

# Brief Introduction of the Knowledge and Thinking of Medical Professional Ethics

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## Abstract

**Medical professional ethics is a basic quality which is necessary for medical workers. It not only reflects the working ability of medical workers, but also reflects their professional qualities. In the current society, the lack of medical ethics is prominent, and the doctor-patient relationship is becoming increasingly tense. Starting from the connotation of medical ethics and the main manifestations of the lack of social medical ethics, this article analyzes the causes of medical ethics problems and puts forward some relevant countermeasures and suggestions.**

## Keywords

**Medical workers; Professional ethics; Lack of medical ethics.**

## 1. Introduction

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## 2. Introduction

At present, in terms of medical ethics education, most medical schools in my country are not yet satisfactory [1]. The professional ethics of medical students not only affects the construction of professional ethics in the field of medical and health, but also affects the construction of socialist spiritual civilization in China [2]. So it is vital to cultivate a medical personnel with both ability and political integrity, in addition to strengthening the training of medical students' professional qualities, medical schools should also attach importance to professional ethics education [3].

## 3. Understanding of Medical Professional Ethics

### 3.1. The Meaning of Medical Professional Ethics

Professional ethics refers to the code of ethics that people who undertake different social responsibilities in various industries and positions should abide by. It is a behavioral

requirement that people must strictly observe and keep in mind when engaging in their respective professions. It is also an ethical responsibility and obligation that should be fulfilled at work.

Medical professional ethics, also known as medical ethics, refers to the professional ethics and moral norms that medical workers should have in medical work. Different from other professional ethics, medical ethics has the special attributes of saving the dead and helping the wounded and helping the world. It is the ethical norm that guides the adjustment of the relationship between doctors and patients, between doctors, and between doctors and society.

### **3.2. The Importance of Medical Professional Ethics**

The ancients said: Those who have no virtue in medicine are unbearable to be doctors. Academician Qiu Fazu, the famous ancestor of surgery in my country, once said that "a doctor who is negligent in his work will cause many years of suffering and even lifelong disability for the patient." [4]. It can be seen that good medical ethics is the guarantee of medical quality and medical safety. The 35th collective study meeting of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee also pointed out: We must actively promote the construction of medical ethics, so that doctors abide by the purpose of service, enhance service awareness, improve service quality, and maintain a good image of the medical and health industry. Therefore, it is necessary to recognize the importance of medical ethics construction from a political height, put medical ethics construction in a prominent position for a long time, and strive to create an industry style with superb medical skills, noble medical ethics, and rigorous medical ethics.

## **4. The Main Manifestation of the Lack of Medical Professional Ethics**

### **4.1. Illegal Use of Drugs for Personal Gain**

At present, individual doctors prescribe drugs at will and use drugs illegally for personal gain. To deceive patients with lies such as "This medicine is imported. Although it is very expensive, it has a good effect." They prescribe all kinds of high priced drugs and drugs exceeding the normal dose to obtain benefits directly, which increases the heavy economic burden on patients. The patients died due to lack of money to buy medicine. For example, the Changchun Vaccine Incident, which once made a lot of noise, exposed the phenomenon of kickbacks and filthy lucre in the medical industry. This incident made us realize that if the medical professional ethics of doctors is swallowed by greed, not only will the common people suffer from the double oppression of illness and economic burden, but also the country will suffer huge economic losses.

### **4.2. Abuse of Inspection, Arbitrage of Fees**

With the development of science and technology, more and more medical equipment have been invented like bamboo shoots after a spring rain, and they have been applied to hospitals of all sizes. The test results of these devices are reliable and easy to operate, which should have brought blessings to the patients. However, some doctors, due to excessive reliance on high-tech diagnosis and treatment techniques, or driven by profit, often ask patients to do some meaningless examinations, which not only aggravates the problems but also burdens the financial of patients and make the doctor-patient relationship increasingly strained. According to incomplete statistics, in the medical expenses of outpatients and inpatients, the proportion of inspection expenses has increased year by year, reaching 28% and 36.7% in 2002 and 2012, respectively. Many patients have reported that the doctors prescribe a lot of examinations before they arrive at the hospital to communicate with the doctors [5].

### 4.3. Infringement of Rights, Evasion of Responsibility

Patients should have equal medical rights, safe and effective diagnosis and treatment, the right to know, the right to choose, the right to privacy, the right to obtain, and the right to complain. However, some doctors violate professional ethics and ignore the rights of patients. For example, some doctors are unwilling to diagnose and treat patients because of racial discrimination or because of their nationality or ethnicity; Some doctors leaked the patient's personal information and condition without consent; some doctors even refused treatment because the patient's condition was too serious and worried that his medical skills would be questioned and his reputation would be damaged if the treatment was not successful; Some doctors believe that the opinions of relatives are greater than those of the patients, which leads to serious consequences. For example, a woman with pelvic stenosis cannot give birth smoothly during a trial delivery. The doctor decides to use a cesarean section, and her lover deliberately hides and does not sign. Failure to perform the operation in time resulted in a rupture of the uterus of the mother and the death of both mother and child[6]. These behaviors without medical professional ethics have made the doctor-patient relationship more and more tense.

## 5. Several Reasons for the Lack of Medical Professional Ethics

### 5.1. Low Professional Honor

The social status of medical staff is not high, and the income level is medium, but the work intensity and the complexity is high. Overtime and on-duty work tends to be normal, as a result, naturally there will be signs of declining work enthusiasm. At the same time, medical staff often encounter patients' incomprehension and tolerance, which makes them more or less bored with their work, let alone a sense of professional honor. If things go on like this, as the psychological gap changes, it is inevitable that they will behave in violation of medical professional ethics.

### 5.2. The Relevant Laws Are Not Sound

Various legal systems in our country are being improved, and medical-related systems and laws are constantly being updated and improved, but there are still many imperfections that need to be improved. Therefore, to a certain extent, it has affected the hospital's management of medical staff's medical ethics, leading to various medical disputes. Regarding the legal system, there are mainly two problems: On the one hand, my country's laws do not supervise doctors in place. The laws of our country regulate the specific work of medical personnel, but there is rarely any mention of the explicit norms related to the construction of medical ethics. This will cause medical personnel to only do their own work and ignore the construction of medical ethics. To a certain extent, there will be medical ethics corruption in the industry. On the other hand, my country's laws provide insufficient protection for doctors. The profession of a doctor itself is an existence full of unknowns. Even with the rapid development of medical care today, there are still many diseases that cannot be cured. Every operation a doctor performs, in fact, faces many risks. Behind this high risk, the legal protection measures appear to be a bit weak. When there is a doctor-patient dispute, sometimes no relevant legal basis can be found to judge the accident fairly. This has also led to the reluctance of many doctors to take risks for a major operation. While threatening the lives and health of patients, medical staff have gradually lost their sense of social responsibility to "rescue the dying and heal the wounded."

### 5.3. Hospitals Blindly Chase Benefits

At present, most hospitals pay more attention to their own interests. Some hospitals even adopt the market economy business philosophy as the hospital's management philosophy, allowing doctors to prescribe high-priced drugs and lab test orders for patients. They collaborate with the pharmaceutical factory to deceive the people with false drugs. The doctor's professional

view has changed from saving the dying and helping the wounded and the condition first to the personal benefit first, and medical service is the means for gaining benefits for oneself. This has greatly affect the industry value that doctors themselves pursue, leading some doctors to gain more rewards through excessive treatment and asking for red envelopes for their own interests, thus losing their sanity, neglecting medical ethics, and becoming more and more utilitarian.

#### **5.4. Lack of Medical Ethics Education in Institutions**

At present, the professional subject settings of medical schools are relatively complete, covering almost all aspects. But it has neglected to educate and cultivate the medical ethics of medical students. The author believes that medical technology and professional ethics are often complementary. According to a survey on the medical ethics of medical students, 54.7% of the students think that red envelopes and kickbacks should not be accepted, but a considerable number of students still have a laissez-faire attitude towards accepting red envelopes and kickbacks[7]. Therefore, the medical ethics education level of medical students in school will greatly affect their medical ethics level and professional outlook after work.

### **6. Countermeasures and Suggestions for Strengthening Medical Professional Ethics**

#### **6.1. Strengthening Medical Ethics Education in Medical Schools**

Medical colleges should not only teach students professional knowledge, but also pay attention to cultivating students' professional ethics and guide students to establish correct professional views and values. The medical school should organize students to study the "Doctors' Professional Ethics Code" and other practical cases that help cultivate medical ethics. Through holding relevant medical ethics knowledge contests and other activities, test and consolidate the learning results. At the same time, it is necessary to pay attention to training and education during the internship period, and to improve students' understanding and attention to medical ethics through the example of teachers and precepts and deeds.

#### **6.2. Medical Institutions Strengthen Medical Ethics Evaluation**

Medical institutions should organize medical staff to conduct medical ethics training, strengthen medical ethics management, regularly organize related educational activities and assessments, commend doctors who perform well, and criticize or penalize those who perform poorly. Using modern computer database and information technology, we regularly collect and record the words and deeds of medical workers in the medical process, the learning of medical theoretical knowledge, professional ethics assessment, etc., and digitally store the relevant data of medical workers[8]. Establish and implement a notification and comment mechanism, improve the reward and punishment system, link the construction of medical ethics and medical style with the selection of medical staff, position (name) promotion and bonus distribution, severely punish persons who violate discipline, correct unhealthy practices, and strengthen the binding force of medical ethics standards.

#### **6.3. Actively Establish A Good Image of Doctors**

Public opinion has a guiding role in the influence of doctors. Negative reports severely impact the enthusiasm of medical workers, and positive reports often provide good incentives for the development of medical ethics. For example, the news that Dr. Zhang Hong of the First Affiliated Hospital of Jinan University used his mouth to help the elderly suck urine on a plane. Many netizens praised the profession of doctors. This phenomenon has revived many doctors' affirmation of their profession. Actively publicizing the positive image of doctors greatly enhances the enthusiasm of doctors, thereby enhancing the professional ethics of medical workers.

#### 6.4. Pay Attention to the Improvement of Laws and Regulations

Strengthening medical ethics depends on the construction and improvement of relevant laws and regulations. Relevant departments should issue laws and regulations on the professional ethics of doctors, which can protect the legitimate rights and interests of doctors, so that doctors can have legal weapons to protect themselves when face with unfair lawsuits from patients; and it can also make doctors who take advantage of the law suffer. Punishment and sanctions is expected to avoid taking kickbacks, receiving red envelopes and medical accidents. At the same time, the welfare of medical workers should be appropriately improved, so that they can get something from their work and be respected by society, so as to return to the original mind of "heal the wounded and rescue the dying" and "everything is based on the patient's health."

Professional ethics is the basic quality required by all occupations, especially the cultivation of medical ethics, because it concerns human life. The cultivation of medical ethics complements medical ethics education and medical ethics evaluation. It is a fundamental way for medical staff to develop good medical ethics and improve their personalities. It is of great significance to promote the development of medical and health undertakings. As a medical student, we should uphold medical ethics and pay attention to the cultivation of noble professional ethics during the study period, so as to better fight for the motherland's medical and health cause for life!

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