

Doctors practice an imperfect science, one that is subject to countless variables that can produce unpredictable and sometimes unfortunate results. This is not easily understood by patients and they are not inclined to accept this.

Add to this, medical practice coming under the purview of Consumer laws and the ease with which doctors can be saddled with criminal charges for medical complications, and you get the complete picture.

Practicing Medicine can now be a hazardous proposition even for an ethical and competent doctor. Hence, prudence dictates a better understanding of the relevant laws, an appreciation of common potential problem areas and the knowledge to deal with them.

This book helps you do all of these. It offers prescriptions for a variety of commonly faced situations. It does this by discussing scores of real-life cases of your colleagues. **BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY!** is your road map to successfully avoiding medico-legal problems!

Among other things, the book shows you:

- How to handle allegations of patients
- What precautions to take while transferring a patient.
- Common mistakes in maintaining patient records.
- What to do when faced with arrest
- When and how to make an out-of-court settlement.
- A notice from a Consumer Forum – what next? A step-by-step guide.

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

#### DR LALIT KAPOOR



Dr. Lalit Kapoor is a senior General and GI Surgeon and an M.S. gold medallist of Bombay University. He has served the Association of Medical Consultants (AMC) passionately for an unprecedented 32 years and helped lay down a strong foundation of the dynamic and vibrant organization that AMC is today.

He founded the Medico-legal Cell of the Association – probably the first in the country, nearly 25 years ago. He has assisted hundreds of colleagues troubled by medico-legal problems.

He has delivered over 200 talks on medico-legal and allied subjects and has contributed substantially to several health-care issues including Bio-medical Waste, Accreditation of Nursing homes and Hospitals, Managed Health Care, etc.

He is an ardent advocate of ethical medical practice and would like to see the honour and dignity of the medical profession restored. He is a prolific writer and a forceful speaker.



Better Safe Than Sorry

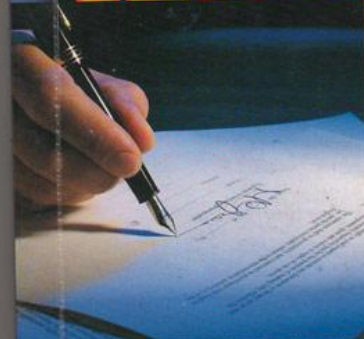
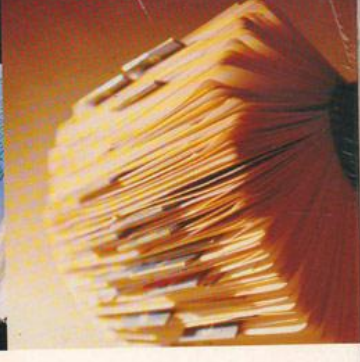
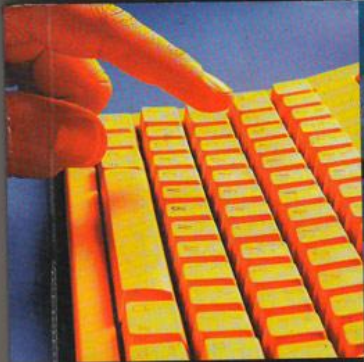
Medico-Legal Dos & DON'Ts

Dr. Lalit Kapoor

# Better Safe Than Sorry

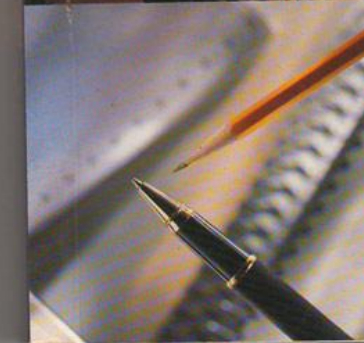
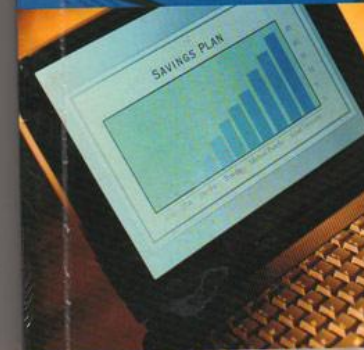
## Medico-Legal DOs & DON'Ts

**Dr. Lalit Kapoor**




# DOCUSMART

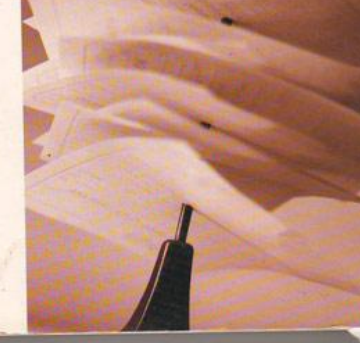
A MANUAL OF STANDARD MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION



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# DOCUSMART

A MANUAL OF STANDARD MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION

*In medical practice the one essential thing all physicians must know is to have accountability & credibility with the patient population. Proper documentation and communication with the patient are essential components of physician's work ethics. 'An idea that was itching to materialise', that's how I would describe DocuSmart. The importance of documentation in medical practice is well known to all of us. But 'smart' record keeping is still a missing link. This book therefore will act as effective filler in an otherwise vacuous field. A 'must-read' for all doctors.*

**Dr. Nandu Laud**

Eminent Orthopaedic Surgeon,  
Dr B C Roy Awardee

*The Association of Medical Consultants deserves compliments for conceiving such a novel idea. I'm not aware of any book that is written on similar lines. DocuSmart will train doctors in methodical record keeping. It will arouse medical profession's interest in hitherto neglected arena of documentation. In fact, it's a desktop manual that should always be at hand to guide practicing doctors and administrators. Its contents are well thought out, very well researched and very, very well presented. Keep it close to your heart, it will help you to ward off heart attacks!*

**Dr. G. B. Parulkar**

Former Dean and Director, G S Medical College and K E M Hospital  
Director, Wockhardt Group of Hospitals

*I welcome the basic concept behind DocuSmart. Everybody usually knows what is required to be documented, but most people forget crucial points when actually at it. A preplanned documentation chart will surely prevent such omissions that often result in catastrophic sequelae. After all, management is systemised administration. I am sure the book will succeed!*

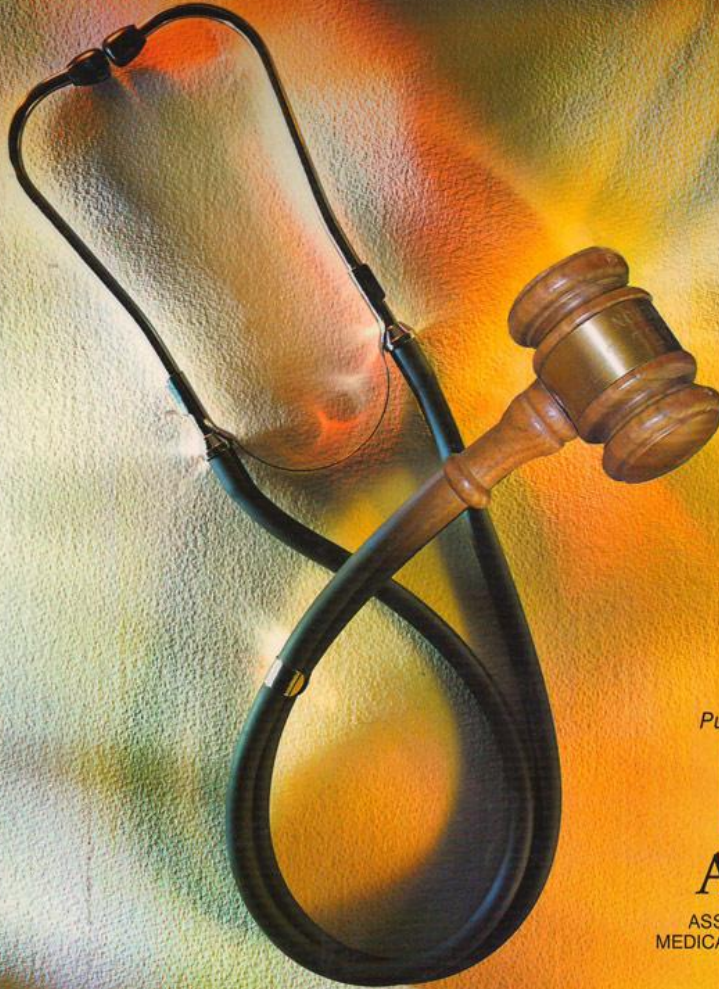
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**SMARTDOC**  
DESKTOP REFERENCE MANUAL

**A Ready Reckoner  
for Medical Consultants**

*"Perusing these contributions by eminent medical and non-medical professionals of our times will broaden our horizon and help to improve our perceptions about the way we need to practice medicine today. We are living in rapidly changing times, which mandate that for our own professional safety we need to move with the times. For this reason alone, going through these pages should be an enriching experience for our fraternity."*

*".... It is important to know how others judge or perceive us. This is especially important to present times when medical prowess and expertise is at an all time high and yet, paradoxically, public perception of the profession is at an all time low. There must be reasons for this scenario."*

**Dr Praful B Desai**

MS, FRCS, FACS

Former Director, TATA Memorial Centre and Consultant in Surgical Oncology

*"This is a comprehensive book, which has covered almost every problem we face in everyday practice. Besides the patients we have to deal with politicians, police, press, medico legal responsibilities, labour unions, insurance, banks, income tax, problem of disposal of biomedical wastes. Doctors are not aware that they too have their rights and they must also know how to deal with stress. The book deals with the ground realities as are seen in India."*

*"The contributor to each chapter is a known authority whose expertise and wisdom would be available on our desktop. The language is simple to understand and the book is full of simple tips. I must compliment the editors for bringing out a manual which will serve as a companion, philosopher and guide. I have not come across a book of such varied contents so far, it is indeed a unique one. I have learnt a lot from this book and so I recommend it to every doctor who wishes to keep away from avoidable stress of the modern era medical practice."*

**Dr V N Shrikhande**

Professor and HOD General Surgery,

Bombay Hospital Institute of Medical Sciences, Mumbai

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