

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.”

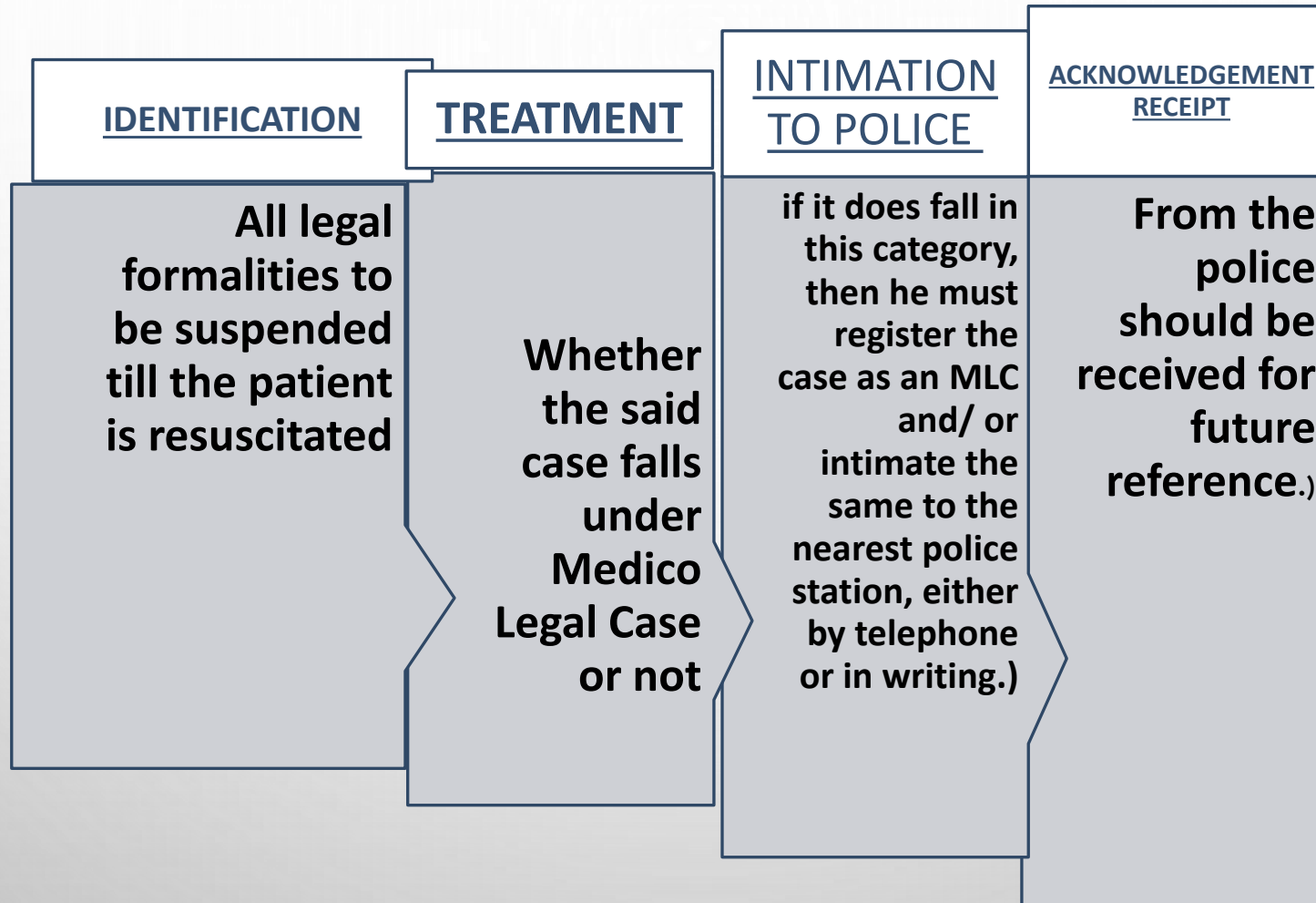


- LYON'S MEDICAL JURISPRIDENCE & TOXICOLOGY

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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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

Date : _____

Time : _____

Seal

Sign : _____

Name: _____

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