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Biography

Nancy Anis Kamel, holds an MS from Ain Shams University. Her work focuses heavily on the intersection of pediatric ophthalmology and medical liability, specifically addressing the medicolegal traps associated with pediatric ocular trauma. Through her expertise, she educates healthcare providers on the standards of care, proper diagnostic protocols, and the critical importance of meticulous documentation required to prevent childhood blindness and mitigate legal risks in medical practice.

Medicolegal Traps Of Pediatric Ocular Trauma

Abstract:

Childhood eye injuries are a common occurrence and represent a major cause of acquired monocular blindness globally, carrying a heavy lifetime economic and social burden. It is essential for healthcare providers to be aware of the legal responsibilities associated with these injuries to protect patients and ensure appropriate safety measures. This presentation explores the medicolegal traps of pediatric ocular trauma, emphasizing the necessity of age-specific evaluation protocols ranging from infants to adolescents. Key medicolegal focal points include the need for objective, neutral documentation, exact timelines, and vigilance in identifying red flags for non-accidental injuries (NAI) or abuse. Through practical mock scenarios—such as mismanaged hyphema, missed open globe injuries, and delayed referrals for pediatric endophthalmitis—the presentation highlights that poor documentation is indefensible in court. Common faults in trauma reports include incomplete patient information, inadequate history, and omission of informed consent. Ultimately, meticulous medicolegal reporting and early, aggressive management are vital; failure to document or refer appropriately can result in permanent blindness for the child and severe legal liability for the practitioner.