



Medico-Legal Case

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- A Medico-Legal Case can be defined as a case of injury or ailment, in which injuries or related diseases due to causes of Vehicular accidents, Burn injuries, Suspected homicide/Murder, Poisoning, Sexual assault and criminal abortion are classified.
- After reaching the hospital medical assistance is provided first to the aggrieved person. All legal formalities to be suspended till the patient is resuscitated but **investigations by the law-enforcing agencies are essential to fix the responsibility regarding the causation of the injury or ailment.**
- **Medico-legal case examination and reporting is one of the legal responsibility of all doctors working in a hospital.** If the said case falls under Medico Legal Case then it must intimate to the nearest police station. It may be a legal case requiring medical expertise when brought by the police for examination.
- In the judgment of case **Parmananda Katara Vs Union of India**, Every doctor is bound to provide medical aid to the victims irrespective of the cause of injury. He cannot take any excuse of allowing law to take its course.
- Accordance with **Section 39 of Criminal Procedure Code of India**, it is the legal duty of the treating doctor in any of the medico-legal cases, to report it to the nearest police station immediately after completing primary lifesaving medical care. The idea is to initiate the legal proceeding at the earliest is so that maximum evidence can be collected by the police officer.

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