

Medical Indemnity
Industry Association of Australia

forum

MIIAA

MEDICAL INDEMNITY INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Novotel Melbourne
on Collins
270 Collins Street
Melbourne

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Industry Association of Australia

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Improving Professional Competence

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What is professional competence?

Who defines and assesses professional competence?

Who is responsible for identifying and dealing with doctors who are not competent?

Is there a correlation between competence and being sued?

What is the role of medical indemnity insurers?

Competence JAMA 2002

- Communication
- Knowledge
- Technical skills
- Clinical reasoning
- Emotions
- Values
- Reflection

Surgeon Amputates Wrong Leg

- Negligent ✓
- Procedure performed incompetently ✓
- Incompetent surgeon ?

Negligence and Competence

Malpractice experience is not a marker of clinical competence (J Fam Prac 1999)

- Poor interpersonal skills → more likely to be sued (JAMA 1994)

Clinical Risk Management

Improving patient safety by identifying the

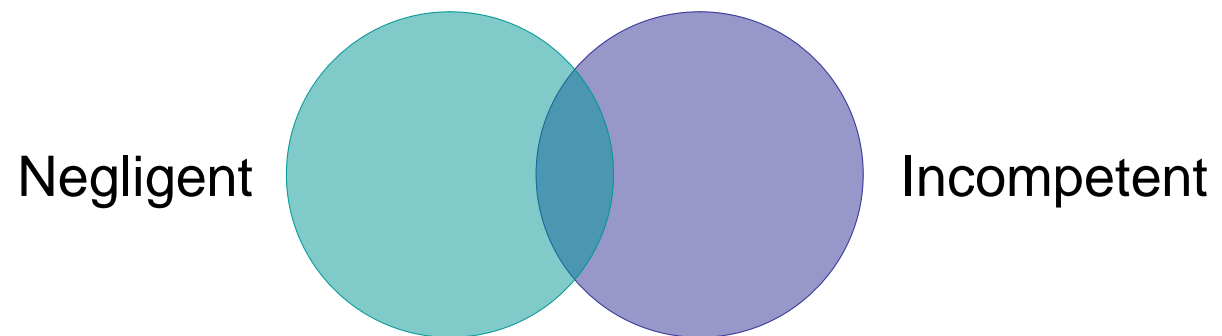
- frequency and
- nature of medical errors and then developing ways to reduce the likelihood of these errors occurring in the future.

Clinical Risk Management

- **Risk control** – reduce the frequency of preventable adverse events through maintaining or improving the quality of care for patients.
- **Loss control** – reduce the probability of a complaint or claim being made after an adverse event.

Role of Medical Indemnity Insurers

- Identification of patterns of errors
 - Procedures eg Implanon
 - Individual doctors



Role of Medical Indemnity Insurers

- General
 - Education – based on claims data, incident reports, literature
- Individual doctors
 - Advice
 - Practice visits – communication, practice management
 - Adverse/High Risk Doctors - early intervention, supportive → sanctions