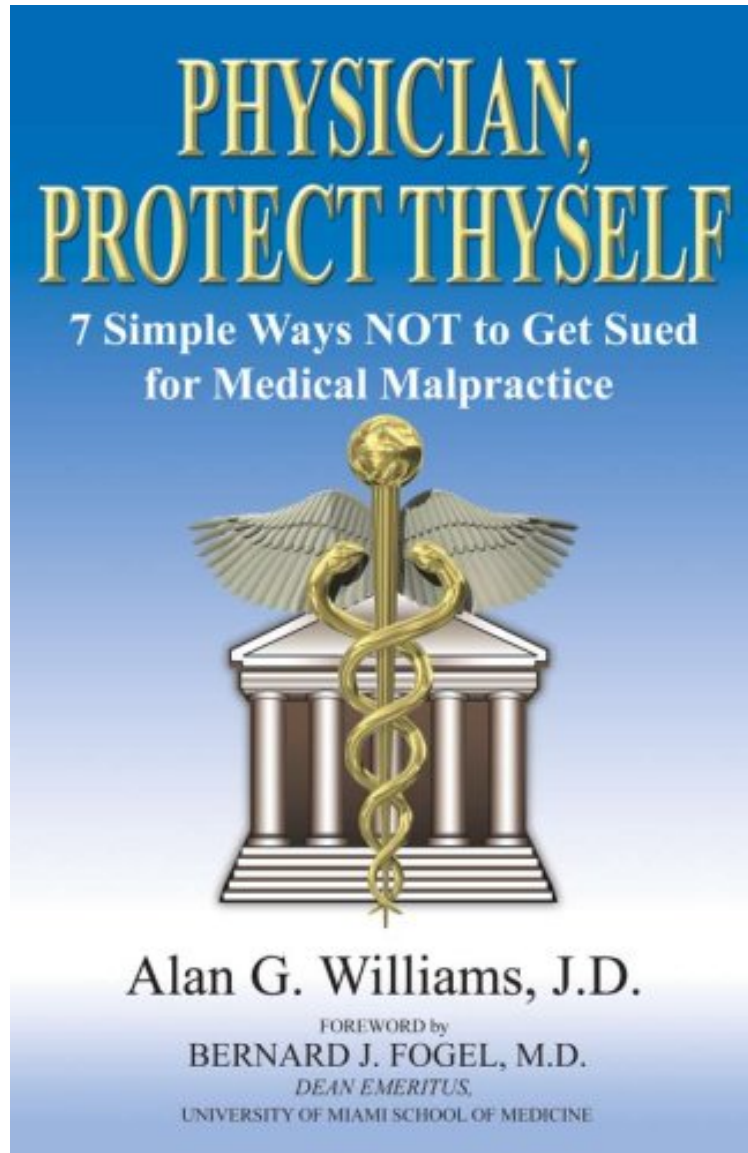


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Physician, Protect Thyself: 7 Simple Ways Not to Get Sued for Medical Malpractice

Alan G. Williams

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Alan G. Williams : Physician, Protect Thyself: 7 Simple Ways Not to Get Sued for Medical Malpractice before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Physician, Protect Thyself: 7 Simple Ways Not to Get Sued for Medical Malpractice:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A good book - but isn't it mostly common senseBy ErnieI could not

decide whether to give the book 3 or 4 stars. Initially I selected 3 stars as I thought the book was average but allowed myself to be swayed by the prior reviewers. I ultimately gave it a 4 out of respect for the author's talents and knowledge as a malpractice attorney. As most of the prior reviewers, I am a physician as well. The book does a good job of laying out the fundamental issues involved with malpractice. However, I didn't find any of the recommendations particularly innovative. Rather, all seemed simply based on common sense. For example, physicians should place mechanisms so that test results are actually reviewed upon completion, physicians should get informed consent, physicians should not practice outside their area of expertise, etc. Most importantly, physicians should avoid falling into an adversarial relationship with their patients. Hmm. I surmise that the author is a very talented attorney and very knowledgeable with regards to malpractice. However, I think that the large part of malpractice suits stem from an emotional response to a bad outcome. Therefore, the key ingredient to avoiding a lawsuit is the last point made above. Patients tend not to sue those that they like regardless (up to a point) of a bad outcome. Although the book probably suffices for med students in teaching them the basic procedures required to clearly stay out of trouble - time would be better spent teaching a good bedside manner as a deterrent against lawsuits. Most practicing doctors should have caught on to the advice in the book by now. 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. good general info, worth reading. By honest abe. Wasn't sure what to expect, the general advice are basic and good. All the take-home messages I got from the book: Sometimes Pt sues to get info, if they can't get answers from anyone, sue out of frustration. How you handle Pt's wishes to get info and after the event can make a difference of getting sued. Pt must feel respected, heard. Eye contact, studies show PT think you spent more time if sit vs stand, also not more than 45 degrees from her, do not bury your eyes in notes. Your new PT will make impression of you within 10sec, you want to rush and bury your head in your notes? Document you c/s with another MD to discourage a lawsuit. Review past records. Pre-printed boiler plates useless, juror want to see you highlighted something or underline something. Careful of admission of guilt, some states protect you from saying I'm sorry, some states don't and lawyers can use that as admission of guilt. document non-compliance, no-shows, attempts to get a hold of Pt asking them to return for an important visit like to go over their lab result, protocols placed to make sure labs get read and orders carried out, make sure everyone on same page of abbreviations: ASAP vs STAT. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. very good read. By martine bernard. I learned a lot from this book. Every health care professional can learn from the examples given. More importantly, it was an easy and enjoyable read.

Although 25% of all physicians are sued for medical malpractice each year and 65% of all physicians are sued sometime during their careers, most medical malpractice claims can easily be prevented by following seven simple rules. This concise reference manual clearly yet succinctly shows physicians and physicians-in-training how to avoid malpractice claims, explaining in simple terms the basic strategies to preventing claims before they ever begin. Written by an expert medical malpractice defense attorney--who teaches malpractice prevention techniques at medical schools, teaching hospitals and medical centers across the country--and edited by a team of physicians, *Physician, Protect Thyself* is endorsed by physicians at Harvard, Stanford, Johns Hopkins, Dartmouth, Cornell, the University of Pennsylvania, Georgetown and Colorado, to name a few. Recommended reading for every physician, resident, fellow, intern and medical student, following *Physician, Protect Thyself's* suggestions will definitely result in the reduction of malpractice claims.

"This is an easy read . . . The author's section on informed consent is particularly excellent, and most of the advice in this chapter--as well as the rest of the book--is both practical and relevant . . . The bulk of the book appears to consist of real-world tips gleaned from the author's experience defending clinicians. Quite a few of these tips are nicely framed from the consumer's perspective, which is a refreshing change from similar books written by physicians who may have forgotten how it feels to be on the other side of the examining table . . . It may seem odd to some to take lessons in bedside manner from a lawyer, but Williams has obviously listened to patients. More importantly, he has listened to jurors regarding their perception of the communications skills of his physician clients and has succinctly communicated what he has learned . . . accepting this lawyer's advice in handling human relations with patients should improve outcomes and decrease the odds of ending up in his office. And this, of course, is the point." -- JOURNAL of the AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. Four Stars. Excellent. This reference book provides physicians with sound recommendations on how to reduce the chances of being sued for medical malpractice . . . the author provides helpful real-world examples, statistics and suggestions . . . this is a well-organized text which provides physicians with useful information that they can understand and apply to their practices. -- The Mayo Clinic Proceedings medical journal. From the Publisher "The only thing worse than thinking about malpractice risks is not thinking about them. Based on real world examples and anchored in references from the medical literature, *Physician, Protect Thyself* raises your malpractice titers quickly. Essential knowledge for medical students, residents and practicing physicians!" -- Charlea Massion, M.D., Clinical Faculty, Stanford University School of Medicine "Alan G. Williams certainly has the education, credentials and experience to put onto paper what every doctor should know about avoiding malpractice lawsuits. *Physician, Protect Thyself* is a thorough, easy-to-read, well-organized reference book--with case examples

and pearls--every physician should read." --Tejal K. Gandhi, M.D., M.P.H., Assistant Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School "The Real World `Suggestions,' `Facts,' `Examples' and `Numbers' are particularly helpful. Finally, someone has written a simple, concise manual to assist physicians prevent medical malpractice claims." --Jonathan I. Epstein, M.D., Johns Hopkins Hospital "Written by a wise and experienced malpractice defense attorney, Physician, Protect Thyself is a practical guide for all physicians that clearly explains the basic strategies to prevent malpractice claims. Physicians who follow its sound advice not only will reduce malpractice claims but also will improve the quality of their medical care." --James L. Bernat, M.D., Dartmouth Medical School "Alan G. Williams's book contains a wealth of useful information for medical students, residents and physicians in practice. Following these suggestions will likely both improve the quality of care delivered and reduce the number of malpractice suits." --Kevin Volpp, M.D., Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and the Wharton School "Physician, Protect Thyself is based on years of practical experience by a skilled defense lawyer. It provides a balanced view of malpractice claims and presents a proactive approach for avoiding getting sued. This will be very valuable reading for physicians and physicians-in-training." --Antonio M. Gotto, Jr., M.D., D. Phil. Cornell University "This is a terrific book. It is complete and concise. It should be incorporated into curricula for students, residents and fellows." --Richard D. Krugman, M.D. Dean, School of Medicine University of Colorado "This outstanding book is filled with practical advice and illuminating real-world vignettes from a leading defense attorney. It belongs in the hands of every physician facing malpractice litigation or, better yet, interested in preventing it." --Richard E. Anderson, M.D. Chairman and CEO, The Doctors Company "Finally, someone has written a simple, concise manual to assist physicians in preventing medical malpractice claims." --The Florida Medical Association "A concise, readable and very informative resource for all physicians." --Adriane Fugh-Berman, M.D., Georgetown University