



Baltimore County man accepts \$1,525,000

SUN STAFF

A Baltimore county man has accepted a settlement of \$1,525,000 in a health claims arbitration settlement against a chiropractor and an orthopedic surgeon he visited to fix his ailing neck and back.

Mark Hall, of the 800 block of Pulaski Highway, was working at a construction site in October 1980 when he walked into a door frame, knocking himself unconscious. The next day, he saw Baltimore chiropractor Dell P. Cohen, com-

plaining of a pain radiating from his neck down to his left arm. The chiropractor prescribed a neck collar and a sling.

According to Mr. Hall's lawyer, Stephen Snyder, the pain continued for several months, and Mr. Hall saw a Fallston orthopedic surgeon, Dr. Ernest B. Miller, who made a similar diagnosis.

Eventually, another doctor determined that Mr. Hall was suffering from displaced vertebrae. By the time the diagnosis was made, however, it was too late to do anything about it,

according to Mr. Snyder. Five of Mr. Hall's vertebrae had become fused, and the 33-year-old is now permanently disabled.

In the settlement arrived at late last week, just before the case was to have gone before a state health claims arbitration panel, Mr. Hall will receive \$1,150,000 from Mr. Cohen and \$375,000 from Dr. Miller and the surgeon's employer, Sadowsky Surgical Associates. Attorneys for Dr. Cohen and Dr. Miller declined to discuss details of the case.