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The Patient and the Practitioner: Health Law and Ethics in Australia



By Allan S M; Blake, M
\$121

This book combines an accessible, detailed and highly cohesive discussion of the legal principles applicable to health care with a critical assessment

of the current cultural, political and scientific themes that present distinct and difficult ethical challenges. It is an invaluable resource for a wide audience including legal and health practitioners, academics, and undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Australian Medical Liability e2

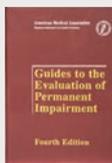


By Madden, B;
McIlwraith, J **\$169**

This thoroughly revised, comprehensive handbook provides a detailed and in-depth commentary on the elements of medical liability legislation

across Australia. It follows the structure of a medical negligence claim through duty, breach and causation, ensuring its practicality as a resource for the busy practitioner and the interested student.

AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment: American Medical Association e4



Updated 09/2008 **\$315**

This text provides the standard for evaluating multiple body systems and determining degree of impairment. It also includes chapters on evaluating pain, organ

transplantation and the adverse effects of pharmaceuticals. This comprehensive collection is truly a one-stop shop for all impairment, disability and training needs.

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Other readers may like the essays on Chinese and Japanese perspectives on long-term contracts. Or perhaps the chapter on drafting, which includes helpful tables, case studies and sample drafting.

For yet other readers, the 50-page appendix of sample clauses drawn from public sources will be the most useful part of the book. (For my part, the varying quality of the drafting and the lack of accompanying commentary make them less useful.)

What unites the disparate essays is a common focus on rigorous but practical advice dispensed in a lively tone, with generous use of examples, tables and summaries. In short, this book holds something of interest for all readers.

WAYNE JOIC
SENIOR LECTURER, MELBOURNE LAW SCHOOL

Documentary Evidence: The Laws of Australia

Roger Brown, *Documentary Evidence: The Laws of Australia* (2nd edn), 2013, Thomson Reuters, pb \$139.95

This title addresses the admissibility and use of documentary evidence and computer-produced evidence in court proceedings in Australia. It takes a well ordered approach to the subject at hand, dealing first with the varieties of records that may constitute a “document” and explaining the important statutory and common law definitions which come into play in treating the written word, photographs, films and tapes, public documents, statutory certificates and others.

Broad concepts such as the evidentiary effect of documents and the “best evidence” and hearsay rules are addressed in a manner that gives the reader the “big picture” (and an historical perspective) with respect to issues of admissibility, before delving into the more detailed and specific rules, concepts and intricacies contained in the contemporary legislation governing admissibility of documentary evidence.

The text gives balanced attention to both the *Uniform Evidence Acts* (which apply in all Commonwealth Courts as well as throughout Victoria, New South Wales, Tasmania, the ACT and the Northern Territory) and to the various other jurisdictions which are yet to adopt the uniform approach. Where differences arise between the rules applicable in criminal and civil proceedings, the reader’s attention is drawn to the differences.

Because of the important role played by business records, banking records and other books of account in litigation, particular

consideration is also given to these areas. The book also addresses “computer-produced” records, and their admissibility in proceedings, again, both under the *Uniform Evidence Acts*, and in the remaining jurisdictions.

Throughout the book clear and concise treatment is given to each subject, and the use of examples drawn from the common law point the reader in the direction of a correct understanding of the statutory rules being explained where this is necessary. As is to be expected, there is an extensive use of important case law, including recent decisions throughout the text, bringing matters of particular import or potential confusion to the reader’s attention.

DOUGLAS J JAMES
BARRISTER

The Law of Liability Insurance, Vols 1 and 2

Derrington, *The Honourable Desmond, and Ashton, Ronald, The Law of Liability Insurance Volumes 1 and 2* (3rd edn), 2013, LexisNexis, hb \$395

Since it first appeared in 1990 *The Law of Liability Insurance* has been an indispensable resource for Australian insurance lawyers. For many, it has long been their first point of reference. The publication of the third edition was therefore keenly awaited.

The third edition exhibits what is referred to in the publishing industry as page inflation. Whereas the publishers managed to fit the second edition into one heavy volume, this was simply not possible for the third edition. It numbers a staggering 3437 pages, not including the table of cases, which in itself is over 200 pages long. Per page, per kilogram, it is great value for money.

The learned authors have done their utmost to leave no stone unturned. Somewhere within the two volumes, lawyers can be confident of discovering sufficient details to allow them to unravel almost any liability insurance issue that comes their way, no matter how complex.

Nevertheless, the enormous level of detail may for some practitioners come at a cost. It is not a work for someone who has only a passing or infrequent interest in insurance law. The hard copy is not for those with bad backs who wish to sling it into their backpacks for a stint of weekend work. Thankfully, it is also available as an eBook.

As with the second edition, there are thirteen chapters. Several chapters relate not only to liability insurance but to insurance law generally, for instance the nature of insurance contracts, the construction