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Evaluation of reasons of claims from dentists refered to medical council in Babol and Sari

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Abstract

Introduction: A research about the prevalence of claims and their reasons can be helpful for dentists, dental students and their professional future. It makes them aware about law saits and how they intaet with them.

Methods: Claims from 2006 till 2014 have been checked in medical council of Babol and Sari.

Results: Totally 45 claims were reviewed in this study. From which 22 claims were in Sari and 23 cases were in Babol. Number of complaints from male dentists in comparison to their population were 13.4% and female dentists were 6.8%. Majority of them were about quality of treatment (88.9%). Costs of treatment (26.7%), moral issues (6.7%) and performing procedures without patient's permission (2.2%) were the other reasons for claims.

Conclusion: considering that most of the claims resulted in absolution, it appears that, medical malpractice was not the real reason. There for other reasons like lack of explanation about different stages of the treatment to the patients, improper interaction between the doctor and the patient and patient's instigation by other colleagues may cause those claims. In cases that the dentist was found guilty, it is important for him to pay more attention to do the right treatment with proper cost and obtaining written informed consent from patients based on needed treatment plan.

Keywords: Dental claim, medical council, malpractice

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