

VETOES

this subsection ON THE DEFENDANT. If the defendant does not dispute liability, a certificate of a qualified expert is not required under this subsection. THE DEFENDANT SHALL SERVE A COPY OF THE CERTIFICATE ON ALL OTHER PARTIES TO THE CLAIM OR THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MARYLAND RULES.

(d) (2) If:

(i) The claim is against more than one health care provider, whether directly by a claimant or as a result of a third-party claim, the health care providers claimed against shall be treated as a single party and shall exercise their strikes jointly;

(ii) There is more than one claimant, the claimants shall be treated as a single party and shall exercise their strikes jointly;

(iii) Within the time period specified in paragraph (1) of this subsection, multiple claimants or multiple health care providers fail to agree on their strikes in any category, they shall notify the Director of their disagreement, and [he shall] THE DIRECTOR MAY make the strikes on their behalf with respect to that category;

(iv) Any party fails to return a copy of the list with his strikes within the time period specified in paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Director [shall] MAY make the strikes for that party.

3-2A-05.

(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.

(i) Subject to § 3-2A-06 OF THIS SUBTITLE, the award of the panel shall be final and binding on the parties. After the time for either rejecting or modifying the award has expired the Director MAY, OR, WHEN REQUESTED BY ANY PARTY, shall file a copy