Medical Malpractice A Physicians Sourcebook

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books such as this one are deceptively difficult to create the general subject is neither happy nor easy nor most anyone s idea of fun m practice litigation however has become a central fact of existence in the practice of medicine today this tsunami of lawsuits has led to a high volume of irreconcilable rhetoric and ultimately threatens the stability of the entire health care system our goal has been to provide a source of reliable information on a subject of importance to all who provide me cal care in the united states the book is divided into four sections part i gives an overview of insurance in general and discusses the organization of professional ability insurance companies in particular part ii focuses on the litigation process itself with views from the defense and plaintiff bar and the

physician as both expert and defendant part iii looks at malpractice litigation from the viewpoint of the practicing physician some of the chapters are broadly relevant to all doctors the rise of e medicine and the importance of effective communication for example the other ch ters are constructed around individual medical specialties but discuss issues that are of potential interest to all part iv looks ahead the case for legal reform presents changes in medical legal jurisprudence that can be of immediate benefit the final two chapters take a broader perspective on aspects of our entire health care system and its interface with law and public policy

this monograph is the most comprehensive comparative law study of legal responsibility arising from medical care presently available it is written for doctors as well as health care administrators and legal professionals focusing on the problems of civil liability it presents the development points of contact with and differences between the modern law of medical liability stemming from both the common law and civil law traditions of england scotland eire new zealand australia canada the united states south africa france belgium west germany switzerland and austria it demonstrates the extent to which both problems of medical law and trends towards their solution are already familiar in these legal systems the work describes principles and trends not by confronting the reader with national reports and separate chapters on different legal systems rather the relevant legal problems are analyzed from an integrative comparative viewpoint the main thrust of the presentation is the analysis of numerous court decisions the number of which is rising ominously in the united states on the civil liability of doctors and hospitals for damages arising from substandard treatment or inadequate disclosure of information to the patient references to the legal and medical literature indexes and a refined system of cross references together with an important collection of appendices covering legal and ethical declarations make this work accessible as a handbook and reference work for the legal and social problems encountered today in the wide area of law ethics and medicine

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medical responsibility lawsuits have become a fact of life in every physician s medical practice however there is evidence that physicians are increasingly practising defensive medicine ordering more tests than may be necessary and avoiding patients with complicated conditions the modern practice of medicine is increasingly complicated by factors beyond the traditional realm of patient care including novel technologies loss of physician autonomy and economic pressures a continuing and significant issue affecting physicians and the healthcare system is malpractice in the latter half of the 20th century there was a major change in the attitude of the public towards the medical profession people were made aware of the huge advances in medical technology because health problems increasingly tended to attract media interest and wide publicity medicine is a victim of its own success in this respect and people are now led to expect the latest techniques and perfect outcomes on all occasions this burst of technology and hyper specialization in many fields of medicine means that each malpractice claim is transformed into a scientific challenge requiring specific preparation in analysis and judgment of the clinical case in question the role of legal medicine becomes more and more peculiar in this judicial setting often giving rise to erroneous interpretations and hasty scientific verdicts but guidelines on the methodology of ascertainments and criteria of evaluation are lacking all over the world the aim of this volume is to clarify the steps required for sequential in depth analysis of events and consequences of medical actions in order to verify whether in the presence of damage errors or non observance of rules of conduct by health personnel exist and which causal values and links of their hypothetical misconduct are involved

written by an md jd this book offers a unique perspective on medical legal issues surrounding daily clinical practice it covers all the essentials and tells the inside secrets of how to avoid cases that cost the medical community millions each year readers will learn basic law and the ways laws are interpreted in addition the book focuses on the law medicine politics triangle and its effect on physicians the impact of and issues related to diversity in medical malpractice and other essential topics physicians who better understand malpractice laws are better clinical decision makers who feel more confident in their ability as doctors

medical malpractice has been at the center of recurring tort crises for the last quarter century in 1960 expenditures on medical liability insurance in the united states amounted to about 60 million in 1988 the figure topped 7 billion physicians have responded not simply with expensive methods of defensive medicine but also with successful pressure upon state legislatures to cut back on the tort rights of seriously injured patients various reforms have been proposed to deal with the successive crises but so far none have proved to be effective and fair in this landmark book paul weiler argues for a two part approach to the medical malpractice crisis first he proposes a thorough revision of the current tort liability regime which would concentrate available resources on meeting actual financial losses of seriously injured victims it would also shift the focus of tort liability from the individual doctor to the hospital or other health care organization this would elicit more effective quality assurance programs from the institutions that are in the best position to reduce our current unacceptable rate of physician induced injuries but in states such as new york florida and illinois where the current situation seems to have gone beyond the help of even drastic tort reform the preferred solution is a no fault system weiler shows how such a

system would provide more equitable compensation more effective prevention and more economical administration than any practical alternative

with thorough coverage of inequality in health care access and practice this leading textbook has been widely acclaimed by teachers as the most accessible of any available it introduces and integrates recent research in medical sociology and emphasizes the importance of race class gender throughout this new edition leads students through the complexities of the evolving affordable care act it significantly expands coverage of medical technology end of life issues and alternative and complementary health care topics students typically debate in the classroom many new textboxes and enhancements in pedagogy grace this new edition which is essential in the fast changing area of health care new to this edition more textboxes relating the social aspects of medicine to students lives expanded coverage leading students through the complex impacts of the aca and health care reform expanded coverage of medical technology end of life issues and alternative and complementary health care health and the internet sections updated and renovated toward student assignments new end of chapter lists of terms updated test bank

malpractice lawsuits are a reality of medical life but most physicians are poorly equipped to face the adversarial challenges of the legal arena when good doctors get sued is a practical and indispensable guide that focuses on the most important step in a malpractice lawsuit giving testimony about patient care because they have prepared thousands of doctors for deposition and trial the authors provide practical advice proven techniques and valuable insights that should be part of every practicing professional s education when good doctors get sued prepares health care professionals to be better witnesses at deposition or on the witness stand by focusing on important topics such as how to listen carefully for question traps and tricks diagnose the intent of cross exam questions give more effective and succinct answers maintain confidence and control make a positive impact on jurors cope with litigation stress and its impact on work and familypacked with helpful dos and don ts scores of question answer examples and ideas for coping with anxiety this book helps prevent self damaging testimony and boosts physician confidence in an arena where not only what you say but how you say it is critical a summary pocket guide makes this a quick and easy read for even the busiest physician insurers will find insightful ideas for loss prevention it s a must have for students of medicine and defense law

a comprehensive presentation of the major topics in medical sociology the sociology of health healing and illness 8 e by gregory I weiss and lynne e lonnquist provides an in depth overview of the field of medical sociology the authors provide solid coverage of traditional topics while providing significant coverage of current issues related to health healing and illness readers will emerge with an understanding of the health care system in the united states as well as the changes that are taking place with the implementation of the affordable care act

this book covers the questions ranging from medical ethics and points of law to issues in medical negligence viewed from the

standpoint of practically all specialities in the practice of medicine and surgery the discussions are enlivened by reports on illustrative cases and human interest stories which would be of great interest to patients practising doctors hospitals advocates and members of consumer fora the chapters on almost every branch of medicine and surgery contains a wealth of up to date information on the current scientific understanding of the subject which intends to present medical malpractice in the larger context of the admirable advances in medicine which have made life so much safer and better in the last few decades the book contains detailed guidelines to the doctors patients and hospitals in three different chapters with a concluding chapter on medical insurance the book is written in a lucid style which would be understood not only by physicians and lawyers but also the general public

everyone seeks to avoid getting into a lawsuit but what do you do if this does happen getting sued for medical malpractice is one of the most traumatic events of a physician s career this text will guide doctors and physicians through the process from the moment they receive a summons until the after trial appeal process containing valuable information that physicians need to know to prevent making critical mistakes that can hurt their case with strategies explained to maximize their chances of a defendant s verdict including vital information on how to change your attorney act at the deposition and dress for court navigating through what is a mysterious and terrifying process in non legalese language that is easy to understand including what makes patients angry strategies for coping sample questions and tips on answering them to what happens in court and how to continue if there is a bad outcome

the so called medical practice crisis is mostly the result of a system of health care that has promoted professional dominance and high tech care this system both shapes and is shaped by the daily clinical context in which patients physicians and other providers interact the key policy implication would be to place greater emphasis on primary care and prevention rather than curative or high tech interventions

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