

Why attacks on Doctors are Increasing?

Dr. Sandeep Kadu,

Professor & Head, Department of Forensic Medicine, DVVPFs Medical College & Hospital, Ahmednagar-414111, Maharashtra, India

Every day we watch or read news about patient's or their relative's conflicts with doctor. Hence question arises Why in recent years such incidences are increasing? I think as medical practitioner we have to introspect on this issue.

As per my opinion and experience patient as well as doctors both are equally responsible for such conflicts. As we all know truth is always bitter and, in this article, I would like to point out some sensitive areas of medical practice, there can be irreconcilable difference over this discussion.

Previously medical practice was called as "Service", now it has been called as "Medical Profession", and according to me this is the key issue. Any profession is based on balance between profit and service. Doctor's do not need to be saints and provide free services but, it's necessary for them to do ethical practice and charge appropriately.

Twenty years back our profession was most respected profession and doctors were referred as "Next to GOD". But in recent times medical profession is slowly losing its respect and glory. The reasons for it may be gradually declining clinical acumen-based practice and rising of investigation-based diagnosis and management. Because of this many unnecessary investigations are done which have no relevance towards diagnosis of the condition can be cause physical and monetary morbidity to patient. Another reason may be increased consultation charges in order to provide more facilities under one roof. One more important reason is the entry of corporate culture in hospitals, where targets have been given to doctors and to achieve the said target doctors are

indulged in unethical practice.

So, to overcome these problems, I would like to give some suggestions which not only help in regaining the lost respect of medical profession back but also help to reduce attacks on doctors. I am sure if you incorporate following things in your practice medical profession will get their golden days back.

- 1) Practice should be ethical.
- 2) Be empathetic with your patient by avoiding unnecessary investigations or medications which not only reduces the expenses but also increases patients' faith in doctors.
- 3) Always give enough time to patient and their relatives which help to developed good rapport between patient and doctor. As patients and their relatives are already in agony, so your sympathetic words can help to reduce their agony.
- 4) Timely referral: avoid the things which you are not confident and skilled about.
- 5) Always remember Newton's third law that every action has equal and opposite reaction.

Corresponding Author: Dr. Sandeep Kadu

Email ID: drsandeepkadu@gmail.com

Address: Professor & Head, Department of Forensic Medicine, DVVPFs Medical College & Hospital, Ahmednagar-414111, Maharashtra, India

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