

## Birth Asphyxia

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## BIRTH ASPHYXIA ATTORNEYS | ROMANUCCI & BLANDINI

### Birth Asphyxia

Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy (HIE), more commonly called birth asphyxia, is a type of birth injury when there is a lack of oxygen and blood flow to the baby's brain at or close to the time of the baby's birth. HIE occurs in approximately 2-9 out of 1,000 live births. Out of those who are affected, 10-60% die when they are a newborn and around 25% who live will suffer from severe brain damage and long-term neurodevelopmental impairments.

### What can cause HIE/Birth Asphyxia?

HIE can be caused by many different situations that could occur during labor and delivery such as:

- Complications from baby's position or size
- Delayed delivery
- Delayed emergency C-section
- Elevated fetal heart resting tone between contraction
- Tachysystole
- Problems with uterus or placenta
- Trauma or hemorrhages during delivery in the baby's brain
- Umbilical cord injuries
- Undiagnosed or improperly treated condition in the mother

There are many different times in which umbilical cord blood cases can be used in litigation. Hospitals may try to use normal umbilical cord gas results in order to defend themselves in a case. However, there are numerous reasons why a baby who suffered asphyxia/hypoxia could

have received a normal cord gas:

- The baby may have had poor circulation and perfusion right after they were born
- The baby may have received invalid results due to an error in how the cord gas was drawn, stored or analyzed
- The baby may have suffered a head injury while being delivered that caused ischemia in their brain
- There are many different technical errors that can also influence the umbilical cord gas results. In fact, around 18-20% of cord gas results are not valid because of a technical error.

## Free consultation on your case by a Chicago-based birth asphyxiation attorney

The birth asphyxiation lawyers at Romanucci & Blandin have proven success in these types of cases. **If you or a loved one has suffered injury or wrongful death, please contact our office at [Info@rblaw.net](mailto:Info@rblaw.net), 312-458-1000 or [click here for a free evaluation of your case](#). There is never a fee until you are compensated for your injuries at the end of the case.**