

Awareness and Understanding of Medical Negligence Among Medical Interns of a Tertiary Care Center in South West Maharashtra, India

Dr. PG Dixit¹, Dr. Prakash Mohite², Dr. Manish Shrigiriwar^{*3}

¹Professor and Head, Department of Forensic Medicine, Symbiosis Medical College for Women and Symbiosis International University, Lavale, Pune, Maharashtra.

²Professor and Head, Department of Forensic Medicine, Datta Meghe Medical College, DMIHER, Nagpur, Maharashtra.

^{*3}Professor and Head, Department of Forensic Medicine, AIIMS Nagpur, Nagpur, Maharashtra.

ORCID ID- 0009-0000-6205-3528

*Corresponding Author:

Dr Manish Shrigiriwar

Email ID: drmanishshrigiriwar@aiimsnagpur.edu.in

ABSTRACT

Introduction - Medical negligence poses significant challenges in India, driven by increasing patient awareness and heightened legal accountability. Despite their direct patient care responsibilities, medical interns often lack sufficient legal understanding. This study evaluated the knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) regarding medical negligence among interns in South West Maharashtra, India, highlighting the need for structured medico-legal education in medical training.

Materials and methods- A cross-sectional, questionnaire-based study was conducted among 138 medical interns at a tertiary care center, south-west, Maharashtra (February–December 2022). Data was collected using a validated tool covering knowledge, attitudes, and practices, and analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software. Ethical approval was obtained for this study. Associations were assessed using chi-square and t-tests, with significance set at p-value <0.05.

Result- Out of 148 interns, 138 responded (93.2%). Most showed moderate knowledge (mean score 6.2 ± 1.8), with better awareness among those with longer internship duration ($p=0.04$). While 91.3% supported medico-legal training, only 41.3% had received formal instruction. The attitudes of the respondents were generally responsible, with 95.7% practicing proper consent. However, only 44.9% had read medico-legal guidelines. A strong willingness (86.2%) to report negligence was noted, highlighting ethical awareness despite knowledge-practice gaps. A statistically significant difference was observed in knowledge scores based on internship duration.

Conclusion- Medical interns showed moderate knowledge, positive attitudes, and variable practices regarding medical negligence. Gaps in legal literacy and procedural confidence highlight the need for structured medico-legal education, emphasizing practical training, documentation, and patient rights to ensure ethically responsible and legally informed clinical practice.

Keywords: Medical negligence, knowledge, attitude, practice, medico-legal.

How to Cite: Dr. PG Dixit, Dr. Prakash Mohite, Dr. Manish Shrigiriwar, (2025) Awareness and Understanding of Medical Negligence Among Medical Interns of a Tertiary Care Center in South West Maharashtra, India, *Journal of Carcinogenesis*, Vol.24, No.4s, 522-529

1. INTRODUCTION

Medical negligence is a growing concern in healthcare systems globally and is especially significant in a country like India, where the doctor-patient relationship is increasingly governed by legal accountability. It refers to the failure of a healthcare professional to meet the standard of care expected, resulting in patient harm due to acts of omission, delay, or incompetence.[1] In India, medical negligence is governed by legal frameworks such as the Indian Penal Code (IPC), now known as Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Consumer Protection Act (CPA), and the Medical Council of India, now called National Medical Commission (NMC) guidelines, which hold medical practitioners accountable for substandard care.[2,3]

The increasing awareness among patients and rising incidence of litigation have brought medical negligence to the forefront of healthcare debates. Lack of awareness in this domain can lead to improper documentation, poor communication, and unsafe practices, thereby increasing the risk of legal action. [4,5] Defensive medicine, growing mistrust, and strained doctor-patient relationships are some of the downstream effects of this knowledge gap. Therefore, it is imperative that medical professionals are educated about their legal responsibilities early in their careers. The growing awareness among patients and the rise in litigation make it crucial for healthcare providers to be well-versed in medico-legal obligations. Ensuring that interns understand their legal responsibilities is vital for patient safety, professional protection, and ethical practices.

Medical interns, who bridge the gap between theoretical learning and practical clinical responsibilities, are particularly vulnerable to burnout. During this transition, they handle real-life cases, make clinical decisions, and interact with patients. Despite being entrusted with patient care, many interns have an insufficient understanding of medical law and negligence, often due to limited practical exposure during undergraduate training. [6,7] However, evidence suggests that many interns are underprepared to address the legal implications of their actions in the field. Studies from various parts of India indicate a gap in their knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) concerning medico-legal aspects, particularly medical negligence. [6,8] Forensic medicine, although part of the MBBS curriculum, tends to focus more on theoretical aspects than practical legal application.[9] As a result, interns may unknowingly engage in negligent practices, posing risks to patients and themselves. Research across India suggests that medical students and interns often exhibit inadequate knowledge, indifferent attitudes, and suboptimal practices regarding medico-legal issues. [8,10] Moreover, most of these studies were conducted in North and South India, with limited data available from the western regions of the country. Tertiary care teaching hospitals in this region serve as major training centers for future physicians. Therefore, assessing the KAP of interns in this setting is essential to identify local educational shortcomings and inform region-specific intervention strategies. Understanding the current knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) of interns in this region can help tailor legal education and training more effectively to their needs. This study aimed to generate evidence that can guide curriculum strengthening and foster legally aware medical graduates. Therefore, this study was designed to evaluate the KAP regarding medical negligence among medical interns at a tertiary care teaching hospital in South West Maharashtra. The findings aim to identify knowledge gaps and reinforce the need for stronger medico-legal training in undergraduate medical education to foster legally aware and responsible practitioners.

2. MATERIAL AND METHOD-

The present study was a cross-sectional, questionnaire-based study conducted at Rajarshi Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Government Medical College (RCSM GMC), Kolhapur, a tertiary care teaching hospital in South West Maharashtra. The institution provides clinical training to undergraduate and postgraduate medical students, making it an appropriate setting for assessing interns' medico-legal awareness. The study was conducted over eleven months, from February 2022 to December 2022, after approval from the Institutional Ethics Committee of RCSM GMC, Kolhapur. Participation was voluntary, and anonymity was maintained throughout the study period. The study population included Compulsory Rotatory Residential Interns (CRRIs) undergoing internship at RCSM GMC during the study period. Interns who were available during the data collection period and provided informed consent were included. Participants who were absent or unwilling to participate were excluded. Of the 148 eligible interns, 138 submitted fully completed questionnaires, yielding a response rate of 93.2%. A universal sampling method was used, under which all eligible interns were approached for participation. A pre-designed, pre-tested, structured questionnaire was used to collect data. It was developed based on an extensive review of literature and inputs from subject experts in forensic medicine and medical education.

The questionnaire was divided into four sections: demographic details, knowledge, attitudes, and practice. Demographic information included age, gender, and internship duration. The knowledge section consisted of 10 multiple-choice questions that assessed the participants' understanding of medical negligence, relevant legal frameworks, and key medico-legal concepts. The attitude section comprised 10 statements rated on a 5-point Likert scale (ranging from strongly agree to strongly disagree), capturing participants' perceptions and beliefs regarding medical negligence. The practice section included 10 scenario-based or behavior-assessing questions focusing on actual medico-legal practices such as documentation, consent procedures, and legal responsibilities in clinical settings. The tool was validated for content through expert review, and a pilot study was conducted with 10 interns (excluded from the final sample) to assess its clarity and feasibility. Minor modifications were made based on the feedback. Participants were briefed on the study objectives and assured of confidentiality. After obtaining written informed consent, questionnaires were distributed during academic sessions and completed anonymously under supervision to avoid peer influence. Collected data were entered in Microsoft Excel and analyzed using SPSS version 26.0. Descriptive statistics such as frequency, percentage, mean, and standard deviation were calculated. Associations between demographic variables and KAP scores were evaluated using Chi-square tests and independent t-tests. A p-value less than 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

3. RESULT

A total of **148 medical interns** at RCSM Government Medical College, Kolhapur, were approached for participation in the study. Of these, **138 interns** submitted complete responses, resulting in a **response rate of 93.2%**. Among them, 75(54.3%) were female and 63(45.7%) were male. As shown in Figure 1, the majority of the participants (103 interns; 74.6%) were in the 23–24years age group, followed by 18 interns (13.1%) aged 25 years or older, and 17 interns (12.3%) in the 21–22 years age group. Regarding internship duration, 77 interns (55.8%) had completed six months or more, whereas 61 interns (44.2%) had completed less than six months of internship.

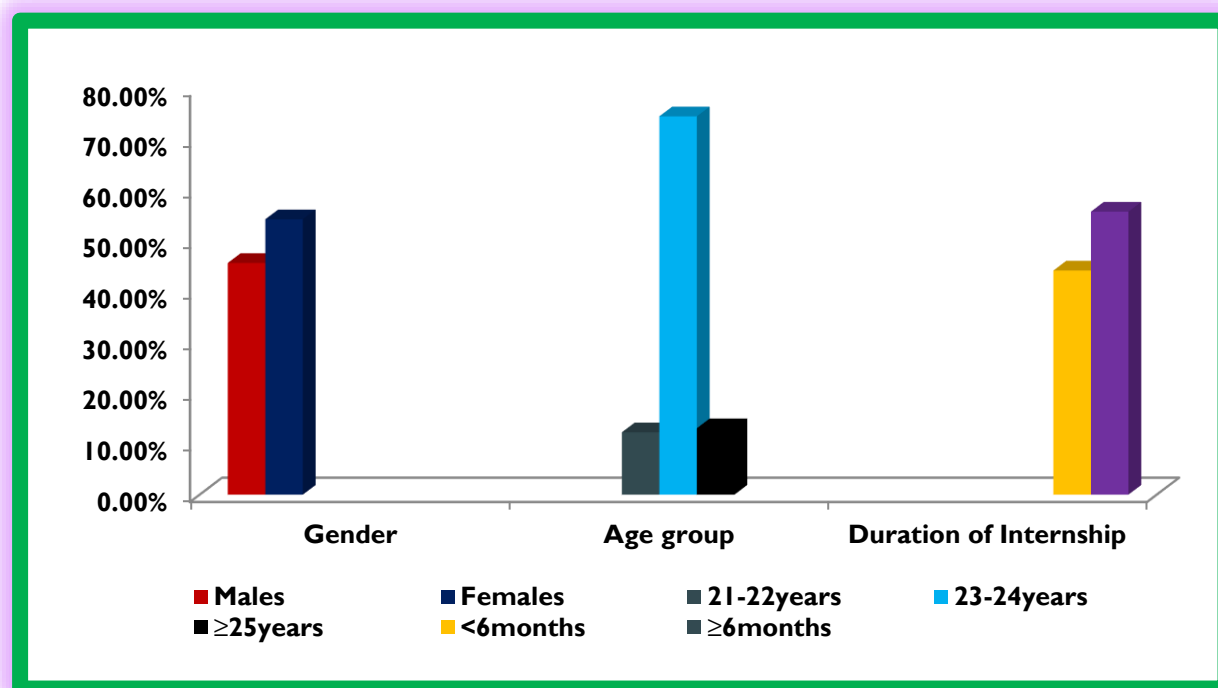


Figure 1- Distribution of participants based on the demographic characteristics.

In the present study, as shown in Table 1, the majority of interns demonstrated good awareness regarding key aspects of medical negligence. A high proportion of interns correctly identified that medical negligence is punishable by law (128 interns; 92.8%) and that failure to attend to emergency cases is legally punishable (126 interns; 91.3%). Additionally, 117 interns (84.8%) were aware that refusing to treat a patient with HIV was legally punishable. Knowledge regarding the legal framework was moderate. Only 92 interns (66.7%) knew that medical negligence fell under the Consumer Protection Act (CPA), and 122 interns (88.4%) were aware that consumer courts handled such claims. Similarly, 109 interns (79.0%) knew that compensation for negligence could be sought through the consumer court. Awareness of specific clinical-legal scenarios showed some gaps. Only 89 interns (64.5%) correctly stated that the surgeon is held responsible if a surgical item, such as gauze, is left in the body. Furthermore, just 74 interns (53.6%) were aware of the legal status of euthanasia in India. Regarding transplantation-related knowledge, 121 interns (87.7%) acknowledged that organ transplantation is legal, and 101 interns (73.2%) were aware of donor eligibility under the Transplantation of Human Organs Act.

Table 1- Knowledge of participants on medical negligence.

Knowledge item	Correct response n (%)
Medical negligence is punishable by law	128(92.8%)
Not attending an emergency is punishable	126(91.3%)
Refusing HIV patient is legally punishable	117(84.8%)
Negligence comes under the Consumer Protection Act (CPA)	92(66.7%)
The surgeon is responsible if gauze is left in the body	89(64.5%)

Euthanasia's legal status is known	74(53.6%)
Consumer court handles negligence claims	122(88.4%)
Compensation is approached through the consumer court	109(79.0%)
Organ transplant is legal	121(87.7%)
Donor eligibility under the Transplantation Act is known	101(73.2%)

Figure 2 shows the interns' overall knowledge. The mean knowledge score \pm SD was 6.2 ± 1.8 . When categorized based on the number of correct responses, most medical interns (84; 60.9%) demonstrated a moderate level of knowledge regarding medical negligence, answering between 4 to 7 questions correctly. A smaller proportion (41 interns; 29.7%) exhibited good knowledge, with more than 7 correct responses. Only 13 interns (9.4%) had poor knowledge, answering fewer than 4 questions correctly. The mean knowledge score among participants was 6.2 with a standard deviation of 1.8, indicating an overall moderate level of awareness on issues related to medical negligence.

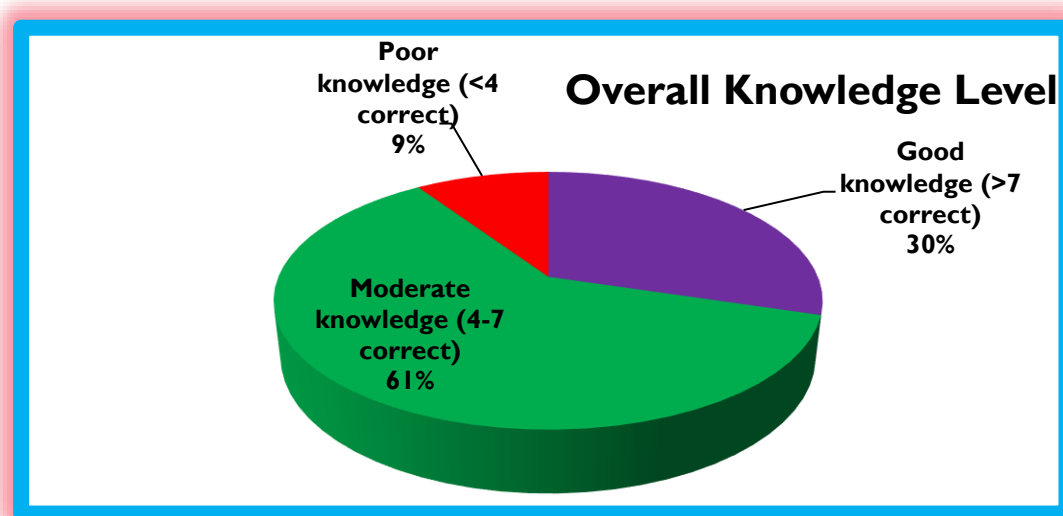


Figure 2- Distribution of participants by overall knowledge score

The majority of interns expressed a strong and responsible attitude toward the issue of medical negligence, as shown in Table 2. A large proportion (119 interns; 86.2%) agreed that medical negligence is a serious concern in India, and 101 interns (73.2%) believed that doctors should be legally accountable for their negligent actions. Additionally, 126 interns (91.3%) agreed that medico-legal awareness should be initiated during undergraduate medical training, and the same number (91.3%) felt that institutions must actively train interns in medical law. While 67 interns (48.5%) considered the practice of defensive medicine acceptable to avoid litigation, a significant portion (35 interns; 25.2%) disagreed, reflecting divided opinions on this approach. Almost all participants agreed on the importance of legal awareness and documentation. A total of 134 interns (97.1%) believed that doctors must be aware of medico-legal aspects, and 132 interns (95.7%) emphasized the necessity of proper documentation of consent. Furthermore, 130 interns (94.2%) stated that knowing legal duties helps improve clinical practice, and 118 interns (85.5%) agreed that ignorance of the law is an unacceptable excuse. Fear of litigation was perceived as impactful by 96 interns (69.6%), and 110 interns (79.7%) believed that honesty in clinical practice could help prevent negligence claims.

Table 2- Attitude of participants toward medical negligence

Attitude statement	Agree n (%)	Neutral n (%)	Disagree n (%)
Medical negligence is a serious concern in India	119(86.2%)	13(9.4%)	6(4.4%)
Doctors should be legally accountable for negligence	101(73.2%)	27(19.6%)	10(7.2%)

Defensive medicine is acceptable to avoid litigation	67(48.5%)	36(26.3%)	35(25.2%)
Medico-legal awareness should begin in UG training	126(91.3%)	7(5.1%)	5(3.6%)
Doctors must be aware of the medico-legal aspects	134(97.1%)	—	—
Fear of litigation affects practice	96(69.6%)	—	—
Consent must be properly documented	132(95.7%)	—	—
Honesty helps prevent negligence claims	110(79.7%)	—	—
Knowing legal duties improves practice	130(94.2%)	—	—
Institutions must train interns in law	126 (91.3%)	—	—
Ignorance of the law is not an excuse	118 (85.5%)	—	—

As shown in Table 3, the findings revealed that most interns reported practicing essential measures to reduce the risk of medical negligence. A significant majority (132; 95.7%) stated that they routinely obtained written consent prior to procedures, and 125 interns (90.6%) affirmed that they double-checked patient identity before conducting any intervention. Clinical documentation was also emphasized, with 108 interns (78.3%) recording complete clinical notes on a daily basis. Awareness of the legal age of consent in the context of medical procedures was reported by 94 interns (68.1%). Experience with medical negligence cases was moderate, as 66 interns (47.8%) reported encountering such cases during their internship. Correspondingly, 72 interns (52.2%) indicated that they were aware of the protocol for reporting medical negligence. Confidence in handling legal documentation remained relatively low, with only 49 interns (35.5%) expressing that they felt confident in this area. Similarly, only 57 interns (41.3%) had received formal training specifically related to medical negligence. Legal literacy was also a concern; only 62 interns (44.9%) reported having read the Consumer Protection Act (CPA) or National Medical Commission (NMC) guidelines related to medical negligence. Despite these gaps, a high proportion of interns (119; 86.2%) expressed a willingness to report any observed case of medical negligence during their internship, reflecting a strong sense of ethical responsibility and accountability.

Table 3- Practices related to medical negligence among interns

Practice Item	Yes n (%)	No n (%)
Obtain written consent before procedures	132(95.7%)	6(4.3%)
Record complete clinical notes daily	108(78.3%)	30(21.7%)
Encountered a medical negligence case during internship	66(47.8%)	72(52.2%)
Know the reporting protocol for a medical negligence incident	72(52.2%)	66(47.8%)
Confident in handling documentation related to medical negligence	49(35.5%)	89(64.5%)
Received formal training regarding medical negligence	57(41.3%)	81(58.7%)
Double-check patient identity before any procedure	125(90.6%)	13(9.4%)
Aware of the legal age of consent in the context of medical procedures	94(68.1%)	44(31.9%)
Have read the CPA or MCI guidelines related to medical negligence	62(44.9%)	76(55.1%)
Willing to report observed medical negligence during internship	119(86.2%)	19(13.8%)

Table 4 shows a comparison of knowledge scores by demographic variables. The mean knowledge score among male interns was 6.4 ± 1.7 , while female interns had a mean score of 6.1 ± 1.9 . However, this difference was not statistically significant ($p=0.38$). When analyzed by age group, interns aged 21–22years had a mean score of 5.7 ± 2.0 , those aged 23–24years scored 6.3 ± 1.7 , and those aged ≥ 25 years had a mean score of 6.5 ± 1.6 . However, the difference in knowledge scores across age groups was not statistically significant ($p=0.21$). A statistically significant difference was observed in knowledge scores based on internship duration ($p = 0.04$). Interns with six months or more of internship experience had a higher mean knowledge score (6.4 ± 1.7) compared to those with less than six months of experience (5.9 ± 1.8), indicating that increased clinical exposure may contribute to better awareness of medical negligence.

Table 4- Association between demographic variables and knowledge score

Variable		Mean knowledge score \pm SD	p-value
Gender	Male	6.4 \pm 1.7	0.38
	Female	6.1 \pm 1.9	
Age group in years	21–22	5.7 \pm 2.0	0.21
	23–24	6.3 \pm 1.7	
	\geq 25	6.5 \pm 1.6	
Internship duration	<6months	5.9 \pm 1.8	0.04
	\geq 6months	6.4 \pm 1.7	

4. DISCUSSION

The present study aimed to assess the knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) regarding medical negligence among medical interns at a tertiary care center in South West Maharashtra. The findings revealed that while interns generally demonstrated moderate knowledge and responsible attitudes, there remain important gaps in formal training, documentation confidence, and medico-legal literacy. In our study, 60.9% of interns exhibited moderate knowledge, and 29.7% had good knowledge regarding medical negligence, with a mean score of 6.2 \pm 1.8. This aligns with the findings of Sinha et al., who reported that 63.3% of interns had moderate knowledge of medico-legal aspects, including negligence, in a tertiary hospital in North India.[11] Similarly, Verma et al. observed that although interns had some awareness of medico-legal duties, detailed knowledge of legal provisions such as the Consumer Protection Act (CPA) was lacking in over one-third of participants.[12] In our study, only 66.7% knew that negligence falls under the CPA, and 44.9% had actually read related guidelines. Kalaskar et al. also found that most interns had limited knowledge of the CPA, aligning with our observation.[13]

Awareness was highest regarding universally accepted legal principles over 90% of interns correctly responding that medical negligence and refusal to treat emergencies or HIV-positive patients are punishable. This is consistent with findings by Kumar et al., who noted that medical interns often possess better knowledge of high-profile or ethically sensitive legal scenarios than procedural or statutory details.[14] Importantly, our study found that interns with \geq 6 months of clinical experience had significantly higher knowledge scores ($p=0.04$), indicating that real-world exposure positively influences medico-legal awareness. This finding supports the work of Thomas and Joseph, who concluded that hands-on experience in patient care reinforces medico-legal learning, especially when supplemented with formal teaching.[15]

Attitude analysis revealed encouraging trends in the data. A vast majority (97.1%) agreed that doctors must be aware of medico-legal aspects, and 91.3% emphasized the need to incorporate such training in the undergraduate curriculum. Similar results were seen in studies by Chaudhary et al. and Ahmed et al., both of which highlighted interns' willingness to learn and accept legal accountability as a professional norm.[16,17] Although interns showed positive attitudes toward legal accountability and documentation, the low level of confidence in handling legal documents suggests that current training modalities are inadequate. Interestingly, 48.5% of our respondents accepted the concept of defensive medicine—an ethically debated topic. This reflects the growing fear of litigation, which 69.6% of interns reported as a concern, echoing sentiments found in the study by Sharma and Gupta.[18] and also noted in the study by Rani et al. [19]

Regarding practices, 95.7% of interns reported routinely obtaining written consent, and 90.6% double-checked patient identity—an encouraging indication of ethical compliance. However, only 35.5% felt confident handling medico-legal documentation, and only 41.3% had received formal training on medical negligence. Similar to our study, Pandya et al. reported that although interns understood the ethical importance of preventing negligence, they lacked confidence in documentation and legal procedures.[20] Mulgaonkar et al. observed that formal training in medico-legal aspects was lacking in most Indian medical colleges, explaining why only 41.3% of our respondents received structured training.[21] This mirrors gaps reported by Roy et al., where interns showed strong theoretical understanding but lacked preparedness in actual legal procedures.[22] While nearly half of the interns (47.8%) had encountered a negligence-related case, just over half (52.2%) were aware of the relevant reporting protocol. This gap between experience and procedural readiness was similarly observed by Bhardwaj et al., who called for structured, case-based medico-legal training.[23] Notably, despite these deficiencies, 86.2% of interns in our study expressed willingness to report observed negligence, indicating ethical maturity and readiness to assume accountability. These findings underscore the need to integrate comprehensive medico-legal education—including laws, documentation, and ethical dilemmas—into the MBBS curriculum. As advocated by the National Medical Commission and recent World Health Organization (WHO) frameworks on patient safety, early legal orientation can bridge the gap between theoretical awareness and practical competence.[24] Our study also revealed

that extended internship duration improved knowledge scores, a finding supported by Desai et al., who emphasized the value of clinical exposure in reinforcing legal understanding.[25]

5. CONCLUSION

This study highlights a moderate level of knowledge, a predominantly positive attitude, and variable practices among medical interns regarding medical negligence. While interns demonstrated a strong sense of ethical responsibility and a willingness to report negligence, significant gaps remain in their understanding of medico-legal procedures, documentation, and formal legal frameworks such as the Consumer Protection Act, due to deficiencies in legal literacy, procedural confidence, and training. The findings underscore the pressing need to integrate structured medico-legal education into the undergraduate medical curriculum, with a focus on practical application, legal documentation, and patient rights. Strengthening undergraduate medico-legal education through simulation, case-based modules, and periodic assessments is essential to equip future physicians with the competencies required to navigate complex clinical and legal landscapes responsibly. Enhancing awareness and preparedness in these areas is essential for fostering legally informed, ethically responsible, and patient-centered clinical practice among future healthcare professionals.

REFERENCES

- [1] Ravindran, R. (2019). Understanding medical negligence and legal implications in India. *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics*, 4(2), 94–98. <https://doi.org/10.20529/IJME.2019.019>
- [2] Tripathi, A., & Kapoor, N. (2021). Medical negligence and legal rights of patients in India. *International Journal of Law and Healthcare Ethics*, 6(2), 101–107.
- [3] Sinha, D. N., Sharma, R. K., & Kumari, R. (2013). Medicolegal responsibilities of physicians: An Indian perspective. *Indian Journal of Legal Medicine*, 2(1), 25–29.
- [4] Deshpande, S. H. (2010). Medical negligence: Indian legal perspective. *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics*, 7(2), 89–92.
- [5] Chatterjee, B., & Sarkar, J. (2015). Awareness of medical ethics and law among medical students and professionals in a tertiary care teaching hospital. *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics*, 12(1), 35–40. <https://doi.org/10.20529/IJME.2015.010>
- [6] Rao, P. S., Shetty, H., & Nayak, R. (2020). Medical negligence: Awareness and attitudes among medical interns. *Medico-Legal Journal*, 88(3), 139–144. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0025817220921486>
- [7] Babu, A., Jha, N., & Adhikari, N. (2021). Knowledge and awareness regarding medico-legal aspects among undergraduate medical students: A cross-sectional study. *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine*, 78, 102105. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jflm.2021.102105>
- [8] Shankar, S., Gupta, M., & Deshmukh, V. (2022). Evaluation of medico-legal knowledge among final-year medical students: A multicentric Indian study. *National Medical Journal of India*, 35(1), 18–22.
- [9] Gupta, M., & Bagga, S. (2007). Legal awareness among MBBS students: A must for tomorrow's doctors. *National Medical Journal of India*, 20(4), 215–216.
- [10] Paul, G., Singh, M., & Ghosh, S. (2019). Knowledge and awareness among medical students regarding medico-legal issues. *Indian Journal of Forensic Medicine & Toxicology*, 13(4), 45–50.
- [11] Sinha J, Gupta R, Sharma D. Assessment of knowledge regarding medical negligence among medical interns in a tertiary care hospital in North India. *Indian J Med Ethics*. 2018;5(1):12-16.
- [12] Verma A, Yadav R, Bansal P. Knowledge and perception of medico-legal responsibilities among medical interns: a cross-sectional study. *J Forensic Leg Med*. 2020;74:102006.
- [13] Kalaskar S, et al. "Awareness of Medico-legal Aspects Among Medical Students." *Natl J Community Med*. 2019;10(3):120-124.
- [14] Kumar S, Rani M, Malhotra R. Awareness of medico-legal issues among medical students in India: a cross-sectional study. *Medico-Legal Update*. 2022;22(2):33–37.
- [15] Thomas M, Joseph A. The role of clinical exposure in improving knowledge of medical law among interns. *J Clin Diagn Res*. 2016;10(4):JC01–JC03.
- [16] Chaudhary A, Ghosh R, Tiwari S. Attitude of medical interns toward medico-legal responsibility: a hospital-based survey. *J Med Ethics Hist Med*. 2021;14:9.
- [17] Ahmed M, Siddiqui SA, Khan Z. Medical ethics and law: an analysis of attitude and awareness among medical interns. *Int J Med Res Prof*. 2019;5(3):115-119.
- [18] Sharma V, Gupta A. Fear of litigation and defensive medicine among young doctors: myth or reality? *Indian J Med Ethics*. 2020;6(2):93–97.

- [19] Rani M, et al. "Defensive Medicine Practices among Young Doctors." *Indian J Forensic Med Toxicol.* 2022;16(1):300-304.
 - [20] Pandya Y, et al. "Knowledge, Attitude, and Practice of Medico-legal Awareness among Interns." *J Clin Diagn Res.* 2021;15(5):JC01-JC04.
 - [21] Mulgaonkar V, et al. "Assessment of medico-legal knowledge among medical interns." *Int J Med Sci Public Health.* 2020;9(2):162-166.
 - [22] Roy N, Das S, Mishra S. A study on knowledge and practice regarding medical negligence among interns in a teaching hospital. *Natl J Med Res.* 2018;8(1):45-48.
 - [23] Bhardwaj P, Sinha R, Kaur J. Gaps in medico-legal knowledge among interns: recommendations for structured training. *BMC Med Educ.* 2022;22:345.
 - [24] World Health Organization. Patient safety curriculum guide: Multi-professional edition. WHO Press; 2011.
 - [25] Desai S, et al. "Internship and legal awareness: Correlation between exposure and understanding." *Med Law Rev.* 2020;28(3):315–329.
-