

# **MEDICO LEGAL CASE MANAGEMENT**

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# MEDICO LEGAL CASE

- A medico-legal case can be defined “as a case of injury or ailment, etc., in which investigations by the law-enforcing agencies are essential to fix the responsibility regarding the causation of the injury or ailment.”

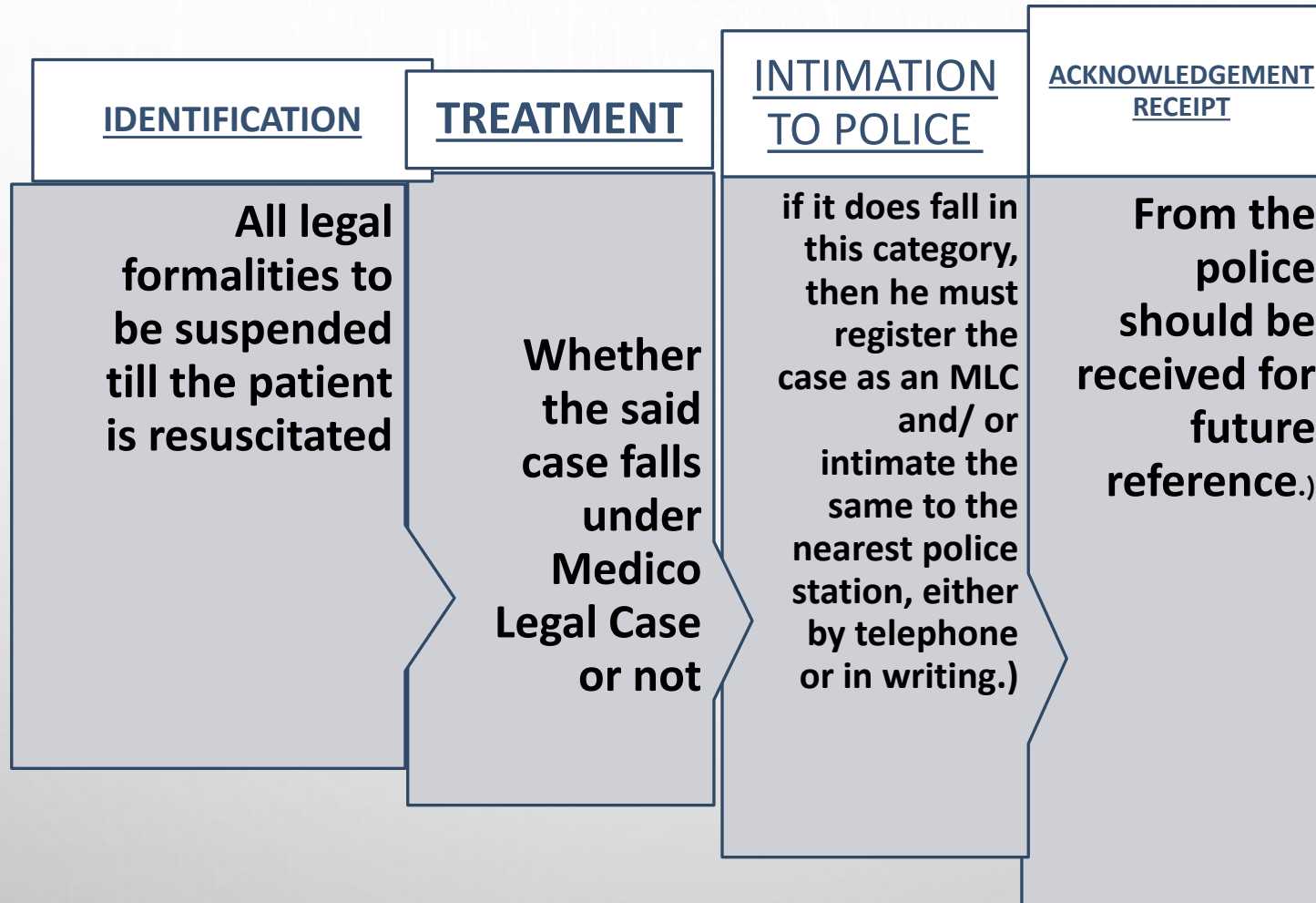


- LYON'S MEDICAL JURISPRIDENCE & TOXICOLOGY

# LIST OF MEDICO-LEGAL CASE

- All cases of injuries and burns -the circumstances of which suggest commission of an offense by somebody. (irrespective of suspicion of foul play)
- All vehicular, factory or other unnatural accident cases specially when there is a likelihood of patient's death or grievous hurt.
- Cases of suspected or evident sexual assault.
- Cases of suspected or evident criminal abortion.
- Cases of unconsciousness where its cause is not natural or not clear.
- All cases of suspected or evident poisoning or intoxication.
- Cases referred from a court or otherwise for age estimation.
- Cases brought dead with improper history creating suspicion of an offense.
- Cases of suspected self-infliction of injuries or attempted suicide.
- Any other case not falling under the above categories but has legal implications.
- Domestic violence,abuse of women,child abuse

# PROCEDURE FOR REGISTERING A MEDICO LEGAL CASE



# PREPARING MLC REPORT

- Reports must be prepared in duplicate on proper pro-forma giving all necessary details
- Avoid abbreviations, over writings. correction if any, should be initialed with date and time.
- Reports must be submitted to the authorities promptly.
- Medico-legal documents should be stored under safe custody for 10 years
- Age, sex, father's name, complete address, date and time of reporting, time of incident, brought by whom.
- Identification marks and finger impressions
- In case of foreign patient the identification can be get from passport.
- All mlc to be informed to the police for taking legal evidence

s dying, inform the magistrate to record 'dying declaration'.





## CONTINUES.....

- All examination findings as detailed in examination
- Investigations advised and finding to be entered
- Treatment given at the site or on reporting
- The opinion to be recorded in mlc sheet, if opinion cannot be given, under observation be given and signed by the doctor with name written in block letters.
- Final opinion be given by same doctor making mlc in the original mlc sheet, after all investigations are completed.

## TIME LIMIT FOR REGISTERING A MLC

- A medico-legal case should be registered as soon as a doctor suspects foul play or feels it necessary to inform the police at arrival
- At any time after admission
- There should not be any unnecessary delay
- A case may be registered as an mlc even if it is brought several days after the incident if suspected.

# WHOSE DECISION

- The casualty doctor (emergency physician ) attending the case has the independent authority to label the case as medico-legal or not.
- Patients' or their relatives' request or any external pressure to label a case medico-legal, should not influence the doctor's decision.
- When the patient is admitted in the ward, indoor treating doctors can also make a case medico-legal if they think after obtaining additional information, that it should have been made mlc but it was not made at the time of admission.



# PRESERVATION OF MEDICO LEGAL EXHIBITS

- Preservation of blood samples
- Preservation of gastric lavage
- Preservation of urine samples
- Preservation of vaginal swabs, anal and seminal stains
- Preservation of nails & hair
- Saliva, clothes, bullet/ pellet to be preserved

# DOCUMENT POLICY FOR MLC

- MLC register
- Brought dead register
- Triage register
- Staff training and awareness
- Nominal register
- MLC seal in all pages



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BHABHA ATOMIC RESEARCH CENTRE

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MEDICAL DIVISION

**INFORMATION OF M.L.C REGISTRATION (FORM I)**

From: BARC HOSPITAL, ANUSHAKTI NAGAR, MUMBAI 400 094  
(Name of hospital & address)

To,

The sub-inspector of police,

(Name & address of police station)

Subject – Information regarding a Medico-legal case.

Sir,

I write to inform you that patient by name \_\_\_\_\_

(CHSS No.) \_\_\_\_\_ male/female, aged \_\_\_\_\_ years, son / daughter / wife of \_\_\_\_\_, inhabitant of \_\_\_\_\_ has been brought into the casualty department/ OPD /Ward \_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./ p.m., on \_\_\_\_\_ alleged to have been \_\_\_\_\_

(State brief history & condition of patient)

at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. / p.m., \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ Mumbai  
(Date of incident) (Place)

Attending Doctor's name & Designation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reg. No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Doctor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date & Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Doctor: \_\_\_\_\_

He / she is being treated as out patient / in patient in Ward No./OPD/Casualty \_\_\_\_\_

This information was already given on telephone to \_\_\_\_\_ Buckle No \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of police officer) of police station \_\_\_\_\_, on \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. / p.m. Please do the needful.

Seal

Sign : \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Designation of

Security personnel: \_\_\_\_\_

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**INTIMATION OF DEATH IN MEDICO LEGAL CASE (FORM II)**

From: BARC HOSPITAL, ANUSHAKTI NAGAR, MUMBAI 400 094  
(Name of hospital & address)

To,

The sub-inspector of police,

(Name & address of police station)

Subject – Information of Death in Medico- legal case.

Sir,

I am to inform you that the patient by name \_\_\_\_\_

Male / female, aged \_\_\_\_\_ years, son / daughter / wife of \_\_\_\_\_, inhabitant of \_\_\_\_\_ who was admitted in this hospital in Ward No./ OPD/ Casualty \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. / p.m. as a medico legal case has expired on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. / p.m. is brought dead to this hospital on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. / p.m.

The information of medico legal registration was already sent on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. / p.m.

The cause of death is \_\_\_\_\_

Please do the needful.

Yours faithfully

Seal

Sign : \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Time : \_\_\_\_\_

Designation: \_\_\_\_\_

Forwarded to Security, BARC Hospital for further action, for information and to Trombay Police Station, Mumbai, for further action.

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**UNDERTAKING FOR REGISTRATION OF MLC (FORM III)**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (name of relative) am the \_\_\_\_\_ (name of relation) of \_\_\_\_\_

(name of patient) a patient at the BARC HOSPITAL, ANUSHAKTI NAGAR, MUMBAI 94/ Dispensary No. \_\_\_\_\_ (name of healthcare institution) agree to register the case as medico-legal at the nearest police station immediately.

I hereby release the \_\_\_\_\_ (name of healthcare institution) and health personnel attending the patient from any liability that I might assert against them for not providing the treatment prescribed therein. I attest that I am of full age, am mentally competent to execute this release, and I am the patient's closest relative responsible and available at the present time for consultation as to the patient's need for care.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of relative: \_\_\_\_\_

Address & Contact No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of health care worker : \_\_\_\_\_

Personnel attending patient/ Witness : \_\_\_\_\_

## CUSTODY OF THE RECORDS

- The records should be kept under lock and key, in the custody of the doctor concerned or may be kept in a central record room, in hospitals where such facility is available.
- It is advisable to preserve all MLC records for life long or till the disposal of case by the court.
- Most hospitals have a policy of maintain all mlc records for variable periods.

# ABSCOND/DEATH OF MLC

- In case a person admitted as a mlc expires or absconds ,inform the police immediately.
- Send the body to the hospital mortuary for preservation, till the legal formalities are completed and the police releases the body.
- If more than 2 days After post mortem examination , send the body for embalming. the body may be kept in the mortuary .
- Request a medico legal post-mortem examination , providing a copy of death summary
- Do not issue a death certificate before post-mortem even if the patient was admitted.
- The dead body should never be released to the relatives , hand over to the police.

## WOUND CERTIFICATE

- An injury report (**wound certificate**, medicolegal **certificate**, medicolegal case [mlc]) is a document prepared by the doctor in all medicolegal cases. injury report is a kind of medicolegal report



THANK YOU