

Supplementary Table 1. Suggested interventions at multiple levels

Level	Key Action	Example Interventions	Potential Accountability Mechanisms
Cultural / Training	De-normalise avoidance	Embed ethics in ward rounds; senior modelling of responsibility; reflective debriefing	Faculty appraisal linked to ethical modelling
Institutional	Embed clear accountability	Mandatory discharge audits; escalation pathways; patient advocacy desks	Annual institutional audits, peer review
Trainee Protection	Enable safe resistance	Protected reporting channels, anti-retaliation policies, moral injury support	Independent trainee ombudsman
Transparency	Make ethics measurable	Patient safety metrics, escalation compliance data, publication of performance dashboards	Public reporting and accreditation impact
Regulatory / Oversight	Link ethics to accreditation	Accountability metrics in NMC inspections, ethics in Graduate Medical Education regulations	Accreditation consequences for non-compliance

Summary box

“Batting” is a hidden curriculum practice that rewards avoidance over responsibility. It causes moral injury to trainees, harms patients, and reflects deeper structural failures in Indian medical education.

Author Statement

As a frontline emergency medicine clinician, I have repeatedly witnessed — and at times been pressured to participate in — avoidance behaviours embedded in training. This commentary reflects a critical engagement with those lived experiences, contextualised within broader ethical and structural analyses. It is written not to assign individual blame, but to make visible the systemic forces shaping daily clinical practice.

Ethics Statement

All clinical examples included in this manuscript and supplementary files have been fully anonymised, with no identifiable patient information. No formal patient consent was required as no personal identifiers are present, and cases were used for educational and ethical analysis only. This work is a reflective commentary and does not involve human subject research.