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Medical malpractice claims in Turkey: Experience of a private hospital group

Medical malpractice claims is a worldwide problem during healthcare services. As in other countries, physicians have been liable since the 19th century in Turkey but they have been rare since 2005. After the change in Turkish Penal Code, claim frequency increased. During recent years, ombudsman system started in Turkey and it is designed to encourage discovery and negotiations between adversarial parties with the goal of resolving the problem without going to trial. The injured patient must show that the physician acted negligently in rendering care, and that such negligence resulted in injury. These negotiations are usually hard because even though the patients cannot show the physician's negligence, they ask for compensation. At the end of these negotiations, both parties prefer to go to trial. Number of claims increase as the number of patient increases. As an example, a private hospital groups' numbers are given in this study. The number of claims through 2012-2016.

Biography

Nur Birgen is an expert of Clinical Forensic Medicine and dealing with medical malpractice claims since 1997. She has a long practice in the Council of Forensic Medicine, Turkey. Since 2010, she is working for Acibadem Healthcare Group as a Consultant and dealing with patient claims and patient safety.

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