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# Medico legal Tips for New Clinics

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Starting a new Clinic is new endeavor in a doctor's life so, getting it right is extremely important for any medical practitioner. From our experience as an organization which deals with multiple doctors, there are certain guidelines that you need to follow while starting a new Clinic. In the following article I am going to try to give you few medicolegal points that would be useful for you in starting a new clinic:

1. DISPLAY:

- a) The display in your clinic at the entrance, should have your name and degree/diploma/registration certificates. Displaying a colored xerox is preferable, as it's more attractive and effective.
- b) It is advisable to display your visit charges outside to help patient take his/her decision.

2. RECORD KEEPING:

- a) Keep an up-to-date record of each and every patient visiting your clinic, which includes fees received and clinical findings. You can keep records on paper stationary or software format as per your choice according to NMC guidelines.
- b) It is advisable to keep the patient ID proof as a record with you like, Adhaar card, Pan card or driving license.

3. MEDICO-LEGAL :

- a) Always have a phone number of the nearest police station handy. and always keep in touch with them.
- b) If clinic is not in a residential area, no separate permission is required (No Objection Certificate NOC), But if it is, it is advisable in your own interest to have NOC of Society to avoid further trouble—courts have always decided that no such permission is needed to run clinics.

4. EMERGENCY:

- a) Always keep emergency first aid treatment supplies stocked in the clinic.
- b) PATIENT REFERRAL: If a patient is critical, after providing primary treatment, immediately refer him/her to the nearest hospital.

5. STATUTORY:

- a) Register yourself with local bodies like Municipality, Gram panchayat etc. if mandatory.
- b) Register yourself with the state electricity supply board under Public Utility services & NOT commercial or residential.
- c) Get information on Corporation taxes for Non-residential use of property.
- d) Register with bio-medical waste (BMW) disposal program of local governing Pollution control board.

6. PATIENT RELATIONS:

- a) Being considerate, truthful, polite, adjustable with your patients sets a right tone for a healthy medical practice.
- b) Ask your Staff to be extremely polite with the patients and greet every patient with a smile.