MANAGEMENT OF MEDICO LEGAL CASE

GROUP 1

Dr Samarth Vohra

Suprabha Dubey

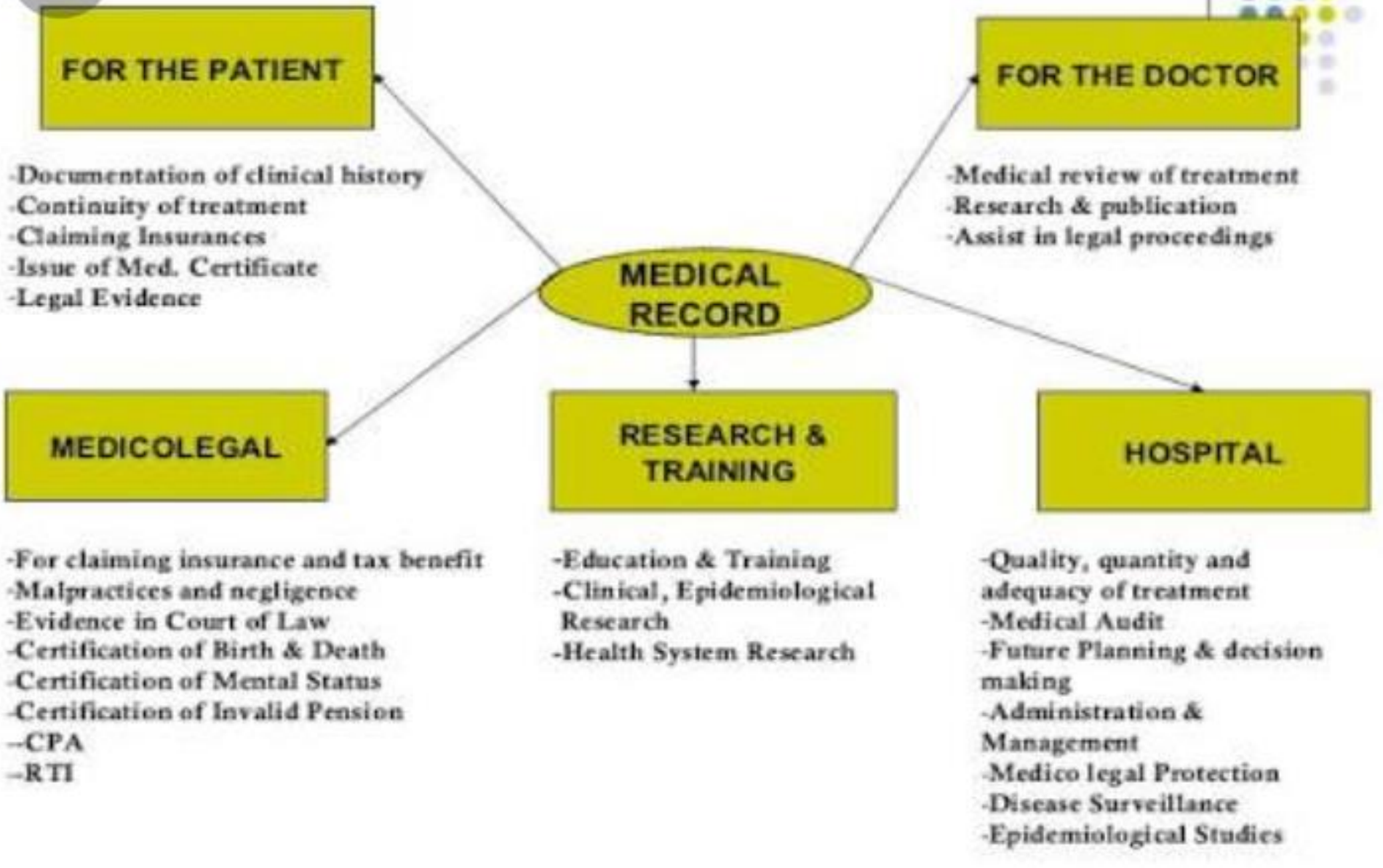
Vivek Awasthi

Ms. Soya Nair

Faculty:
Ms. Devasri Chatterjee
Dr. Swati Makashir
Dr. Ramanjeet Kaur

Reviewed by:
Dr. Lallu Joseph
Secretary General
CAHO

IMPORTANCE OF MEDICAL RECORD



WHAT IS MEDICO LEGAL CASE

- When an attending doctor, after taking history and completing physical examination of the patient, suspects that the injury or illness is not due to natural causes and some investigations by the law enforcement agencies are required so as to fix responsibility regarding the case according to law of the land.

CATEGORY OF MLC

- RTA VICTIM PICKED UP AND BROUGT BY UNKNOWN/BYSTANDERS
- CASE BROUGHT BY RELATIVE/FRIENDS/NEIGHBOURS
- CASE BROUGHT BY POLICE FOR EXAMINATION (details to be noted in MLC register with reference of police request letter)
- TRANSFERRED CASE FROM ANOTHER HOSPITAL WHERE MLC HAS ALREADY BEEN REGISTERED (Inform police giving reference of the MLC registered)

CATEGORY OF MLC

- Injurie, Burns, Gunshots wounds which are suspected
- Suspected cases of sexual Assault or rape
- All cases related to miscarriage (sec313, sec314)
- All cases brought in dead, comatose or unconscious due to cause unknown
- Evident poisoning
- Attempted suicides /Homicides

PROCEDURE FOR REGISTERING

- At the earliest police should be informed, even if the case is several days old.
- LIFE SAVING TREATEMENT-First priority (supreme court of India in Landmark judgement- Parmanand Katara Vs Union of India)
- DECISION TO TREAT THE CASE AS MLC
- INFORMING THE POLICE : inform name/age/sex/place of occurrence of incident
- MAINTAINING MLC IN MLC REGISTER
- MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS OF MLC (confidentiality of records, to be kept safe & secure)

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

MLC REPORT

- PREAMBLE
- BODY FINDINGS/ OBSERVATION
- POSTAMBLE

PREAMBLE

- Patient Name, age, sex, Residential address, Occupation
- Date, Time and place of examination of patient
- Name of person/Police official accompanying, FIR no.
- Informed consent of person being examined and two identification marks
- History of case/ reason for medical examination

BODY FINDINGS & OBSERVATION

- Detailed description of the injuries
- Other findings present
- Investigations/ Referrals asked for

POSTAMBLE

- Nature of the injury – simple or grievous
- Weapon/ force used – blunt or sharp or firearms or burns
- Duration of the injury as per the doctor opinion
- Any other information that will help the police
- If opinion is kept pending then the reason to be documented

MLC RECORDS CUSTODY

- Kept separate from other routine records
- Under lock and key in MRD
- Records are preserved indefinitely, until the case is finally settled. Liase with the area police to check the status of the case

DISCHARGE OF MLC

- While discharging/ transferring MLC intimation should be sent to police
- Regular discharge summary to be given to the patient
- Police to be informed if MLC is absconding/ missing

DEATH OF A MEDICO LEGAL CASE

- Immediate intimation to police
- Transfer the body to mortuary
- Handover the body to the police never to relatives for autopsy to ascertain the cause of Death
- Since cause of Death is not known, No death certificate is to be issued

FORM NO. 4
(See Rule 7)

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF CAUSE OF DEATH

(Hospital in-patients. Not to be used for still births)

To be sent to Registrar along with Form No. 2 (Death Report)

Name of the Hospital .....

I hereby certify that the person whose particulars are given below died in the hospital in Ward No. ..... On at ..... AM/PM.

NAME OF DECEASED					
Sex	Age at Death				For use of Statistical Office
	If 1 year or more, age in years	If less than 1 year, age in months	If less than one month, age in Days	If less than one day, age in Hours	
1. Male 2. Female					
CAUSE OF DEATH				Interval between on set & death approx.	
I. **Immediate cause** State the disease, injury or complication which caused death, not the mode of dying such as heart failure, asthenia etc.	(a)..... ..... Due to (or as a consequences of)				
Antecedent cause Morbid conditions, if any, giving rise to the above Cause, stating underlying condition last	(b)..... ..... Due to (or as a consequences of)				
II Other significant conditions contributing to the death but not related to the disease or conditions causing II	©				

Manner of Death
1. Natural 2. Accident 3. Suicide 4. Homicide
5. Pending Investigation

How did the injury occur?

.....

If deceased was a female, was pregnancy the death associated with? 1. Yes 2. No
If yes, was there a delivery? 1. Yes 2. No

Name and signature of the Medical Attendant certifying the cause of death
Date of verification .....

(To be detached and handed over to the related of the deceased)

Certified that Shri/Smt/Km .....S/W/D of Shri. .....
R/O .....was admitted to this hospital on ..... and expired on .....

Doctor .....
(Medical Supdt.
Name of Hospital

MLC & NABH STD

- IMS3b: Privileged Health information is used for the purposes identified as required by law and not disclosed without the patient's authorization.
- IMS2a: Incase of Death the medical record contains a copy of the death certificate indicating the cause date and time of death

PREREQUISITES FOR MLC MANAGEMENT

- Hospital should have documented SOP for management of MLC giving details of policy and procedure for every aspect. It should be available in Emergency
- All concerned staff should be educated
- Newly recruited employees may not be posted in emergency
- MS/ CMO should scrutinize records of previous 24 hrs to correct any mistake/ inadequacy
- MRD should have SOP on safe custody of MLR
- Policy on absolute confidentiality to be executed by all staff
- Place to keep MLC specimen for 2-3 days
- Police numbers to be easily available

Thank you