

Health care legal



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Health Care Legal Reporting Systems for Medical Errors Errors in the field of medical practice are considered unintentional and generally occur owing to carelessness on the part of the medical expert treating the patient which leads to fatal incidents. Thus in the field of medical practice due importance is rendered to the appropriate reporting mechanism for such ‘ errors and adverse events’ so that it can be rectified and incidence of the same can be prevented for a future period. However, the existing reporting mechanism due to infrequent error reporting practices fails to cease the intensity of such occurrences. Further, in some cases errors, which rendered harm to the patients, are not reported which in the later stage turn out to produce adverse circumstances that becomes difficult to be managed. Again, the medical staffs fail to provide required information about errors and adverse circumstances for the fear of being proved guilty and duly punished. Programs made to encourage the healthcare employees to come forward with such information by evading fear from their minds have also failed to counter significant changes (Griffin & Haraden, n. d. p. 246, 250).

Safer Processes and Systems in Healthcare

The healthcare practices with a view to reduce the incidence of fatal occurrences can look forward in designing effective systems for rendering effective health services. In that, the healthcare concern can arrange for proper training of the medical staffs to render effective and flawless service to the patients. The healthcare employees working in critical areas like operation theaters, emergency departments, and intensive care units must be trained in teams to reduce the incidence of errors. Working in a team helps an individual to perform more effectively. Modern healthcare systems incorporate newer technological developments. However, more number of

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innovations promoted in healthcare result to making the process more complex, which in turn leads to errors. Induction of newer technologies must be conducted with due care to help the medical team perform efficiently. Technological processes as automated order entry would help the medical team to identify expired medicines and rightly destroy them. The use of efficient monitoring instruments helps to judge the condition of patients subjected to strong medications. The healthcare organizations must take resort to increased bar coding practices to reduce the incidence of wrong medications. Machine readable bar coding systems must be put to render accuracy in the system (Griffin & Haraden, n. d. pp. 257-258; Kohn, Corrigan & Donaldson, 2000. pp. 173, 175, 188-189).

Perspective of the Patient in Healthcare Adversity

The occurrence of an adverse event gains more impetus when it has provided considerable harm to the patients. The death or danger imposed on a patient gets circulated easily to the media and other regulatory bodies who escalate the matter and thereby create problems in the functioning of the health organization. Thus, the management team of the health concern with the cooperation of other medical staff must endeavor to prevent such adverse cases from happening. Hospital management in the incidence of any adverse event must also try to gain the cooperation of the family members of the patient. Otherwise, they may take recourse to legal action and make things more complicated (Griffin & Haraden, n. d. p. 246, 250).

References

1. Griffin F.& C. Haraden. (n. d.). The Healthcare QualityBook.
2. Kohn, L., Corrigan, J. & M. Donaldson. (2000). To Errs is Human: Building a

Safer Health System. Retrieved on January 18, 2011 from: http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=9728&page=R1