

# 35<sup>TH</sup> GLOBAL NURSING CARE & EDUCATION CONFERENCE

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## Avoiding the mishaps in healthcare provision

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Legal Medicine consists of a broad range of legal, medical, and ethical issues, as well as human rights and rights of individuals. This discipline specialty is necessary in the healthcare profession because healthcare providers have a duty to act in a patient's best interest always. If healthcare professionals fail to meet this duty they can and will be charged in a court of law. Medical Malpractice is defined as the legal cause of action that occurs when a healthcare professional deviates from the standard of care in his or her profession, thereby causing harm to a patient and it happens when a patient is harmed by a healthcare professional who failed to meet the standard of care. When a healthcare provider does not meet the standard of care, they have breached their contract with their patient. The concept of the standard of care is often discussed among healthcare providers, and yet the legal definition of this term is frequently not understood. It is estimated that 7–17 malpractice claims are filed per 100 healthcare providers every year with emergency healthcare providers on the front lines of healthcare provision and therefore are frequently involved in medical malpractice cases. Many healthcare professionals need to review evidence-based practices that focus on standard of care and review the best research and clinical expertise to assist them in meeting the needs of patients, far beyond optimum care provision; helping them avoid any mishaps along the way.

### Biography

Geneva M Edwards is a medical professional with more than 35 years of experience in healthcare provision. She is a registered nurse, a certified medical investigator, a certified legal nurse consultant and an established medical writer. She holds a Master's of Science in health service administration, a Master's of Science in biological sciences, a medical Doctorate degree from a World Health Organization affiliate and she completed Post-doctoral fellowship training in researching and analyzing medical data at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta Georgia. Her passion lies in caring for the elderly and investigating what happens when medicine and the law collides. She is BAI certified and works as an investigator with Locator's International.

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