel shall be chairman and he shall decide all prehearing procedures including issues relating to discovery and motions in limine. The chairman shall rule in camera on any motion in limine.

(d) A party may not present testimony from more than 2 experts in a designated specialty before an arbitration panel unless the panel chairman, for good cause shown, permits additional experts.

(e) The arbitration panel shall first determine the issue of liability with respect to a claim referred to it. If the arbitration panel determines that the health care provider is not liable to the claimant or claimants the award shall be in favor of the health care provider. If the arbitration panel determines that a health care provider is liable to the claimant or claimants, it shall then consider, ITEMIZE, assess, and apportion appropriate damages against one or more of the health care providers that it has found to be liable. THE AWARD SHALL ITEMIZE BY CATEGORY AND AMOUNT ANY DAMAGES ASSESSED FOR INCURRED MEDICAL EXPENSES, REHABILITATION COSTS, AND LOSS OF EARNINGS. DAMAGES ASSESSED FOR ANY FUTURE EXPENSES, COSTS, AND LOSSES SHALL BE ITEMIZED SEPARATELY.

(f) The award shall include an assessment of costs, including the arbitrators' fees. If there is no panel determination, the panel chairman shall assess costs.

(g) The arbitration panel shall make its award and deliver it to the Director in writing within 1 year from the date on which all defendants have been served and within 10 days after the close of the hearing. The Director shall cause a copy of it to be served on each party within 15 days of having received it from the arbitration panel.