

**1840 INJURY TO MINOR CHILD: PARENTS' DAMAGES FOR MEDICAL EXPENSES: PAST AND FUTURE**

Subdivision \_\_ of question \_\_ asks what sums will reasonably compensate (plaintiff) for hospital, medical, and dental expenses incurred for the care and treatment of (his) (her) minor (son) (daughter).

Under the law, parents are liable for the reasonable expenses necessarily incurred in the care and treatment of their minor children.

You will carefully consider the credible evidence, and reasonable inferences therefrom, bearing on this inquiry and in answer name such sum as will fairly and reasonably compensate (plaintiff) for such hospital, medical, and dental expenses as (he) (she) necessarily incurred for the care of (minor child) in the treatment of the injuries sustained by (minor child) as a natural and direct result of this (collision) (accident). If you find that such expenses will continue to be incurred in the future by (plaintiff), you should allow, and include in your award, an amount which will fairly and reasonably compensate (plaintiff) for such medical, hospital, and dental expenses as (plaintiff) will necessarily incur for the care of (minor child) in the treatment of the injuries sustained by (him) (her) as a natural result of the (collision) (accident), during the period of (his) (her) minority, up to but not beyond the time (he) (she) will have reached (his) (her) 18th birthday.

**COMMENT**

The instruction and comment were originally published in 1960. The comment was updated in 1980 and reviewed without change in 1990. Editorial changes were made in 1992 to address gender references in the instruction. An editorial correction was made in 1996.

Sulkowski v. Schaefer, 31 Wis.2d 600, 608, 143 N.W.2d 512 (1966); Knutson v. Fenelon, 200 Wis. 261, 265, 227 N.W. 857, 858 (1929); West v. Day, 193 Wis. 187, 195, 212 N.W. 648, 651 (1927); Grimes v. Snell, 174 Wis. 557, 560, 183 N.W. 895, 896 (1921); Kruck v. Wilbur Lumber Co., 148 Wis. 76, 83, 133 ©1996, Regents, Univ. of Wis.

N.W. 1117, 1120 (1912); Thoreson v. Milwaukee & Suburban Transp. Corp., 56 Wis.2d 231, 201 N.W.2d 745 (1972).

In each of the instructions 1835 through 1845 is included a paragraph on future damages. These paragraphs would be employed only where called for by the fact situation.