

Role of Medico Legal Officers in Criminal Cases

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ABSTRACT

Aim: To Identify and describe different types of injuries, method of causation and sequel of those injuries and the medico-legal significance of those injuries and to categorize different types of injuries, record and interpret them, to arrive at conclusions and submitting report to courts regarding such injuries.

Methods: This descriptive study was comprised 100 MLO's interview and carried out in the Lahore during 2016 -2017

Results: Out of 100 MLOs, 74(74%) were male and 26(26%) were female. All were interviewed and 90% were aware of their roles in criminal cases. Only 10% were not aware of their duties and all were females MLO's.

Conclusion: Male MLO's were found fully aware of their roles and more vigilant than female MLO's in medico legal cases.

Key words: Medico legal Officer-MLO, role

INTRODUCTION

The study was conducted to Identify and describe different types of injuries, method of causation and sequel of those injuries and the medico-legal significance of those injuries and to categorize different types of injuries, record and interpret them, to arrive at conclusions and submitting report to courts regarding such injuries. This descriptive study was comprised 100 MLO's interview and carried out in the Lahore during 2016-2017. Out of 100 MLO's, 74(74%) were male and 26(26%) were female. All were interviewed and 90% were aware of their roles in criminal cases. Only 10% were not aware of their duties and all were females MLO's. Male MLO's were found fully aware of their roles and more vigilant than female MLO's in medico legal cases examinations. "Medico legal" is the term, which comprises of two sister professions i.e., Medicine and Law^{1,2}. Medico Legal experts can provide a connection between these two professions for their even & effectual functioning in a scientific manner^{3,4,5}. Phrase Forensic Medicine is a combination of two words. Forensic is derived from word forum, a. Forum Means, Market Place, Assembly for the discussion of public affairs, Derived from word Forensis means (Latin) =law, Medicine, Knowledge concerned with prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease., A

remedy in any form, Knowledge about human structure, function and behavior. Forensic medicine, legal medicine or state medicine is a branch of medicine which deals with the application of knowledge and principles of medical science to help law in civil as well as criminal cases, or in short it deals with the practice of medicine in relation to law⁶. Juris means law and prudentia means knowledge so medical jurisprudence is the subject which deals with the application of knowledge of law in relation to practice of medicine, or in short it deals with the legal aspects of medical practice^{6,7}. Toxicology is a branch of forensic medicine which pact with the knowledge of chattels, springs, uniqueness of the poisons, the sign they produce and the therapeutic measures that should be taken to annoy their toxic effects. It also deals with the diagnosis and revealing of poisons and various chemical tests used to identify them in the living as well in the dead. It also deals with the law regarding sales and prescription of dangerous drugs⁸. In the era of Modi, forensic medicine should be considered synonymous with legal medicine^{9,10}. In ancient Greece, there was knowledge of poisons and laws against abortions. However, autopsies were not performed, since a dead body was regarded as sacred¹¹.

METHODS

This descriptive study was comprised 100 MLO's interview and carried out in the Lahore during 2016 - 2017.

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RESULTS

Out of 100 MLO's, 74(74%) were male and 26 (26%) were female. All were interviewed and 90% were aware of their roles in criminal cases. Only 10% were not aware of their duties and all were females MLO's.

Table 1: Sex distribution of MLO's

Sex	No.	%
Male	90	90
Female	10	10
Total	100	100

Table 2: MLO's found aware of MLO work

MLO's Officers	Aware of MLO work	Not aware of MLO work
Total	90	10
%	90	10

Table 3: Sex Distribution of MLO's aware of work

Sex	Yes	No
Male	90	-
Female	-	10
Total	90	10

DISCUSSION

Medico legal examination, especially of mortality still controversial in Pakistan especially in Baluchistan, Sind and KPK Provinces. People are not willing to get medico legal examination of natural deaths or unnatural deaths. Phrase Forensic Medicine is a combination of two words .Forensic is derived from word forum, A forum means, Market place. Assembly for the discussion of public affairs derived from word Forensis means (Latin) =law, Medicine ,Knowledge concerned with prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease., A remedy in any form, Knowledge about human structure, function and behavior. Forensic medicine, legal medicine or state medicine is a branch of medicine which deals with the application of knowledge and principles of medical science to help law in civil as well as criminal cases, or in short it deals with the practice of medicine in relation to law. Juris means law and prudentia means knowledge so medical jurisprudence is the subject which deals with the application of knowledge of law in relation to practice of medicine, or in short it deals with the legal aspects of medical practice. Toxicology is a branch of forensic medicine which deals with the knowledge of properties, sources, characteristics of the poisons, the symptoms they produce and the therapeutic measures that should be taken to antagonize their

toxic effects. It also deals with the diagnosis and detection of poisons and various chemical tests used to identify them in the living as well in the dead. It also deals with the law regarding sales and prescription of dangerous drugs. This descriptive study was comprised 100 MLO's interview and carried out in the Lahore during 2016 -2017.Out of 100 MLO's, 74 (74%) were male and 26 (26%) were female. All were interviewed and 90% were aware of their roles in criminal cases. Only 10 % were not aware of their duties and all were females MLO's. Male MLO's were found fully aware of their roles and more vigilant than female MLO's in medico legal cases examinations. In our study male medic legal officers are well aware of their work in contrast to the female medico legal officers which are ten times less in medico legal work due to non interest and massive engagements in court of law as they take it waste of time and would not pay attention to their families. Most of female medico legal officers are shy and opposed by their families as they take it as Taboos.

CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

Male MLO's were found fully aware of their roles and more vigilant than female MLO's in medico legal cases. The female WMO's should be properly trained by capacity building and through massive medico legal courses.

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