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Article header: Defensive medicine and its related risk factors: evidence from a sample of Iranian surgeons. Authors: Abbas Daneshkohan, Faezeh Ashter-Nakhaei, Alireza Zali, Soris Kallehnam, & Ehsan Zarei. Includes view count (126) and citation information.

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ABSTRACT

Objectives Defensive medicine (DM) is the deviation of a physician from normal behavior or what is a good practice and is aimed at reducing or avoiding the risk of legal litigation from patients or their families. Therefore, this study aimed to determine DM-related behaviors and associated risk factors among Iranian surgeons.

Methods In this cross-sectional study, 235 surgeons were selected using convenience sampling. The data gathering tool was a researcher-made questionnaire confirmed as a reliable and valid tool. Factors associated with DM-related behaviors were identified using logistic regression analysis.

Results DM-related behaviors ranged from 14.9% to 88.9%. The most common positive DM-related behaviors, including unnecessary biopsy (78.7%), imaging and laboratory tests (72.4% and 70.6%), and refusing high-

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