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## COMMITTEE

### Medico-legal & Toxicology

Development stage- July 2005 – July 2006

Chairperson	Dr. Colombage
Convener	Dr. I. S. Gunasekara
Member	Dr. R. T. Nanayakkara
Member	Dr. S. R. Hulathduwa
Member	Dr. Dhammika Ariyaratne

Implementation stage - Oct. 2008- Oct. 2009

Chairperson	Dr I. S. Gunasekara
Convener	Dr S. R. Hulathduwa
Member	Dr R. T. Nanayakkara
Member	Dr. Dhammika Ariyaratne

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to the following in making this document a reality.

- All the members of the module committee
- To my teacher Dr. S M Colombage for his contributions ,advice and guidance
- To the Dept. of Forensic Medicine ,University of Colombo for lending us their student guide book
- Dr. U Narangoda and Dr. PLA Sandacan for being the 'back bone' of "Clinical Attachment in Forensic Medicine – The Student's guide"
- To Ms. Buddhika Menuwarage who did the initial typing

Dr. Ianthi Gunasekara  
Chairperson  
Medico-Legal and Toxicology Module

# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Medico-Legal and Toxicology module.

When you become practicing doctors in a few years, it is essential that you have a sound knowledge of legal medicine. Judicial systems vary from one country to another. Therefore, the main aim of the module is to enable you to work within the Sri Lankan medico-legal system, in whatever capacity you would be working in the future.

The only time you could gather this knowledge in your entire medical career as a non-specialist doctor in Forensic Medicine, is during this module and the clinical attachment to the JMO's Office, Csth, Kalubowila.

Hence, this unique module has been carefully designed to impart this knowledge in an organized, sequential manner to enable you to understand the basic concepts and principles of the subject.

Many people including doctors have an idea that legal medicine deals with only dead bodies. As you follow the module you will realize that much of the subject deals with living persons/patients.

Further, you will realize how closely you will have to liaise with a number of non- medical persons such as police officers, inquirers, government analyst, lawyers, magistrates' and judges etc. You will also understand the need to be one hundred percent honest and impartial or non-biased at all times.

In order to master this unique subject, we urge you to attend all the lectures and work hard during the clinical appointment. study diligently and seek help from your lecturers. You will reap the benefit of it, in the years ahead. We do hope you will enjoy the course and become excellent doctors in the future.

Academic staff  
Medico-legal and toxicology module

## **General Objectives**

### ***Knowledge outcome***

At the end of the module, the student should be able to,

1. Describe the medico-legal frame work in the country.
2. Recognize, describe and discuss the different medico- legal duties and responsibilities, by a doctor working any of the capacities mentioned below
  - As an intern-medical officer/house –officer of a ward
  - As a medical officer in the out-patient department of a hospital
  - As a medical officer (Medico-legal)
  - As a District Medical Officer
  - As a general practitioner
  - As a specialist in any field other than Forensic Medicine.
3. Describe the different types of injuries, their methods of causation, sequelae and their medico-legal significance.
4. Describe & discuss the different injury patterns, the circumstances under which they may occur and reconstruction of an event.
5. Describe and discuss the changes which take place in a dead body after death in relation to time since death.
6. Describe the different types of unnatural deaths and their medico-legal aspects.
7. Describe relevant sections of the penal code, court procedures, documentation applicable to medical practice and court attendance by doctors.

8. Describe & discuss identification of persons (living & dead) and skeletal remains especially in relation to mass disaster & exhumation.
9. Describe clinical features/ post-mortem features and discuss the medico-legal implications of poisons (including drugs/alcohol) commonly encountered in Sri Lanka.
10. Understand the basic concept of medical ethics.

### ***Skills outcome***

At the end of the module and clinical appointment the student should be able to;

1. Acquire skills for medico-legal examination of a wide range of patients with medico-legal problems or any person the court may direct.
2. Identify, examine, record & interpret different types of injuries and formulate conclusions.
3. Fill relevant documents and/or formulate a report giving relevant opinions to courts in accordance with the law. Subsequently to be able to give oral evidence.
4. Perform a post-mortem examination, record observations, carry out further investigations, analyze & formulate conclusions pertaining to the cause & manner of death, other relevant medico-legal issues or questions that may arise in courts.
5. Aid in establishing identity of a deceased or living person.
6. Perform basic duties and functions at a scene of crime.

## MAIN CONTENT AREAS

- 1) Introduction to Forensic Medicine
- 2) Introduction to injuries
- 3) Injuries
- 4) Categorization of hurt
- 5) Medico-legal examination of a patient
- 6) The Medico-Legal Examination Form and the Medico- Legal Report
- 7) Inquests
- 8) Autopsies
- 9) Post-mortem changes and estimation of time since death
- 10) Injury Patterns
- 11) Regional Injuries
  - a) Head
  - b) Chest
  - c) Abdomen and pelvis
  - d) Face
  - e) Neck and
  - f) Spine
  - g) Musculo-skeletal
- 12) Transportation Injuries
- 13) Injuries due to firearms

- 14) Injuries due to explosives
- 15) Injuries due to burns and scalds
- 16) Injuries due to electrocution and lightning
- 17) Scene of crime
- 18) Medico-legal aspects of blood and blood stains
- 19) Medico-legal aspects of sexual offences
- 20) Medico-legal aspects of abortion
- 21) Infanticide
- 22) Sudden Infant death Syndrome
- 23) Child Abuse
- 24) Asphyxial deaths
  - a) Hanging
  - b) Ligature strangulation
  - c) Manual strangulation
  - d) Choking and others
- 25) Drowning
- 26) Sudden Natural Deaths
- 27) Starvation and neglect
- 28) Domestic Violence
- 29) Battery in custody - torture
- 30) Identification of the living ,dead and skeletal remains
- 31) Investigation of a mass disaster and exhumation

- 32) Courts system in Sri Lanka and expert witness
- 33) Workmen's Compensation
- 34) Introduction to Toxicology
- 35) Agrochemical poisoning
- 36) Plant poisoning
- 37) Gaseous poisoning
- 38) Medico-legal aspects of alcohol intoxication
- 39) Metallic poisoning
- 40) Substances of abuse
- 41) Drug over dose
- 42) Corrosives
- 43) Snake bites
- 44) Medical Ethics (4 topics - Introductory Module  
5 topics - Medico-Legal module)

## Relevant Content areas done in other modules

- Medico-legal aspects of maternal deaths - Reproductive System Module
- Forensic Psychiatry - Mental Health Module

Key: A-must know

B-good to know

C-nice to know

Intermediate objectives	Contents	Activity	Duration	Department
<p><b>1. Introduction to Forensic Medicine</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To create awareness &amp; interest in the subject</li> <li>To describe the prevailing judicial system in Sri Lanka and the doctor's role within it.</li> </ul>	<p>(C) The different terms used and the sub specialties in forensic medicine.            (B) The components of Forensic Medicine            a) clinical            b) pathological</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traumatology</li> <li>General forensic medicine</li> <li>Toxicology</li> <li>Medical Ethics</li> </ul> <p><b>(A) Over view of judicial work in Sri Lanka</b>            (B) Over view of legal system in Sri Lanka  <b>(A) Doctors role in the Sri Lankan legal system as a</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intern /House Officer of a ward,</li> <li>OPD medical officer</li> <li>Medical Officer (medico-legal)</li> <li>District medical officer</li> <li>Specialist</li> </ul>	Lecture with slide demonstration	45 minutes	Forensic Medicine
<p><b>2. Introduction to injuries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the types of injuries and the procedure of examination.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Definition of an injury.</b>  <b>(A)Features of ante-mortem and post-mortem injuries.</b></p> <p><b>(A) Examination procedure of an injury &amp; documentation.</b>  <b>(A) Healing process of an injury</b></p>	Lecture	45 min	Forensic Medicine

<p><b>3. Injuries: Abrasions, Contusions, Lacerations, Incised wounds, Penetrating injuries/stabs, Fractures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss the medico legal aspects of Abrasions, Contusions, Lacerations, Incised wounds, Penetrating injuries/stabs, Fractures</li> </ul> <p><b>4. Categorization of hurt</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the different categories of hurt stating the medico-legal basis and importance.</li> </ul> <p><b>5. Medico-legal examination of a patient</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the authority and procedure of a medico-legal examination of a patient.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Definition of each type of injury</b>  <b>(A) Features of identification.</b>  <b>(A) Mechanisms of causation and weapons</b>  <b>(A) Changes with time of each injury</b>  <b>(A) Medico legal importance</b></p> <p>(B) How categorization of injuries help the police &amp; courts.</p> <p><b>(A) Basis of non-grievous and grievous injuries and injuries which are fatal in the ordinary course of nature. Concept of injuries endangering life.</b></p> <p><b>(A) The authority for medico-legal examination of patients.</b>  <b>(A) The procedure to be adopted.</b>  <b>(A) Investigations, referrals and review of in – ward, OPD patients and those produced by the police.</b>  <b>(A) Documentation of history, examination findings and other relevant information.</b></p>	<p>Lecture with slide demonstration</p> <p>Lecture</p> <p>Lecture</p>	<p>2hour 45 min</p> <p>45 min</p> <p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p> <p>Forensic Medicine</p> <p>Forensic Medicine</p>
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<p><b>6. Medico-Legal Examination Form &amp; Medico-Legal Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe how to fill a MLEF</li> <li>• Describe how to fill a MLR using the information recorded on a MLEF</li> </ul>	<p>(B) Issuance of MLEF/child abuse cases  <b>(A) Significance of different parts of a MLEF, (Police and medical officer's copy), carrying out an examination of victims of assault, accidents and filling of relevant cases under different situations viz assault, RTA, rape, abortions and drunken driver.</b></p> <p><b>(A) Maintaining registers, chain of custody, record keeping and retrieval</b></p> <p><b>(A) Parts of a MLR, summons and MLR, filling a MLR in assault, accident, drunken driver and sexual assaults.</b></p>	Lecture	45 min	Forensic Medicine
<p><b>7. Inquests</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe what is meant by an inquest?</li> <li>• Describe the objectives of an inquest.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Types of inquests, Inquirer's and Magisterial inquests, powers of Inquirers.</b>  <b>(A) Types of deaths needing an inquest.</b>  <b>(A) Procedure at an inquest.</b>  <b>(A) Role of a medical officer at an inquest</b></p>	Lecture	45 min	Forensic Medicine

<p><b>8. Autopsies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the difference between &amp; know the legal requirements for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Judicial Autopsy</li> <li>b) Pathological Autopsy</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Authority for an autopsy.</b>  <b>(A) Routine and special dissection procedures, normal and abnormal findings</b>  <b>(A) Recording findings in a post-mortem Report, collection of specimens for toxicological and histological studies</b>  <b>(A) Writing the cause of death.</b></p> <p><b>(A) Criteria, purpose and method of holding a pathological autopsy.</b></p>	<p>Lecture/video</p>	<p>45 min x 2</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p><b>9. Post-mortem changes and estimation of Time Since Death</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State the definition &amp; types of death</li> <li>Describe how to diagnose and confirm death.</li> <li>Describe how to diagnose brain stem death and state its medico-legal implications.</li> <li>Describe the changes that occur in a dead body with time and its' application in calculating time since death.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A)Types of death and their definitions. (Somatic, cellular, brain stem)</b>  <b>(A)Criteria for the diagnosis of brain stem death and the medico-legal significance.</b>  <b>(A) Postmortem changes and methods of estimating time since death</b></p>	<p>Lectures/Slides/Multimedia</p>	<p>45 min x 3</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>

<p><b>10. Injury patterns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the characteristic features, patterns of different circumstances of injuries caused in the living &amp; dead.</li> <li>Describe the mechanisms of causation of these injuries.</li> <li>Give an independent opinion regarding the circumstances.</li> <li>To reconstruct the event.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Features, patterns of injury, types of injury &amp; circumstances of</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Suicidal injuries</b></li> <li><b>Homicidal injuries</b></li> <li><b>Accidental injuries</b></li> <li><b>Self-inflicted injuries</b></li> <li><b>Defense injuries</b></li> <li><b>Falls</b></li> </ul>	<p>Lecture/Slides/Multi media</p>	<p>45 min x 2</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p><b>11. Regional injuries</b></p> <p><b>A ) Head injuries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the injuries caused by blunt and sharp weapons and fire arms on scalp, skull and brain.</li> <li>Discuss the medico-legal aspects of head injuries.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Features, mechanism/s of causation, sequelae and categorization of injuries caused by blunt and sharp weapons , fire arms and explosives on scalp and skull.</b></p> <p><b>(A) Causation, sequelae and medico-legal aspects of intracranial haemorrhages.</b></p> <p><b>(A) Cerebral oedema and its sequelae.</b></p> <p><b>(A) Causation, sequelae and medico-legal aspects of cerebral injuries.</b></p> <p><b>(A) Medico-legal aspects of cerebral concussion.</b></p>	<p>Lecture/slides/multi media</p>	<p>45 min x 3</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p><b>B) Thoracic Injuries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe injuries caused by blunt &amp; sharp weapons &amp; fire arms / explosives on the chest wall &amp; chest organs.</li> <li>Discuss the complications, circumstances and medico-legal aspects of chest injuries.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Features, mechanism/s of causation, sequelae and categorization of injuries caused by blunt and sharp weapons , fire arms and explosives on the chest wall and chest cavity organs.</b></p> <p><b>(A) Medico-legal significance of injuries to the chest.</b></p>	<p>Lecture/slides/multi media</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>

<p><b>C) Abdominal and pelvic injuries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe injuries caused by blunt &amp; sharp weapons &amp; fire arms / explosives on the abdominal wall &amp; abdominal organs.</li> <li>Discuss complications, circumstances and the medico-legal aspects of abdominal injuries.</li> </ul> <p><b>D) Neck injuries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe injuries caused by blunt &amp; sharp weapons, fire arms and pressure on the neck</li> <li>Discuss complications, circumstances and the medico-legal aspects of neck injuries.</li> </ul> <p><b>E) Facial injuries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the injuries, complications, circumstances and medico-legal issues of blunt, sharp and other injuries on the face</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Features, mechanism/s of causation, sequelae and categorization of injuries caused by blunt and sharp weapons , fire arms and explosives on the abdominal wall, abdominal and pelvic organs.</b>  <b>(A) Complications, circumstances and medico-legal significance of injuries to the abdomen.</b></p> <p><b>(A) Features, mechanism/s of causation, sequelae and categorization of injuries caused by blunt and sharp weapons, fire arms and pressure on the neck.</b>  <b>(A) Complications, circumstances and medico-legal significance of injuries to the neck.</b></p> <p><b>(A) Features, mechanism/s of causation, sequelae and categorization of injuries caused by blunt and sharp weapons, firearms on the face.</b>  <b>(A)Complications, circumstances and medico-legal significance of injuries on the face.</b></p>	<p>Lecture/slides/multi media</p> <p>Lecture/slides/multi media</p> <p>Lecture/slides/multi media</p>	<p>45 min x 2</p> <p>30 min</p> <p>15 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p> <p>Forensic Medicine</p> <p>Forensic medicine</p>
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<p><b>F) Spinal injuries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe injuries caused by blunt &amp; sharp weapons &amp; fire arms / explosives on the abdominal wall &amp; abdominal organs.</li> <li>Discuss complications, circumstances and the medico-legal aspects of abdominal injuries.</li> </ul>	<p>(B) Features, mechanism/s of causation, sequelae and categorization of injuries caused by blunt and sharp weapons, firearms on the spine. (B) Complications, circumstances and medico-legal significance of injuries on the spine.</p>	<p>Lecture/slides/multi media</p>	<p>15 min</p>	<p>Forensic medicine</p>
<p><b>G) Musculo - skeletal injuries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss the types of cases where musculo- skeletal injuries are found.</li> <li>The clinical and autopsy features of muscular skeletal injuries.</li> <li>Describe the special dissection to detect musculo skeletal injuries and the causes of death.</li> </ul>	<p>(B) Features, mechanism/s of causation, sequelae and categorization and medico-legal of musculo skeletal injuries. (B) Causes of death in musculo skeletal injuries <b>(A) Special dissection techniques</b></p>	<p>Handout</p>	<p>30 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p><b>12. Transportation injuries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss the role of a judicial medical officer in a case of road traffic injuries.</li> <li>Describe the injury pattern of each road user.</li> <li>Medico -legal investigation of a death due to transportation injuries.</li> <li>Describe the injury pattern in victims of train accidents.</li> </ul>	<p>(C) Statistics of road traffic injuries <b>(A) The role of a judicial medical officer in persons with road traffic injuries.</b> (B) Factors affecting the outcome <b>(A) Injury patterns of the different types of victims involved in road traffic injuries</b> - Pedestrians - Driver of a vehicle - Front/rear seat passengers</p>	<p>Problem based learning</p>	<p>45 min x 2</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>

<p><b>13. Fire arms &amp; Fire arm injuries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the identification of fire arm entry &amp; exit wounds.</li> <li>Discuss the medico-legal aspects of fire arm injuries.</li> </ul> <p><b>14. Injuries due to explosive agents</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the identification of an injury due to a blast/explosion on the living or dead.</li> <li>Describe the different injury patterns &amp; the causes of death in victims of a bomb explosion.</li> <li>Discuss the duties &amp; role of a judicial medical officer when handling a case related an explosion.</li> </ul>	<p><b>- Motor cycle/pedal cyclists</b>  <b>Medico legal issues of road traffic injuries</b>  <b>Medico legal investigations of a death due to road traffic injuries.</b>  <b>(A) Injuries due to train accidents and their investigation</b></p> <p><b>(A) Types of fire arms (smooth bore and rifled) and their differences including those of the cartridges.</b>  <b>(A) Features of entry and exit wounds caused by the above at different ranges, atypical fire arm injuries.</b>  <b>(A) Identification features of suicidal fire arm injuries.</b>  <b>(A) Scene visit and collection of trace evidence.</b>  <b>(A) Medico legal issues in a case of fire arm injury.</b></p> <p><b>(B) Types of bombs</b>  <b>(A) Products of an explosion, mechanism of causation of injuries &amp; causes of death</b>  <b>Injuries in the living &amp; categorization of hurt.</b>  <b>(A) Duties of the doctor at the scene, autopsy &amp; evidence to/in courts</b>  <b>(A) Reconstruction of the event.</b></p>	<p>Lecture/Slides/Multi media</p> <p>Lecture + handout Slide demonstration</p>	<p>45min x 3</p> <p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p> <p>Forensic Medicine</p>
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<p>15. Injuries due to burns and scalds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the identification an injury due to burns /scalds in living &amp; dead</li> <li>Discuss the medico-legal issues in victims of burn.</li> <li>Describe the mechanisms and causes of death in burns.</li> <li>Discuss the problems encountered in a case of burns.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Different causes and types of burns</b>  <b>(A) Scalds</b>  <b>(A) Features, depth and extent in burns</b>  <b>(A) Medico-legal issues and category of hurt</b>  <b>(A) Patho-physiology and mechanisms of death in burns.</b>  <b>(A) Post-mortem artifacts due to burns</b>  <b>(A)Ante-mortem Vs Post-mortem burns.</b>  <b>(A) Scene of visit and autopsy features of burns.</b></p>	<p>Lecture + handout Slide demonstration</p>	<p>45 min x 2</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p>16. Injuries due to electrocution &amp; lightning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the features of an injury due to low/high voltage electrocution</li> <li>Describe the complications, mechanisms and causes of death due to electrocution</li> <li>Describe the clinical &amp; autopsy features of an attack of lightning.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Factors involved in the outcome of an electrical injury/ electrocution.</b>  <b>(A) Complications</b>  <b>(A) Mechanisms and causes of death</b>  <b>(A) PM findings in electrocution</b>  <b>(A) Circumstances</b>  (B) Clinical and autopsy features of lightning attack.</p>	<p>Lecture/Slides/ multimedia</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p>17. Scene of crime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the legal requirements and the preparation for examination of a scene of crime.</li> <li>Discuss how the visit to a scene of crime helps a medico legal investigation</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A)Definition of “scene of crime”</b>  (B) Legal authority and relevant sections of criminal procedure code.  <b>(A)Preparation and duties of a forensic pathologist at a scene of crime.</b>  <b>(A) The different medico-legal issues</b></p>	<p>Lecture/slides</p>	<p>45 min x 2</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>

<p><b>18. Examination of blood &amp; blood stains</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss the usefulness of examination of blood stains in medico legal work.</li> </ul> <p><b>19. Medico-Legal aspects of sexual offences</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the law pertaining to rape &amp; other offences in Sri Lanka.</li> <li>Describe the medico-legal examination, investigation &amp; reporting of victims of sexual violence including unnatural offences &amp; child sexual abuse.)</li> <li>Describe the medico-legal examination, investigation and reporting of an assailant.</li> </ul>	<p>arising during examination of a scene of crime.</p> <p><b>(A) The procedure of examination of a bloodstain and interpretations</b>  (B) Methods of examination of blood--physical, chemical, serological.  (B) Methods for removal of a blood stain depending of the surface.  <b>(A) Medico-legal value of examining blood and blood stains.</b></p> <p>(B) The law pertaining to rape and other sexual offences in Sri Lanka.  <b>(A) Medico-legal examination and investigation of victims/assailants of rape</b>  <b>(A) Interpretation of findings and their limitations</b>  <b>(A) Collection of trace material</b>  <b>(A) Laboratory investigations &amp; referrals</b>  <b>(A) Writing a report and giving evidence</b>  <b>(A) Medico-legal examination of a victim of anal intercourse</b></p>	<p>Fixed Learning Module</p> <p>Lecture + handout Slide demonstration</p>	<p>45 min x 3</p> <p>45 min x 2</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p> <p>Forensic Medicine</p>
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<p><b>20. Medico-legal aspects of abortion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define ‘criminal abortion’</li> <li>• Describe the law pertaining to abortion in Sri Lanka.</li> <li>• Describe methods of criminal abortions, their complications and presentation.</li> <li>• Describe the medico-legal issues in alleged abortions (both clinically and at the autopsy)</li> <li>• Discuss the medico-legal investigation of a case of alleged abortion .(clinical and post mortem)</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Medico legal definition of criminal abortion.</b>  <b>(B) The laws related to abortions.</b>  <b>(A)Methods of criminal abortion and their complications</b>  <b>(A) Causes of death in criminal abortion.</b>  <b>(A) Medico-legal issues in alleged abortions</b>  <b>(A) Examination of a patient following an alleged abortion.</b>  <b>(A) The autopsy in an alleged criminal abortion.</b></p>	<p>Lecture + handout</p>	<p>45 min x 2</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p><b>21. Infanticide</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the laws related to infanticide in Sri Lanka</li> <li>• List the differential diagnosis</li> <li>• Describe the procedure of an infant autopsy suspected of asphyxial death</li> <li>• Describe the principles of examination of a suspected mother.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(B) The law related to infanticide in Sri Lanka.</b>  <b>(A) Common methods of infanticide</b>  <b>(A) Assessment of maturity, live birth, evidence of independent existence</b>  <b>(A) The post-mortem in infanticide and interpretation of findings</b>  <b>(A) Special dissection techniques in infants.</b>  <b>(A)Problems in interpretation of findings</b>  <b>(B) Defenses in infanticide</b>  <b>(A) Medico-legal examination of a mother alleged to have committed infanticide</b></p>	<p>Lecture/ slide demonstration</p>	<p>45 min x 2</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>

<p><b>22. Sudden Infants Death Syndrome (SIDS)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define SIDS.</li> <li>• Discuss the risk factors of SIDS.</li> <li>• Discuss the medico –legal significance of SIDS</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Definition of SIDS</b>  <b>(A) The differential diagnosis</b>  (C) Theories forwarded  <b>(A) Medico legal examination and post-mortem findings in a suspected case of SIDS</b></p>	Lecture	45 min	Forensic Medicine
<p><b>23. Child abuse</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the different types of child abuse.</li> <li>• Discuss the detailed medico-legal investigation of a case of suspected child abuse and further management.</li> <li>• Discuss how you would express your opinion in relation to medico-legal aspects of the case and fill MLEF and MLR.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Definitions of different types of child abuse, predisposing factors, history, physical examination and investigations done in a suspected case.</b>  <b>(A) Characteristic injury pattern in child physical abuse.</b>  <b>(A) Management of victims, rehabilitation and case conferences.</b></p>	Lecture/Slides/multi media	45 min x 2	Forensic Medicine
<p><b>24. Asphyxial deaths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the general features of asphyxial deaths.</li> <li>• Describe the special neck dissection in asphyxial deaths.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Introduction to asphyxial deaths.</b>  <b>(A) Special dissection of the neck.</b></p>	Lecture	15 min	Forensic Medicine

<p><b>A) Hanging</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe and interpret features and findings of hanging at the scene and autopsy.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Circumstances of hanging, observations to be made at the scene.</b>  <b>(A) Typical/atypical/complete/incomplete hanging.</b>  <b>(A) Pattern of the ligature, findings in the neck, features on the rest of the body, mechanisms of death.</b>  <b>(A) The autopsy findings in a case of hanging.</b></p>	<p>Lecture/slides multimedia</p>	<p>30 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p><b>B) Ligature strangulation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the external, internal features and injuries in ligature strangulation.</li> <li>Discuss the interpretation of the findings in ligature strangulation.</li> <li>Discuss the medico legal issues in the investigation of death due to ligature strangulation</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Definition of ligature strangulation.</b>  <b>(A) Circumstances and mechanism of death in ligature strangulation.</b>  <b>(A) Investigation of a death due to ligature strangulation.</b>  <b>(A) External and internal features of a death due to ligature strangulation.</b></p>	<p>Lecture/Slides/Multimedia</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p><b>C ) Manual strangulation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the external, internal features and injuries in manual strangulation.</li> <li>Discuss the interpretation of the findings in manual strangulation.</li> <li>Discuss the medico legal issues in the investigation of death due to manual strangulation.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Definition of manual strangulation.</b>  <b>(A) Circumstances and mechanisms of death in manual strangulation</b>  <b>(A) Autopsy techniques, investigation and sample collection.</b>  <b>(A) External and internal findings of a death due to manual strangulation</b></p>	<p>Lecture/Slides/Multimedia</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>

<p><b>D) Other types of asphyxial deaths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the circumstances, findings and mechanism of death in each.</li> <li>Discuss the medico legal aspects of other types of asphyxial deaths.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Definition of the following terms.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. <b>Smothering</b></li> <li>ii. <b>Overlaying</b></li> <li>iii. <b>Chocking</b></li> <li>v. <b>Mugging</b></li> <li>vi, <b>Garroting</b></li> </ol> <p>(B) Circumstances and mechanism of death of each conditions.</p> <p><b>(A) Medico-Legal investigation and autopsy findings of the above deaths.</b></p> <p><b>(A) Definition of the terms of following</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Traumatic asphyxia</li> <li>- Postural asphyxia</li> <li>- Sexual asphyxia</li> <li>- Suffocation</li> </ul> <p>(B) Circumstances and mechanism of death.</p> <p><b>(A) Medico-Legal investigation and autopsy findings of the above deaths.</b></p>	<p>Lecture/ Slides/ Multimedia</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p><b>25. Drowning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the features of drowning and immersion and their interpretation.</li> <li>Discuss the investigation and medico legal issues of a death due to drowning.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Definition of drowning</b></p> <p><b>(A) Circumstances of death due to drowning</b></p> <p><b>(A) Mechanisms of death in drowning and their patho-physiology.</b></p> <p><b>(A) External and internal findings at the autopsy.</b></p> <p><b>(A) Features of death due to drowning.</b></p> <p><b>(A) Investigation procedure and sample collection in a death due to drowning.</b></p> <p>(B) Diatoms and their value in cases of drowning.</p>	<p>Problem based learning</p>	<p>45 min x 2</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>

<p><b>26. Sudden Natural Deaths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>List the common causes of sudden natural deaths, in each system, with special reference to a given age and sex of the person.</li> <li>Explain the clinical presentation, underlying basic pathology and macroscopic and microscopic appearance of the organs at the autopsy, in common sudden natural deaths.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Definition of a sudden natural death.</b> Common causes under each system.</p> <p><b>(A) <u>Cardiovascular System</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>Coronary artery disease</b></li> <li>b) <b>Ischaemic heart disease</b></li> <li>c) <b>Hypertensive Heart Disease</b></li> <li>d) <b>Cardiomyopathies</b></li> <li>e) <b>Valvular Heart diseases</b></li> <li>f) <b>Myocarditis</b></li> <li>g) <b>Natural Disease of aorta</b></li> </ul> <p><b>(A) <u>Central Nervous System</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>Intra cerebral hemorrhage</b></li> <li>b) <b>Non-traumatic sub arachnoids bleeding</b></li> <li>c) <b>Cerebral Infarction</b></li> <li>d) <b>Epilepsy</b></li> <li>e) <b>Meningitis</b></li> <li>f) <b>Hydrocephalus</b></li> <li>g) <b>Psychiatric disorders</b></li> <li>h) <b>Tumours</b></li> </ul> <p><b>(A) <u>Respiratory system</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>Pulmonary thrombo- embolism</b></li> <li>b) <b>Other pulmonary emboli</b></li> <li>c) <b>Bronchial Asthma</b></li> <li>d) <b>Pneumonia</b></li> <li>e) <b>Tuberculous Pneumonitis</b></li> </ul>	<p>Small Group Discussion</p>	<p>45 min x 2</p>	<p>Forensic medicine</p>
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<p><b>27 Starvation &amp; neglect</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss the circumstances, diagnosis and medico legal issues of starvation and neglect.</li> </ul>	<p>f) Acute epiglottitis g) Haemoptysis h) Spontaneous pneumothora</p> <p><b><u>Gastro-intestinal system</u></b></p> <p>a) <b>Haematemesis</b> b) <b>Massive upper GI bleeding</b> c) Strangulated hernia d) Hepatic Disorders e) <b>Alcoholic liver disease</b> f) Massive liver necrosis</p> <p><b><u>Others</u></b></p> <p>a) <b>Hemorrhagic pancreatitis</b> b) Diabetes mellitus c) Adrenal disorders d) Splenic disorders e) <b>Gynecological causes</b> f) <b>Sudden Natural deaths in young children</b></p> <p><b>(A) Definition of starvation &amp; neglect</b> <b>(A) Classification and features of starvation &amp; neglect</b> (B) Clinical examination and investigation of a patient with starvation &amp; neglect. <b>(A) External and internal autopsy findings of a death due to starvation &amp; neglect.</b> <b>(A) Medico-Legal issues.</b></p>	Lecture	45 min	Forensic Medicine
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<p><b>28. Domestic Violence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss what is meant by domestic violence, diagnosis of domestic violence and medico legal issues</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) the law related to domestic violence in Sri Lanka</b>  <b>(A) Definition of domestic violence &amp; spouse abuse.</b>  (C) Statistics of domestic violence  (B) Types of abuse  <b>(A) Clinical examination and investigations of a case of domestic violence.</b>  <b>(B) Autopsy findings of a case of domestic violence.</b>  <b>(A) Medico-legal issues of domestic violence</b></p>	<p>Lecture/Slides</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p><b>29. Battery in Custody – Torture</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define torture.</li> <li>Describe the legal status in Sri Lanka against torture</li> <li>Describe the common methods of torture, their clinical presentations and complications.</li> <li>Discuss the interpretation of injuries, documentation, formulation of an opinion and sending a report to the courts.</li> <li>Describe the autopsy in a death following alleged torture.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Definition of torture.</b>  (B) Legal status in Sri Lanka.  (B) Circumstances &amp; aims of torture.  <b>(A) Common methods of torture.</b>  a) Physical  b) Psychological  c) Combined    <b>(A) Injuries &amp; complications</b>  (B) Sequelae of torture  <b>(A) How they present to the JMO and the clinical examination.</b>    <b>(A) Causes of death and the autopsy in victims of torture</b></p>	<p>Lecture</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>

<p><b>30. Identification of living, dead, skeletal Remains</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>List the circumstances when identification is important or is an issue in living, dead, skeletal remains.</li> <li>Discuss how you would arrive at a conclusion and express a basic opinion regarding identification of a person</li> </ul>	<p>(B) Purposes of identification with examples  <b>(A) Different methods of identification used for general identification and specific identification in relation to living dead &amp; skeletal remains.</b></p>	<p>Small group discussion  Lecture /handout</p>	<p>45min x 3</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p><b>31. Investigation of a mass disaster &amp; exhumation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the principles in management of a mass disaster.</li> <li>Describe the procedures to be adopted in exhumation</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Definition of mass disaster</b>  (B) Plan of management of a mass disaster with team approach  <b>(A) Doctors role at a scene of mass disaster</b>  <b>(A) Autopsies &amp; reporting</b>  (B) Legal requirements for exhumation &amp; reasons for exhumation  <b>(A) Doctors role at the exhumation</b>  <b>(A) Basic steps to be followed during an exhumation.</b></p>	<p>Lecture/ hand out/Slides</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p><b>32. Court system in Sri Lanka and expert witness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the different types of courts in Sri Lanka and their functions.</li> <li>Discuss the role of the doctor as an expert witness.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) The various types of courts in Sri Lanka- primary courts to supreme courts.</b>  (B) The types of cases handled in each.  <b>(A) Expert evidence —written and oral.</b>  <b>(A) The doctor as an expert witness.</b></p>	<p>Lecture</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>

<p><b>33. Workman's compensation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss how to write a report for compensation claims.</li> </ul>	<p>(B) Instances when workman's compensation is necessary.  (B) Laws relating to workmen's compensation.  (C) Contents of the workmen's compensation schedule.  <b>(A) How to write a report.</b></p>	<p>Lecture</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p><b>34. Introduction to toxicology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the general principles of diagnosis, management and investigations in poisoning.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Routes of administration, absorption, excretion and factors modifying the action of a poison.</b>  <b>(A) Diagnosis and principles of management (general and specific)</b>  <b>(A) Collection, preservation and dispatching of samples to the government analyst.</b></p>	<p>Seminar</p>	<p>45 min x 2</p>	<p>Medicine, Pharm. and Forensic Medicine</p>
<p><b>35. Agrochemical poisoning</b></p> <p><b>A) Paraquat poisoning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the clinical and autopsy features of paraquat poisoning.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Circumstances, routes of entry, metabolism and excretion of paraquat.</b>  <b>(A) Mechanisms of action, target organs, clinical features (early and late phases) and principles of management.</b>  <b>(A) Autopsy features (external and internal) and sample collection.</b></p>	<p>Lecture/ Slides</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>



<p><b>37. Gaseous poisoning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss the circumstances, clinical features and post mortem features of gaseous poisoning.</li> </ul>	<p>(B) Examples of gaseous poisoning (B) Circumstances of poisoning. <b>(A) Mechanisms of action, target organs, clinical features (early and late phase) and principles of management.</b> <b>(A) Autopsy features (external and internal) and sample collection</b> <b>(A)Importance of the examination of the scene</b></p>	<p>Lecture</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p><b>38. Medico Legal aspects of alcohol intoxication</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the offences and laws relating to alcohol consumption.</li> <li>Describe how you would perform a medico-legal clinical examination and interpretation to assess drunkenness.</li> <li>List the differential diagnosis.</li> <li>Describe the mechanisms of death &amp; autopsy features due to acute/chronic alcohol ingestion.</li> </ul>	<p>(C) Different alcoholic beverages &amp; their strengths. (B) Effects of alcohol on the body at different concentrations. (B) Laws relating to alcohol consumption. <b>(A) Drinking &amp; driving</b> <b>(A) Medico-legal examination of a patient said to be 'drunk'</b> <b>(A) The differential diagnosis</b> (B) The Breatherlyser test <b>(A) Causes and mechanisms of death and autopsy features in acute/chronic alcohol ingestion.</b> <b>(A)Collection of blood at the post-mortem.</b></p>	<p>Lecture + handout</p>	<p>45 min x 2</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the features of methyl alcohol poisoning.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Methyl alcohol poisoning</b>  <b>(A) Circumstances and clinical features &amp; complications</b></p>			
<p><b>39. Metallic Poisoning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the actions, diagnosis (clinical &amp; autopsy) and investigations of heavy metal and cyanide poisoning</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Common sources and usage of heavy metals Arsenic, Mercury, Lead, Copper and Cyanide</b></p> <p>(B) Circumstances, routes of entry, metabolism and excretion of metallic poisons.  <b>(A) Mechanisms of action, target organs, clinical features (early and late phase) and principles of management.</b>  <b>(A) Autopsy features (external and internal) and sample collection</b></p>	Lecture	45 min	Forensic Medicine
<p><b>40. Substances of Abuse</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>List the common groups of substances of abuse in Sri Lanka</li> </ul> <p>A) Opioids</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss the circumstances, clinical features and post mortem features of opioid poisoning.</li> </ul>	<p>The common substances of abuse  Opioids, Cannabis, cocaine, amphetamines</p> <p><b>(A) Opioids of common use.</b>  <b>(A) Routes of entry and action on the target organs and body.</b>  <b>(A) The action and pathophysiology</b>  <b>(A) Clinical features and management of acute and chronic opioid poisoning.</b></p>	Lecture	45 min x 2	Forensic medicine/ Pharm.

<p><b>B) Cannabis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss the circumstances, clinical features and post mortem features of cannabis poisoning.</li> </ul> <p><b>C) Cocaine</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss the circumstances, clinical features and post mortem features of cannabis poisoning.</li> </ul> <p><b>D)Amphetamines</b></p>	<p><b>(A) Mechanisms of death and autopsy findings.</b></p> <p><b>(A) Circumstances of cannabis poisoning</b>  <b>(A) The routes of entry and absorption.</b>  <b>(A) Target organs and the action of cannabis on them.</b>  <b>(A) Features of acute &amp; chronic poisoning</b>  <b>(A) Principles of management.</b>  <b>(A) Mechanisms of death, autopsy findings and specimen collection.</b></p> <p><b>(A)Circumstances of cocaine poisoning</b>  <b>(A) The routes of entry and absorption.</b>  <b>(A)The action on the target organs and the pathophysiology.</b>  <b>(A) Principles of management.</b>  <b>(A) Mechanisms of death and autopsy findings and specimen collection.</b></p> <p><b>(A)Circumstances of amphetaminespoisoning</b>  <b>(A) The routes of entry and absorption.</b>  <b>(A)The action on the target organs and the pathophysiology.</b>  <b>(A) Principles of management.</b>  <b>(A) Mechanisms of death and autopsy findings and specimen collection.</b></p>			
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<p><b>41. Drug Overdose</b></p> <p><b>A) Salicylate overdose</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline the absorption, metabolism, diagnosis and medico legal investigation of salicylate overdose.</li> </ul> <p><b>B) Paracetamol overdose</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline the absorption, metabolism, diagnosis &amp; medico legal investigation of paracetamol overdose.</li> </ul>	<p>(B) Circumstances of salicylate poisoning (B) Sites of absorption and mode of the action. <b>(A) Clinical features and complications.</b> <b>(A) Principles of management.</b> <b>(A) Mechanism of death and its pathophysiology</b> <b>(A) Autopsy findings and specimen collection.</b></p> <p>(B) Circumstances of paracetamol poisoning (B) Sites of absorption and mode of the action. <b>(A) Clinical features and complications.</b> <b>(A) Principles of management.</b> <b>(A) Mechanism of death and its pathophysiology</b> <b>(A) Autopsy findings and specimen collection.</b></p>	Lecture	45 min	Forensic Medicine/ Pharm.
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<p><b>43. Snake bites</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name and identify the poisonous and the common non poisonous snakes in Sri Lanka.</li> <li>• Name the types of venom toxicity caused by each.</li> <li>• Describe the clinical features of envenomation with each of these species.</li> <li>• Outline the management of snake bite and envenomation.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Identification the poisonous and the common non poisonous snakes in Sri Lanka</b>  <b>(A) The types of venom toxicity caused by each.</b>  <b>(A) The clinical features of envenomation with each of these species.</b>  <b>(A) The management of snake bite and envenomation.</b></p>	<p>Lecture</p>	<p>45 minx 2</p>	<p>Parasitology /Medicine</p>

# MEDICAL ETHICS

## General Objectives

**To create doctors who are aware and know medical etiquette, ethics, rights and duties towards patients, the profession and the society.**

## Specific Objectives

- A) To know the “code of conduct”/professional behavior which is not imposed by law but, accepted by voluntary agreement with in the profession.
- B) To know the defects in professional behavior of doctors.
  - a) In relation to the standards of medical care given to patient -when considered inadequate.
  - b) In relation to personal professional behavior - when it falls below that which is expected of a doctor.
- C) To know the structure, function, powers & duties of the Sri Lanka Medical Council.
- D) To know the basic laws & medical ethics, doctor’s position and modern bio - medical advances in special, specific situations, which may be encountered in a medical practitioners lifetime.

## *CONTENT AREAS*

### **(A)The Ethics of Medical Practice**

1. Ethics and the medical practitioner.
2. Duties of a physician towards
  - I. The general public
  - II. Sick
  - III. Patient's family members
  - IV. society
  - V. Prisoners of war/those in custody
  - VI. Each other
  - VII. Conflicts in duty/personal belief
3. Doctor-patient relationship
4. Consent
5. Medical confidentiality
6. Privileged communication

### **(B)Medical Malpractice**

1. Medical Negligence
  - Types of medical negligence
  - Systems of compensation
  - Compensation & damages
  - Defenses in medical negligence
2. Professional misconduct

### **(C)Sri Lanka Medical Council**

## **(D)Medical Ethics and law**

### **1. Reproductive medicine**

Contraception

Right to live/die and abortion

- a) **Biomedical advances** : Artificial insemination  
Cryopreservation of human semen

### **Invitrofertilisation**

Cryopreservation of human embryos  
Surrogate mother-hood  
Genetic engineering & cloning

- b) **Medical practice** : Children  
Elderly  
Terminally ill  
Unconscious patients  
Patients of HIV  
Psychiatric patient

- c) **Death** : Diagnosis  
Organ donation / transplantation  
Euthanasia

### **d) Research & experimentation**

Research & experimentation on humans, children & the fetuses.

**N.B.**

The above series of lectures will be done partly in the Introductory Module and during the Medico-Legal and Toxicology Module, using the time slots that were allocated to the personal and professional development stream.

Intermediate Objectives	Contents	Activity	Duration	Dept.
<p><b>(1) ETHICS AND THE MEDICAL PRACTITIONER</b></p> <p>The student should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>List the different ethical codes governing the medical profession.</li> <li>Describe their applicability in medical practice.</li> </ul>	<p><b>A) As a member of the medical profession</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Hippocratic Oath</i></li> <li>- <i>Declaration of Geneva</i></li> </ul> <p>(C)Concerning the defining of death</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Declaration of Sydney</i></li> </ul> <p>(C)Concerning therapeutic abortion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Declaration of Oslo</i></li> </ul> <p>(C)Concerning the Doctors' attitude</p> <p>(C)Towards torture and other degrading treatment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Declaration of Tokyo</i></li> </ul> <p>(B)Concerning human experimentation and clinical trails</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Declaration of Helsinki</i></li> </ul>	<p>Lecture/ hand- outs Posters</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>

<p><b>(2) DUTIES OF A MEDICAL PRACTITIONER</b></p> <p>The student should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the duties of a medical practitioner, towards different groups in the society and their limitations.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Duties towards patients.</b>  <b>(A) Duties towards patient's family members.</b>  <b>(A) Duties towards the society.</b>  (B) Duties towards prisoners of war/those in custody.  <b>(A) Duties towards fellow doctors.</b>  (C) Conflict in duty/Personal belief</p>	<p>Lecture + hand-out</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p><b>(3) DOCTOR-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP</b></p> <p>The student should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define Doctor-Patient relationship</li> <li>Describe the important factors of a Doctor-Patient relationship.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) The definition of doctor-patient relationship.</b>  <b>(A) The beginning and end of the relationship</b>  <b>(A) Obligation to heal the suffering.</b>  <b>(A) Patient centred care.</b>  <b>(A) Dignified humanitarian practice.</b>  (B) Autonomy.  (C) Professional integrity, justice</p>	<p>Lecture</p>	<p>2 x 45min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>

<p><b>(4) CONSENT</b></p> <p>The student should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the types of consent, its importance in clinical &amp; judicial medical practice</li> <li>• Discuss the medico-legal implications of consent.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Definition of consent.</b></p> <p><b>(A) Types of consent</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implied consent</li> <li>- Expressed consent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Gesture</li> <li>b) Verbal</li> <li>c) Written</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Written informed consent</li> </ul> <p><b>(A) Consent for;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Taking history</li> <li>- Examination</li> <li>- Investigation</li> <li>- Treatment</li> </ul> <p><b>(A) Consent in relation to</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children</li> <li>- Mentally retarded patient</li> <li>- Unconscious patient</li> </ul> <p><b>(A) Instances when the consent is</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not necessary</li> <li>- Invalid</li> <li>- Preferable</li> <li>- Essential/mandatory</li> </ul>	<p>Lecture + hand-out</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
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<p><b>(5) PROFESSIONAL SECRECY/ MEDICAL CONFIDENTIALITY</b></p> <p>The student should be able to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss the need to keep all information confidential regarding a person, whether gathered from a patient or post-mortem.</li> <li>• Describe the need to keep medical records confidential</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Confidentiality:</b>  For the doctor – as a part of professional conduct  For the patient - has a legal right</p> <p><b>(A) Detention and confidentiality</b>  <b>(A) Death and confidentiality</b>  (B) Responsibility of the doctor for safe keeping of information confidential and justifications for disclosure.</p>	<p>Lecture + hand out</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p><b>(6) PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATION</b></p> <p>The student should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define the term “ Privileged Communication”</li> <li>• Describe the situations included under “Privileged Communication”</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Definition of Privileged communication.</b>  <b>(A) Situations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Risk of crime</li> <li>- Threat to Society</li> <li>- Notifiable Diseases</li> <li>- Obligation to courts</li> <li>- Others</li> </ul>	<p>Lecture</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>

<p><b>(7) MEDICAL MALPRACTICE</b></p> <p><b>A) Medical Negligence</b></p> <p>The student should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define “medical negligence”</li> <li>• Describe the components of negligence, the basic types of negligence, the concept of ‘<i>res ipsa loquiter</i>’, compensation and damages in medical negligence</li> <li>• Describe the possible defenses.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Definition of medical Negligence.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Liability for negligence</li> <li>- Duty of care</li> <li>- Breach in the duty of care</li> <li>- Damage caused</li> <li>- Causal Relationship</li> </ul> <p><b>with examples in History taking, Examination, Investigation, treatment and follow up.</b></p> <p><b>(A) The concept of “reasonable degree of care and skill” with examples.</b></p> <p><b>[Personal qualification, experience, facilities, situation (emergency) etc]</b></p> <p><b>(A) Res Ipsa Loquiter with examples.</b></p> <p>(B) Damages, compensation and systems of compensation.</p> <p>(B) Possible defenses in medical negligence with examples.</p>	<p>Lecture + hand out</p>	<p>45 min x 2</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
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<p><b>(B) Professional Misconduct</b></p> <p>The student should be able to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define Professional Misconduct</li> <li>• Describe the conditions that are considered as “serious professional misconduct” and discuss their implications.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) Definition of professional misconduct.</b>  <b>(A) Examples of serious professional misconduct.</b>  <b>(A) Punishments for professional misconduct.</b></p>	<p>Lecture + Hand-out</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>
<p><b>(8) SRI LANKA MEDICAL COUNCIL</b></p> <p>Student should be able to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the Organizational structure of the SLMC</li> <li>• Describe the powers and duties of the SLMC</li> <li>• Discuss the types of disciplinary procedure that can be taken by the SLMC</li> </ul>	<p><b>(A) SLMC – Organization (Structure)</b>  - Powers, Duties and function  <b>(A) Types of Registration granted by the SLMC and their privileges.</b>  - Provisional Registration  - Full registration  - Temporary registration.  <b>(A) Disciplinary Procedures</b></p>	<p>Lecture</p>	<p>45 min</p>	<p>Forensic Medicine</p>



	<p><b>Death:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- (A) <b>Diagnosis</b></li> <li>- (B) Organ Donation/Transplantation</li> <li>- (C) Euthanasia</li> </ul> <p><b>Research and experimentation;</b> <b>(A)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>The adult</b></li> <li>- <b>The child</b></li> <li>- <b>The foetus</b></li> </ul>	Lecture	20 min	Forensic Medicine
		Lecture	25 min	Community Medicine

## Reading and reference material

1. Simpson's Forensic Medicine- Bernard Knight
2. Forensic Medicine and Medical Law (for Forensic Medical lawyers and medical students)- Hemamal Jayawardena
3. Hand book on Forensic Pathology -V.J.M.Dimaio & S.E. Dana
4. Essentials of Forensic Medicine-Narayan Reddy
5. Textbook of Clinical Forensic Medicine and Pathology- Prof. Niriellage Chandrasiri
6. Management of poisoning- Prof. Ravindra Fernando
7. Clinical Forensic Medicine – Mc Clay
8. Forensic Pathology – Bernard knight
9. Forensic Medicine Clinical and Pathological Aspects - Jason Payne-James, Anthony Busuttil, William Smock.
10. Lecture notes in forencic medicine-Dr.L.B.L.De Alvis