



# Managing the Impaired Practitioner – Lessons from LIBERIA

Dr. Augustus Garlet Quiah, ICAP-1, MSc.CAMH, MB ChB, B.A.

Registrar General, Liberia Medical and Dental Council,  
Monrovia, Liberia.

July 27-31, 2025



PROUDLY HOSTED BY



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH



#AMCOA2025



A case of an Intern Dr X.Y. Graduated from a Medical School in West Africa English-Speaking Country.

Internship: November 2022 in Obstetric and Gynaecology at the Jackson F. Doe Regional Referral Hospital, Nimba County.



PROUDLY HOSTED BY



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH



#AMCOA2025



---

**Report file by the Consultant on June 12, 2023:**

---

**Fundamental difficulty in understanding essential basic medical terminologies at intern level.**

---

**Lack of understanding of patient's record and proper documentation, also inadequate record keeping.**

---

**Difficulties in understanding medical literatures or research papers for unit presentation during seminars.**

---



A decorative header at the top of the slide featuring a network of blue lines and dots. Several circular icons are placed along the top edge, including a large white cross, a heart with a cross, a caduceus, and a person in a wheelchair.

---

**Difficulty in completing tasks, despite extra support by the Consultant and Resident Doctors.**

---

**Difficulty working within a team.**

---

**He feels his suggestions are always correct and should be recognized**

---

**Whenever he is on call, he escapes work often.**

---



**The Intern was forwarded to the Psychiatric for assessment, treatment and recommendation(s) at the E S Grant Mental Health Hospital, JFKMC.**



**Diagnosis: Personality traits consistent with Narcissistic Personality disorder.**



**Recommendation: Psychological Intervention including Cognitive Behavior Therapy.**



---

**Had several sessions of psychotherapy**

---

**But realizing Narcissistic Personality treatment difficulty, the followings were recommended:**

---

**Internship resumption for possible performance evaluation**

---

**Continual psychotherapy**

---

**Given specific tasks and unique rules to follow**

---

**Re-evaluation and necessary intervention to improve his actions and inactions.**

---



---

# **The Intern was reassigned to resume internship – Internal Medicine**

---

**November 8, 2024, formal complaint was made  
against the Intern in question by a patient.**

---

**Intern: “what is wronged with you?”**

---

A decorative header at the top of the slide featuring a network of blue lines and dots. Several circular icons are placed along the top edge, including a large white cross, a heart with a cross, a caduceus, and a person in a wheelchair.

---

**Patient: “I am having weakness, vomiting, loss of appetite and fever”.**

---

**Intern: he looked at her and in a very loud tone, he asked: “does water leak from your vagina? When was the last time you saw your period?”**

---

**Intern: “you are a foolish and stupid person”.**


---

**Patient and partner file a complaint due to his unprofessional behavior.**





**While the Hospital was investigating the complaint, another complaint was filed against the same Intern – November 19, 2024**



**Alleged sexual misconduct against a minor – patient's daughter, who provided care for her mother on admission.**




**He coerces the daughter and she visited his home 3 times in the space of one month.**



The Intern is currently on suspension pending Investigation for the alleged sexual misconduct by the John F. Kennedy Medical Center Management.



The Liberia Medical and Dental Council is awaiting the report from the Investigations for decision.



Important question: Pending the outcome of the investigation, what should LMDC do based on the previous reports from both teaching hospitals?



**Thank you! Weebale! Asanta!  
Merci! Obrigado!**

**QUESTIONS?**



*PROUDLY HOSTED BY*



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH



**#AMCOA2025**