

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2021

Access to healthcare and medical malpractice litigation 812 (PBL 812)

Qualification	Postgraduate
Faculty	Faculty of Law
Module credits	30.00
NQF Level	09
Programmes	MPhil Medical Law and Ethics (Coursework)
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Public Law
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

In this module a multidisciplinary approach is adopted and the topics include the following:

- Justice in the allocation of health resources, access to health care and healthcare insurance
- The nature, scope and incidences of medical malpractice litigation in South Africa
- The nature and scope of damages and compensation for medical negligence
- Grounds of justification for medical interventions and other general defences in medical law
- The various causes of action in medical malpractice litigation
- Vulnerable patients (inclusive of children, the mentally ill/disabled and the elderly) and medical malpractice litigation
- Allied healthcare practitioners (inclusive of nurses, psychologists, traditional healers etc) and medical malpractice
- The role of telemedicine and e-health in medical malpractice
- Reform of medical malpractice law
- The drafting/assessment of pleadings in context of medical malpractice litigation

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