

**THE IMPORTANCE OF TEACHING THE SUBJECT "LEGAL
FOUNDATIONS OF MEDICAL PRACTICE" IN THE TRAINING OF
FUTURE DOCTORS**

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Abstract

The consistent development of socio-economic sectors in the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as the modernization of the higher education system, require the preparation of highly qualified, competitive, and professionally competent medical personnel. In this regard, improving the quality of medical education and introducing innovative teaching methods into the educational process remain among the most urgent tasks of contemporary pedagogy and healthcare education.

Today, the training of future doctors is not limited only to the acquisition of theoretical medical knowledge and practical clinical skills. Modern healthcare systems require medical professionals to possess legal literacy, ethical responsibility, professional accountability, communication competence, and the ability to make independent decisions in complex situations. Therefore, the subject “Legal Foundations of Medical Practice” occupies a special place in the professional formation of future physicians.

One of the primary objectives of higher medical education is the development of students’ independent thinking, analytical abilities, professional responsibility, and legal awareness. Achieving these goals requires the integration of modern pedagogical technologies, digital educational resources, interactive teaching methods, and information-communication technologies into the educational process. The use of such approaches significantly enhances students’ cognitive activity, creative thinking, problem-solving abilities, and professional motivation.

In modern educational conditions, particular attention is paid to the formation of independent learning skills among students. Independent learning enables future specialists to continuously improve their professional competence, critically analyze legal and clinical situations, and adapt to rapidly changing medical and legal environments. This is especially important in the healthcare sector, where medical

professionals frequently encounter legal, ethical, and organizational challenges in their daily practice.

Special attention is also devoted to analyzing practical examples of medical errors, conflicts between doctors and patients, violations of professional duties, and forensic medical cases. Through situational analysis and case-based learning, students develop the ability to evaluate legal risks, identify the causes of professional misconduct, and make legally sound decisions in clinical practice.

The growing number of legal disputes involving medical professionals in recent years demonstrates the necessity of strengthening legal education within medical universities. In many cases, legal violations occur not because of intentional misconduct, but due to insufficient legal knowledge, inadequate understanding of professional responsibilities, poor communication with patients, or improper medical documentation. Therefore, improving legal literacy among future healthcare professionals is considered one of the essential components of modern medical education.

Another important aspect of teaching this subject is the formation of professional ethics and medical deontology among students. A doctor must not only possess clinical competence but also understand the ethical and legal consequences of medical decisions. Respect for human dignity, patient autonomy, confidentiality, justice, and professional integrity are fundamental principles that should be deeply rooted in future physicians during their educational training.

Furthermore, globalization, digitalization of healthcare, implementation of telemedicine technologies, electronic medical records, and artificial intelligence systems in medicine have created new legal challenges for healthcare professionals. Consequently, modern doctors must understand not only traditional legal norms but also the legal regulation of digital healthcare technologies, personal data protection, cybersecurity in medicine, and international standards of medical practice.

Additionally, interdisciplinary integration between medical law, forensic medicine, bioethics, public health, healthcare management, and clinical disciplines contributes to the comprehensive professional development of students. Such integration enables future doctors to understand the relationship between medical practice, legal regulation, and social responsibility.

Medical educators themselves must possess a deep understanding of current healthcare reforms, legal regulations, professional standards, and contemporary challenges in medical practice. Continuous professional development of teaching staff is essential for providing high-quality legal education to future healthcare specialists.

Thus, teaching the subject “Legal Foundations of Medical Practice” is not merely an additional educational component but an essential element in the formation of competent, responsible, and legally literate medical professionals. The effective teaching of this subject contributes to:

- improving the quality of medical care;
- protecting patients’ rights;
- reducing medical errors and legal conflicts;
- strengthening professional responsibility;
- enhancing public trust in healthcare institutions;
- ensuring compliance with legal and ethical standards in medicine.

In conclusion, the inclusion and continuous improvement of the subject “Legal Foundations of Medical Practice” in the medical education curriculum is of great scientific, educational, practical, and social importance. It plays a significant role in preparing future doctors capable of providing qualified medical care while fully understanding their legal and ethical responsibilities in modern healthcare systems.

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