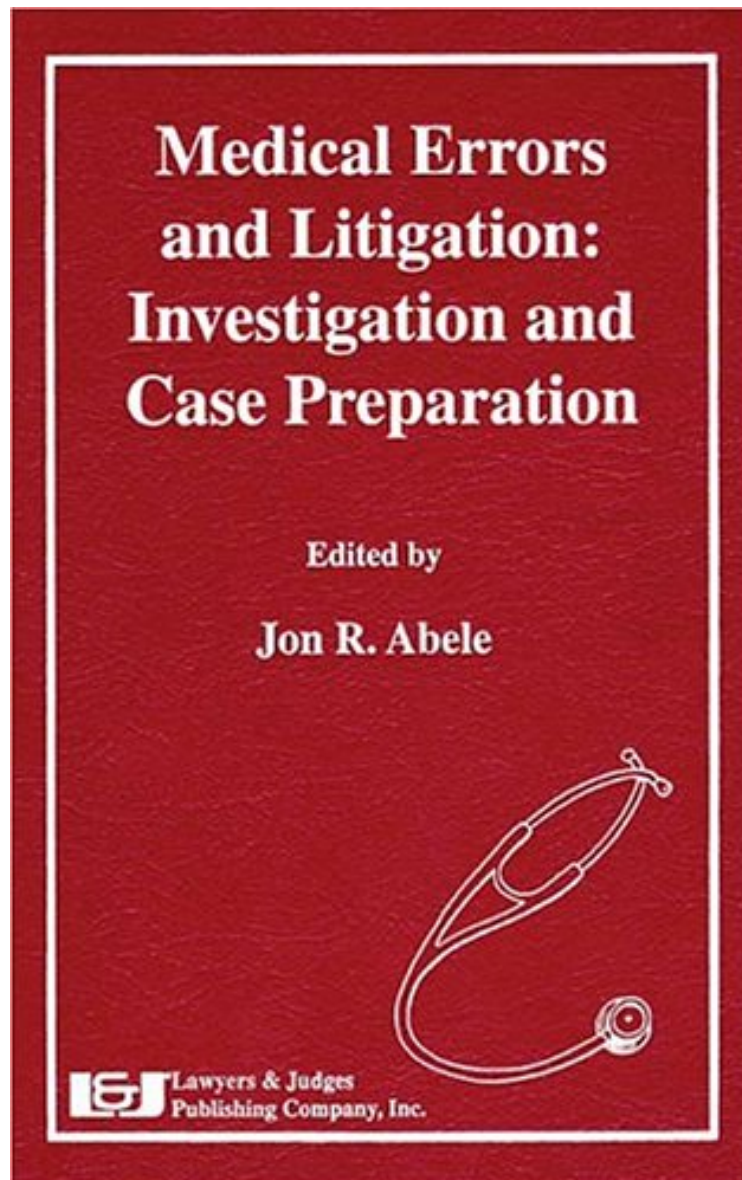


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Medical Errors and Litigation: Investigation and Case Preparation

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It is estimated that as many as 120,000 Americans die each year from hospital errors. There are many reasons patients are injured in the healthcare system. *Medical Errors and Litigation Investigation and Case Preparation* provides a guideline for sorting through the overwhelming amount of paper work and bureaucracy involved in a medical errors case. It will explore medical errors related to incompetence, lack of experience and knowledge, impaired critical thinking, substance abuse, distractions and interruptions, communication breakdowns, increased complexity of medical care, inadequate staffing, improper delegation, and poor customer relations. Once you've determined that a patient has a legitimate complaint, where do you start? Is the hospital responsible? What about the doctors, nurses or technicians? Whether representing the plaintiff or the defendant the trial of a medical malpractice case is one of the most complex and challenging civil cases a lawyer will try. The authors of this book have backgrounds in both the medical and legal profession. Their expertise will help you know how to identify responsible parties, understand the roots of patient injuries, sort through the standards of care and gather information from medical records. Once you've begun building your case, the book will provide you with ideas for finding medical experts, presenting your case to a jury and alternatives to litigation and trials. Medical errors will continue to be an unfortunate part of our healthcare system. Understaffed hospitals, untrained technicians and medical devices contribute to patient injuries. It is important for attorneys, healthcare professionals, and insurance agents to know how an error was made and who is responsible.