MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE LAW IN TRANSITIONAL CHINA
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DING Chunyan
PREFACE

Medical negligence disputes have become a major social concern in transitional China. Victims of medical negligence and their families often resort to violence when bringing claims against health care providers. The current Chinese medical negligence law regime does not adequately compensate victims of medical negligence, nor does it effectively deter preventable medical errors. This well explains why I decided to systematically investigate the problems in the Chinese medical negligence law and seek suggestions for reform in my four-year PhD study and my research in the subsequent years. This book represents the outcome of my intellectual discoveries about the Chinese medical negligence law in years past.

This book is the first book in English on medical negligence law in China. Relying on the methodologies of statutory interpretation, case study, and socio-legal analysis, it systematically investigates and comprehensively analyses four major problems in Chinese medical negligence law that result in widespread unfairness and uncertainty: the unreasonable distinction between medical malpractice and ordinary medical negligence; the ambiguous standard of care for medical negligence liability; the problematic medical malpractice technical authentication system; and the excessive restrictions on compensation for medical negligence. Changes to both substantive and procedural rules of medical negligence law are recommended and suggestions for a possible reform outlined in order to establish a fairer and more certain system of medical negligence law in China.

This book contributes to a better understanding of past developments and current problems in Chinese medical negligence law and is a useful source to understand the topics of professional negligence and personal injury in Chinese law and in the Chinese society. It will be useful to students and researchers in medical law, comparative legal study, medical ethics, and Asian sociology and social policy. It is also intended to be accessible to legal advisers, judges, legislators, health care professionals and members of the public with an interest in medical law in China.

I am very grateful to my supervisor Professor Rick Glofcheski at the University of Hong Kong for his meticulous guidance and critical but useful comments. I also would like to thank Professor Ge Yunsong at Peking University, Professor
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Ding Chunyan
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CONTENTS

Preface ................................................................. v
List of Figures and Tables ........................................... xiii
Abbreviations ......................................................... xv
List of Legislation ................................................... xvii
List of Cases .......................................................... xxv

Introduction ........................................................... 1

Chapter 1.
The Social Background of Medical Negligence Disputes ......... 17

1. Introduction ......................................................... 17
2. The High Risk of Medical Negligence ............................ 20
   2.1. Profit-oriented Management of Health Care Institutions .... 20
   2.2. The Moral Decay of Medical Professionals .................. 24
   2.3. Limited Health Care Resources in Rural Areas ............... 27
   2.4. Ineffective Governmental Regulation and Supervision ....... 29
   2.5. Summary: the Extent of Medical Negligence Disputes ....... 31
3. The Heavy Financial Burden on Victims of Medical Negligence .... 33
   3.1. Increasing Medical Costs ...................................... 33
   3.2. Lack of Medical Insurance ...................................... 37
   3.2.1. Medical Insurance in Urban Areas ......................... 37
   3.2.2. Medical Insurance in Rural Areas ......................... 41
   3.2.3. Migrant Workers ............................................. 43
   3.3. Uncovered Medical Expenses due to Medical Negligence .... 45
   3.4. Summary ........................................................ 46
4. Medical Negligence Disputes and Violence ....................... 48
   4.1. Extent of Duress and Violence .................................. 48
   4.2. Legal Barriers Faced by Victims of Medical Negligence .... 51
5. Conclusion .......................................................... 53

Chapter 2.
The Distinction Between Medical Malpractice and Ordinary Medical
Negligence .......................................................... 55

1. Introduction ........................................................ 55

Intersentia v

Personal copy of ()
2. The Distinction between Medical Malpractice and Ordinary Medical Negligence ............................ 56
  2.1. Medical Malpractice ........................................ 56
  2.2. Ordinary Medical Negligence .............................. 59
  2.3. Rationale for the MM-OMN Distinction ......................... 62
3. Implications of the MM-OMN Distinction in Medical Negligence Law ........................................ 63
  3.1. Criteria for Compensatory Damages ......................... 63
    3.1.1. Medical Malpractice .................................. 63
    3.1.2. Ordinary Medical Negligence ........................ 67
  3.2. Forensic Authentication ................................... 71
    3.2.1. Medical Malpractice: MMTA .......................... 72
    3.2.2. Ordinary Medical Negligence: OFMA ................. 73
  3.3. Administrative Sanctions .................................. 75
    3.3.1. Medical Malpractice .................................. 75
    3.3.2. Ordinary Medical Negligence ........................ 75
  3.4. Summary ................................................... 76
4. Problems Arising from the MM-OMN Distinction ................................. 77
  4.1. Constitutional Issues ..................................... 77
    4.1.1. Principle of Equality .................................. 78
    4.1.2. Principle of Legal Hierarchy .......................... 79
    4.1.3. Justifiable Public Interests ............................ 81
  4.2. Practical Difficulties .................................... 84
5. Proposal to Abolish the MM-OMN Distinction ......................... 86
  5.1. Remove the Requirement regarding the Severity of Personal Injury ... 87
  5.2. Harmonize Forensic Authentication ........................ 87
  5.3. Adopt the Compensation Criteria under the GPCL (1987) .... 88
  5.4. Impact of the Tort Law (2009) on the MM-OMN Distinction .... 88
6. Conclusion .................................................... 91

Chapter 3.
The Standard of Care for Medical Negligence Liability ................................. 95
1. Introduction ................................................... 95
2. The Rules on the Standard of Care ................................ 96
  2.1. Negligence under the GPCL (1987) ........................ 96
  2.2. Medical Negligence under the RHMMC (2002) ............... 98
  2.3. Medical Negligence under the Tort Law (2009) ............. 101
3. Legislative Standards, Practice Guidelines and Common Practices ............. 104
  3.1. Legislative Standards ...................................... 105
    3.1.1. Defining Legislative Standards ....................... 105
    3.1.2. Relationship between Legislative Standards and the Standard of Care 107
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.2. Practice Guidelines</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.1. Defining Practice Guidelines</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.2. Relationship between Practice Guidelines and the Standard of Care</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3. Common Practices</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3.1. Defining Common Practices</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3.2. Relationship between Common Practices and the Standard of Care</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. The Locality Rule</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1. Rationale for the Locality Rule</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2. Defects of the Locality Rule</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3. Does the Locality Rule Exist in China?</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4. Should China Adopt the Locality Rule?</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4.1. Medical Education and Resource Availability</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4.2. Does China Need the Locality Rule?</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. The Rule of Reversed Burden of Proof</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1. Effect of the Rule</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2. Rationale for the Rule of Reversed Burden of Proof</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3. Barriers to the Rule of Reversed Burden of Proof</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.4. Appraisal of the Rule of Reversed Burden of Proof</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. The Rule of Equitable Liability</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1. Defining the Rule of Equitable Liability</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2. Applicability of the Rule of Equitable Liability to Medical Negligence Cases</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.3. Problems in Applying the Rule of Equitable Liability in Medical Negligence Cases</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Conclusion</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chapter 4. The Medical Malpractice Technical Authentication System 143

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. The Main Rules and Nature of MMTA</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1. The Rules of MMTA under Local Legislation</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2. MMTA under the MHMMC (1987)</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3. MMTA under the RHMMC (2002)</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4. Summary: the Nature of MMTA</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. The Defects of MMTA</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1. Lack of Neutrality</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1.1. Dependence on the LHA</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1.2. Professional Protectionism</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2. Medical Experts Making Legal Decisions?</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. The Role of MMTA in Resolving Medical Negligence Disputes .............. 162
   4.1. Legislative Intent regarding the Role of MMTA ......................... 163
       4.1.1. Local Legislation and the MHMMC (1987) ......................... 163
       4.1.2. RHMMC (2002) .................................................... 164
       4.1.3. Tort Law (2009) .................................................. 166
   4.2. The Role of MMTA in Medical Negligence Litigation .................. 166
       4.2.1. Differences between MMTA and Forensic Authentication ........ 167
       4.2.2. The Monopoly of MMTA in Medical Malpractice Litigation .... 169
       4.2.3. MMTA is Subject to the Rules of Forensic Authentication ....... 172
5. Proposed Reform of MMTA ..................................................... 173
   5.1. Improving the Credibility of the MMTA System ......................... 174
       5.1.1. Reform of the Rule of Selection of Experts ...................... 175
       5.1.2. Strengthening the Rule of Recusal ................................ 176
       5.1.3. Strengthening Personal Accountability of Authenticators ....... 177
   5.2. Adjusting the Roles of Judges and MMTA Authenticators .............. 178
       5.2.1. Reducing the Mandate of MMTA .................................. 179
       5.2.2. Demanding Authenticators be Present at Trial for Questioning 181
       5.2.3. Encouraging the Courts to Review the MMTA Conclusions ....... 182
   5.3. Permitting Parties to Present Expert Evidence to Counter or Supplement the Findings of the MMTA in Litigation .................. 183
       5.3.1. Forensic Medical Authentication .................................. 183
       5.3.2. Expert Witnesses .................................................. 184
6. Conclusion ............................................................................... 184

Chapter 5.
Compensation for Medical Negligence ........................................ 187
   1. Introduction ................................................................. 187
   2. Restrictions on Compensation for Economic Loss Resulting from Medical Negligence .................................................. 188
       2.1. Standardization of the Multiplicand .................................. 188
           2.1.1. Specific Rules ...................................................... 189
           2.1.2. Rationale for Standardization of the Multiplicand .......... 191
       2.2. Caps on Compensation for Economic Loss ......................... 195
           2.2.1. Specific Rules ...................................................... 196
           2.2.2. Rationale for Imposition of Caps on Compensation for Economic Loss ............................................ 197
2.3. Appraisal of Restrictions on Compensation for Economic Loss. . . . 199
  2.3.1. Basic Rights of Victims of Medical Negligence ............... 199
  2.3.2. Deterrence and Health Care Quality ......................... 203
  2.3.3. Medical Liability Insurance ................................. 205
3. Compensation for Mental Suffering. ................................ 205
  3.1. The Concept of Compensation for Mental Suffering .......... 206
      3.1.1. Nature of Compensation for Mental Suffering .......... 206
      3.1.2. Categories of Compensation for Mental Suffering ...... 208
  3.2. Assessing the Amount of Compensation for Mental Suffering ... 209
      3.2.1. Specific Rules ........................................... 209
      3.2.2. The Six Factors for Assessing Compensation for Mental Suffering ........................................... 210
      3.2.3. The Meaning of Key Terms and Factors for Determining Compensation for Mental Suffering ................... 213
  3.3. Caps on Compensation for Mental Suffering .................. 214
      3.3.1. Appraisal of the Rules regarding Caps on Compensation for Mental Suffering .................................... 215
      3.3.2. Establishing a Tariff for Compensation for Mental Suffering ........................................... 216
4. Distinction between Urban and Rural Victims ..................... 218
  4.1. The Main Arguments against the Urban-Rural Distinction .... 219
  4.2. Fundamental Problems of the Urban-Rural Distinction ......... 220
  4.3. Legal Reform of the Urban-Rural Distinction before the Tort Law (2009) .................................................. 225
      4.3.1. Local Judicial Responses .................................. 225
      4.3.2. Response of the Supreme People’s Court ................ 229
      4.3.3. Legislative Response ........................................ 230
      4.3.4. Appraisal of Legal Reform .................................. 230
5. Conclusion ............................................................. 233

Conclusion ............................................................. 235

Bibliography ............................................................ 247
LIST OF FIGURES AND TABLES

Figure 1.1. Components of Drug Prices ........................................ 35
Figure 1.2. Patient Medical Payout ........................................... 47
Figure 1.3. Government Healthcare Spending ............................. 48
Figure 5.1. Ratios between the Disposable Income of Urban Residents and the Net Income of Rural Residents in China from 1978 to 2007 ........ 221
Figure 5.2. Ratios between the Disposable Income of Urban Residents and the Net Income of Rural Residents in Beijing from 1978 to 2007 ........ 222
Figure 5.3. Comparison of Income Per Capita (RMB) of Urban Residents in the Eastern Region, Central Region and Western Region of China from 1981 to 1999 ..................... 223
Figure 5.4. Comparison of Income Per Capita (RMB) of Rural Residents in the Eastern Area, Central Area and Western Regions of China from 1978 to 1999 ................................. 223
Figure 5.5. Comparison of Income Per Capita (RMB) in the Eastern Region and Western Region of China from 1978 to 2009 ............ 224
Table 5.1. Tort Awards for Medical Negligence in Sichuan Province (2002–2004) ......................................................... 204
### ABBREVIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAIE</td>
<td>Average Annual Income of Employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AALER</td>
<td>Average Annual Living Expenses of Residents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASBT</td>
<td>Accommodation Subsidies for Business Trips</td>
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<tr>
<td>LHA</td>
<td>Local Health Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LMA</td>
<td>Local Medical Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>LSD</td>
<td>Living Subsidies for Disability</td>
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<td>MMTA</td>
<td>Medical Malpractice Technical Authentication</td>
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<tr>
<td>MM-OMN</td>
<td>Distinction between Medical Malpractice and Ordinary Medical Negligence</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSBT</td>
<td>Meal Subsidies for Business Trips</td>
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<td>NRCMS</td>
<td>New Rural Cooperative Medical System</td>
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<tr>
<td>OFMA</td>
<td>Ordinary Forensic Medical Authentication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCALE</td>
<td>Per Capita Annual Living Expenses of Urban or Rural Residents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbreviation</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCI</td>
<td>Per Capita Disposable Income of Urban Residents or Per Capita Net Income of Rural Residents</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCMS</td>
<td>Rural Cooperative Medical System</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shanghai-RHMMC (1985)</td>
<td>Shanghai Interim Regulations for Handling Medical Malpractice Cases (1985)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shanxi-MAHMMC (1985)</td>
<td>Shanxi Province Trial Measures for Authentication and Handling of Medical Malpractice Cases (1985)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPC-CMS (2001)</td>
<td>Supreme People's Court Interpretation regarding Problems in Determining Tortious Liability for Compensation for Mental Suffering (2001)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPC-Response (1992)</td>
<td>Explanatory Response on How to Apply the Law in the Medical Malpractice Case of Li Xinrong v. Affiliated Hospital of Tianjin Number Two Medical College (1992)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UEBMIS</td>
<td>Urban Employees Basic Medical Insurance System</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LIST OF LEGISLATION*

CHINA

Constitution and Statutes

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Decision on Problems in the Administration of Forensic Authentication (2005)
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Intersentia

xxi
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Baby Zhang v A Hospital in Jiangwang District of Xuzhou (2008)
Chongqing Case (2005)
Family of Tao Hongquan v A Company (2007)
Infant of Ms. Yang v A Hospital in Beijing (2007)
Li v Affiliated Hospital of a College in Zhenjiang (2003)
Liu Lihui v People's Hospital of Fengcheng (2007)
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Mr. Wu v A Hospital in Tongzhou (2007)
Mr. Zhang v A Hospital (2002)
Mr. & Mrs. Ding Yan v A Hospital in Shanghai (2007)
Mr. & Mrs. Wu v Luocheng County People's Hospital in Hechi (2008)
Mr. & Mrs. Xian Caibao v A Hospital in Beijing (2006)
Mr. & Mrs. Zhou v A Health Centre in J’ian (2007)
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Ms. Chen v A Hospital in Xiangshan (2005)
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Medical Negligence Law in Transitional China

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