Editorial

Rampant Malpractices in Medical Profession



Isn't it unfortunate that corruption in medical profession at all levels of health delivery and medical education is getting malignant and ruining the image of Noble Profession and Doctor-Patient Relationship? Today the public is becoming victim of uncontrolled malpractices.

Medical corruption could be petty corruptions like jumping queues, bribing for early promotions, fitness certificates etc. and grand corruptions like approval and purchase of drugs and equipment for hospitals, approval and recognition of medical and dental colleges, plum postings and scams for admissions in undergraduate & post graduate courses. All this is not limited to India only; rather it exists all over the world, as reported by Transparency International (T.I.). It occurs in India, China, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Africa, South America and most of Eastern Europe countries and Russia and even in United States and Western Europe. Indian health care services are the second most corrupt organization that a common man has to encounter (next to Police). Metastasis of malpractice has spread deep into all disciplines of medical profession so much so that the Hippocratic Oath, Declaration of Geneva or the International code of Ethics seem obsolete in present context.

Patients are the victims of unethical practices having been subjected to unnecessary tests/ investigations by the unscrupulous doctors in league with labs abound. Reports are ample of carrying out needless procedures like Caesarian births to insertion of Stents into healthy hearts and replacement of workable knees.

Knowing well that the problem of malpractices and corruption in medical profession is not so simple, it demands sincere and concerted efforts of social activists and whistle blowers to prevail upon the medical education and health authorities and statutory bodies to bring about change and strict steps against malpractices and corruption not only amongst unscrupulous medical personals, Medical/ Dental Colleges both in public and private sector but equally prevalent in monitoring statutory bodies responsible for maintenance of standard of medical education and health delivery system from top to bottom.

After all some one has to break the ice and bell the cat, to check and eradicate corruption and discourage malpractices in medical education and health providers in the country and ensure the Right of Optimum Health for all along with Right of Information, Right to Education and Right of Food & Shelter.

Let us revive the spirit of Swami Vivekananda and stand up to the challenges and fight against malpractices and corruption.

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