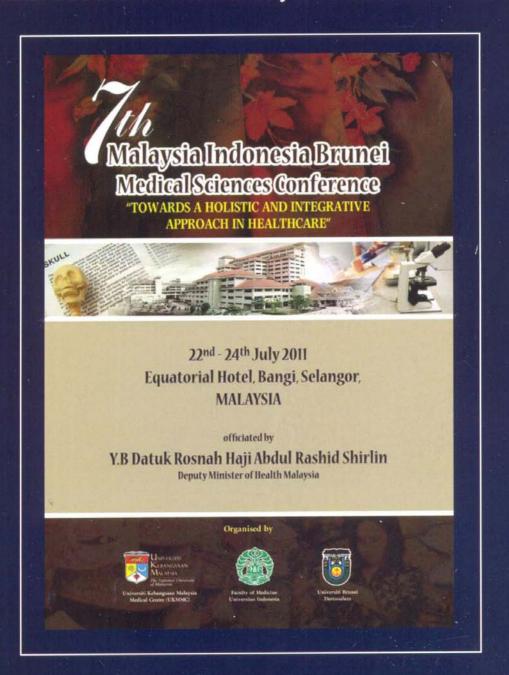


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SYMPOSIUM 8 Kulenthran A

LITIGATION IN CLINICAL PRACTICE

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Litigation in medical malpractice is on the rise. Insurance premims are also on the rise. The highest are the obstetricians followed by the neurosurgeons and plastic surgeons. It is important therefore that doctors have an idea of how the law looks at medical malpractice. Its essence is whether the doctor has fallen below the standards expected of him and secondly, did that fall in standards result in harm to the patient. And thirdly was that harm sustained not too remote. The lecture will illustrate these principles with case law. The second part of the lecture will concentrate on what we can do to mitigate or minimize the chance of a litigation when something goes wrong. Again this will be backed by research studies.