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## **Perception and Attitude regarding practice of Defensive Medicine among the interns and medical students in Mangalore**

### **Introduction**

Defensive Medicine is a practice where the physician prioritizes avoiding malpractice lawsuits over ideal patient care. With an increasing number of mishaps in medical diagnosis and treatments, physicians are often sued with malpractice lawsuits. defensive medicine is encroaching the healthcare providing systems and is detrimental to doctors, patients, and the healthcare system. This affects the doctor-patient relationship and the trust between them. This can manifest in the form of increased violence against physicians by the attendants of the patients. With this background, the objectives of the study were to assess the perception of medical students and interns regarding Defensive Medicine and to study the attitude of medical students and interns towards the practice of Defensive Medicine.

### **Methodology**

In this cross-sectional 440 undergraduate MBBS students and medical interns were assessed about their attitude and perception regarding defensive medicine. The sample size was calculated assuming 50 % of the Undergraduate Medical students have a negative attitude towards the practice of defensive medicine, with 10% relative precision, 95% confidence interval and 10% non-response error. A total of 334 medical students and 106 MBBS interns were included in the study. The data will be collected using a prevalidated questionnaire consisting of sections on general participant information, perception about defensive medicine and attitude towards the practice of defensive medicine. Institutional Ethics committee approval was obtained before the commencement of the study.

Results: Study in progress

**Keywords:** Defensive medicine,  
Perception,  
Attitude, Medical students,  
Mangalore