CRITICISM MIGHT COME TO GRIEVOUS HURT

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ABSTRACT

Medical profession is a noble profession, which differentiates itself from other professions and trade in many respects. A medical man has to acquire scientific knowledge, technical skill, and most importantly human understanding. While perusing the profession, it is necessary that the doctor should exhibit the qualities of humanity, sympathy, and courage under grave provocative circumstances. In essence, the practice of medicine is both a science and an art with three consequences namely - death, relief, cure. So, with the prospect of death of the patient, the stakes in medical practice are very high. If the circumstances are mixed with criticism in a surcharged atmosphere, the results might be disaster and this disaster may mount to grievous hurt.

KEYWORDS

Professional Misconduct, Destructive Criticism, Grievous Hurt, Litigations.


INTRODUCTION

When on one hand, a medical practitioner has a noble job to perform treating a patient; on the other hand, the patient must have good faith and confidence in the former. Thus, the relation between the patient and the doctor is based on trust and confidence. Quite often a patient maybe dead or maimed or financially ruined in the course of treatment. When such mishaps occur, the doctor's prestige and reputation might suffer if there is deficiency of trust and confidence in the patient.1,2 Even if the patient has great trust and faith, still a small spot of criticism might ignite a very nasty situation. In one movement, the confidence and trust of the patient evaporates that may result in assault, destruction of property, civil and criminal negligence charges, which leads to unnecessary litigations. This may not be actually less than grievous hurt.

DISCUSSION

Criticism is a tool, which is necessary to point out the deficiencies that can be rectified and improved in a future situation. Criticism can be destructive criticism or constructive criticism. Constructive criticism involves evaluation of the work done by a person impartially, so that faults if any can be rectified. In essence, constructive criticism is a social audit that doesn't hurt and brings the best in a human being. The criticism can be in public.3,5

While destructive criticism basically attempts at blaming, censuring, and condemning the activity either in public or in private by the critic. This depends on the mindset and relationship of the critic with the activist. The object is to finish the activity and the activist.

Correlation in medical profession: knowledge, skills, efficiency, circumstances, and good luck will make a successful and prosperous medical practitioner. A successful practitioner is envied by less successful colleagues, subordinates, and even onlookers.

In fact, money plays a major role in spoiling the situation and the successful practitioner has thus many critics and thus enemies around him. Even the most successful doctor is not God.

As we know, “to err is human”; the most successful doctor may falter while treating a case. This opportunity is quickly grabbed by the prowling critics and the slightest remark might ignite a very nasty situation. This opportunity is quickly grabbed by the prowling critics and the slightest remark might ignite a very nasty situation. Even if the patient has great trust and faith, still a small spot of criticism might ignite a very nasty situation. In one movement, the confidence and trust of the patient evaporates that may result in assault, destruction of property, civil and criminal negligence charges, which leads to unnecessary litigations. This may not be actually less than grievous hurt.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

In human life, one should make a principle to help others. If that is not possible, at least one should not harm a fellow human being. Doctors as members of noble profession should adhere to the professional code of conduct in accordance with Hippocratic Oath as adopted at the Geneva Convention - never criticise a professional colleague before others, which would amount to professional misconduct. If the work of the colleague is to be constructively criticised, it should be in private and at the appropriate forum. The subordinates and others who are around you should be taken due care off and a vigil has always to be kept on suspected unscrupulous elements around us. One must remember that a medical man has to show due respect, courtesy, and desist criticising a colleague besides offering gratuitous service to the immediate family members of the colleague.

Further, a doctor should not draw a colleague’s patients to his clinic by enticing the patients. Also, a doctor must try not to be little the honour of a colleague.

Thus, we can reduce the damage by avoiding unwarranted criticism.

REFERENCES