

COVER LETTER

This is to confirm that the article entitled "**Defensive Medicine - Sword of Damocles**" submitted to the **Indian Journal of Medical Ethics** is original and has been co-authored by the undersigned. All authors have participated in the work sufficiently to meet the ICMJE guidelines for authorship. All have read and approved the manuscript.

The submission is not under consideration for publication in any other journal. We give consent to Dr. Nonita Dhirar, to act as the author for correspondence.

All the authors have significantly contributed in the collection, compilation and analysis of the data and the completion of the manuscript. The manuscript has been finalized after thorough review and agreement of all the authors. We confirm that this work is original and has not been published elsewhere nor is it currently under consideration for publication elsewhere. There are no conflicts of interest and the study has not received any funding. We have read the terms and conditions of authorship of IJME and accept them.

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Thank you

With Regards

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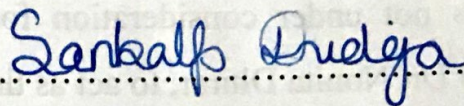
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