



# Public Board Minutes

**MEDCO BOARD MEETING  
TIME:**

**TUESDAY 5 OCTOBER 2021  
10:00– 12:00**

**MEETING PLACE:**

**Microsoft Teams Meeting**

---

**DIRECTORS:**

Martin Heskins (MH) – Executive Chair  
Brian Simpson (BS) – Chartered Society of Physiotherapists  
David Bott (DB) – Association of Personal Injury Lawyers  
Ian Mackie (IM) N.E.D  
Jackie Proctor (JP) – Motor Insurers Bureau  
John Howells (JH) – N.E.D  
Kate Fox (KF) – The Law Society  
Nigel Teasdale (NT) – Forum of Insurance Lawyers  
Surendra Kumar (SK) – British Medical Association  
Susan Brown (SB) – Motor Accident Solicitors Society

**OBSERVERS ATTENDING THE BOARD:**

Adam Ballard (AB) – ABI Representative.  
Leigh Evans (LE) – Head of Operations MedCo  
Mark Waughman (MW) – Data Services Officer  
Nadine Silverton (NS) – Data Services Officer  
Scott Tubbritt (ST) – Ministry of Justice

**SECRETARIAT:**

Jean Gillett - MIB

**APOLOGIES:**

Ben Fletcher (BF) – CC0 MIB

## 1. WELCOME

MH welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 1.1 Declarations of Interests/Gifts

No new declarations

### 1.2 Announcements

No announcements

### 1.3 Board Minutes 07 September 2021

Approved

### 1.4 Public Board Minutes 07 September 2021

Approved

### 1.5 Outstanding Actions

Updated

## 2. MOJ UPDATE

Lord Wolfson will continue to have the civil brief since the last cabinet reshuffle.

The statistics from the OC should be issued this month and there will be a review of the operation of the OIC service.

The MOJ will be writing to all bodies involved regarding remote examinations.

## 3. RISK REGISTER

The Risk Register was discussed, and appropriate actions were taken.

## 4. REMOTE EXAMINATIONS

The Board discussed whether Remote Examinations should be allowed to continue although the MoJ wishes Medical Examination to take place in person and will soon be writing to all bodies involved to canvass their views.

The Board agreed that at this current time it would be inappropriate for MedCo to ban remote examinations due to the lingering anxiety in the population caused by the current pandemic, but that people should be nudged back to face to face. The Board agreed that ideally, they would like remote examinations to only take place in exceptional circumstances i.e., vulnerable claimants and that a record is kept why the examination was carried out remotely.

The Board agreed that people should be encouraged back to face to face examinations, as a face to face examination is much better for the claimant, the current data should that face to face only accounts for 24% of cases

At present there is no difference between prognosis of remote and face to face for MROs there are significant increases in prognosis and treatment with physiotherapists.

## **5. MONTHLY UPDATES**

### **5.1 Audit**

In view of the current pandemic, all audit site visits were suspended from 23 March 2020 per MedCo website announcement. Where required, site visits can now be undertaken by MedCo's audit team.

Audits of DMEs and MROs that apply to undertake work for Unrepresented Claimants commenced during the week beginning 22 March 2021 and are ongoing.

The Audit Committee continue to monitor use of the system, taking appropriate actions where misuse is identified.

### **5.2 Operations**

The Operations Committee meet regularly to review all feedback, queries, and complaints from users of MedCo. The Committee support regulators with their investigations as required.

During this reporting period the Committee have reviewed several issues which relate to topics that occur frequently such as amendments to reports, payment arrangements, second searches and queries relating to Part 35.

The Committee are monitoring several ongoing issues to ensure resolution.

### **5.3 EAPR**

EAPR continue to monitor experts and their data and apply sanctions, where appropriate. The EAPR are also looking at corroborating with other data sources to enrich their current data.

### **5.4 IT**

The IT Committee continue to work with our suppliers to ensure a smooth transition from MIB to MedCo.

## **5.5 Education and Training**

The Committee continue to meet on a regular basis to ensure the accreditation and CPD framework is maintained and to address any associated day to day issues.

Focus remains on the full evaluation of the first complete cycle of CPD to assess the effectiveness of the programme and identify any required change.

The Committee are continuing to monitor experts progress through the annual CPD programme.

## **5.6 Statistics**

The report was noted as read.

## **6. MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS**

The report was noted as read.

**Meeting ended at 13:00**