



NCHR's Stance on the Medical Liability Law

NCHR welcomed the issuance of the Medical Liability Law, considering it an important step towards promoting the right to health and guaranteeing the rights of both; patients and medical professionals. NCHR also commended the tireless efforts of the Medical/Doctors' Syndicate in advocating for doctors' rights. Moreover, NCHR praised the House of Representatives' response to its proposals regarding the draft of the law. In that regard, NCHR expressed its appreciation for the active role played by the House of Representatives and relevant authorities in discussing and approving the law, in response to the demands of the medical sector and civil society.

NCHR emphasized its pivotal role in supporting this law by fostering a comprehensive community dialogue, represented by two expanded discussion sessions held by NCHR to discuss the draft law:

The first session on January 18th, 2023: A roundtable discussion of the preliminary draft law which resulted in several recommendations to ensure a balance between patients' rights and doctors' rights.

The second session on December 21st, 2024: An expanded discussion session organized by NCHR's Social Rights Committee and chaired by Ambassador Dr. Moushira Khattab, NCHR President. The session was attended by representatives of the Medical/Doctors' Syndicate, members of the House of Representatives and Senate, legal experts, and doctors, in order to review the final amendments and ensure their consistency with human rights values.

NCHR welcomed the substantive amendments contained in the law, reflecting the outcomes of the community dialogue. The most prominent of these amendments are:

- Establishing the Supreme Committee for Medical Liability as the technical body responsible for assessing medical errors, ensuring that doctors are not subject to arbitrary legal action.
- Abolishing imprisonment for minor medical errors and reducing the maximum fine to between: 10,000 EGP and 100,000 EGP, instead of 1 million EGP.
- Differentiating between routine medical errors and serious errors, and imposing criminal penalties only in cases of serious errors.
- Establishing a Government Malpractice Insurance Fund, aimed at ensuring full compensation for harmed patients without burdening doctors with additional financial burdens.
- Criminalizing malicious complaints against doctors by imposing penalties of up to imprisonment and fines for anyone who deliberately files false reports. NCHR affirms its confidence in the relevant authorities' follow-up on the implementation of the provisions of this law to ensure that it achieves its desired goals of protecting the rights of patients and doctors, and providing a safe and fair work environment for medical service providers, which will positively impact the quality of healthcare in Egypt.