



# MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY OF INDIA

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28th May 2024

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## ADVISORY for Hospitals and Doctors

Recently various accidents have been reported by the media especially in the Delhi hospital deaths due to fire. Medico-Legal Society of India would like to request all doctors and hospitals across the country to take preventive measures so that the basic principle that **DO NO HARM** is followed in letter and spirit. All hospitals MUST observe the following precautions:

01. Get registered with local health authorities by following all the rules and regulations. (**Inform MLSI what can not be followed with reasons.**)
02. Refrain from any illegal activities in the hospital premises. Do not store unauthorised hazardous material / chemicals in the premises.
03. Get the **FIRE NOC** every year from the local fire department, fulfil terms and conditions of the NOC / get B form every 6 months. ([IMA Fire Safety Advisory](#))
04. Get an electrical safety audit once a year. Least expected is proper earthing. Calibration and electric safety labs give certificates for minimal charges.
05. Oxygen cylinders and gas lines should be handled by trained personnel and maintained properly in order to prevent leakage.
06. Appoint a fire safety officer from within the staff, who should conduct "**Fire safety drills**" after getting training / certification & record video of the drill.
07. **EXIT** signage clearly visible in the dark should be fixed for use in emergency.
08. All qualified medical / paramedical staff must be duly registered with their respective councils and should work under supervision of qualified medical practitioners registered with NMC.
09. Basic life support (BLS) training for all staff including code red and code blue protocols. Transfer patients to other hospitals only in ambulances with oxygen and monitors along with trained personnel.
10. Training in sterility protocols periodically for all paramedical staff and janitors including proper biomedical waste disposal, hand hygiene & infection control.
11. CCTV should be installed and ensure that "you are under surveillance" boards are fixed at appropriate places. Recording should be checked periodically.
12. [WHO patient safety checklist](#) should be recorded for each surgical procedure.

Please follow precautions to be taken in this advisory so that life threatening accidents can be prevented. These precautions will help in improving safety for the patients as well as the doctors. Fire hazard in the hospitals causes loss of life and evokes criminal liability. Accused can be booked under non bailable offences.

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