

**MEDCO BOARD MEETING
TIME:**

**WEDNESDAY 28 MARCH 2023
10:00 – 11:27**

MEETING PLACE:

Microsoft Teams

DIRECTORS:

Martin Heskins (MH)	– Executive Chair
Brett Dixon (BD)	– Association of Personal Injury Lawyers
David Bott (DB)	– Non-Executive Director
Jackie Proctor (JP)	– Association of British Insurers
John Howells (JH)	– Non-Executive Director
Kate Fox (KF)	– The Law Society
Susan Brown (SB)	– Motor Accident Solicitors Society
Ian Mackie (IM)	– Non-Executive Director
Nigel Teasdale (NT)	– Forum of Insurance Lawyers
Joanne May (JM)	– Gibraltar Insurance Association
Simon Margolis (SM)	– Association of Medical Reporting Organisations
Surendra Kumar (SK)	– British Medical Association

OBSERVERS ATTENDING THE BOARD:

Leigh Evans (LE)	– Head of Operations MedCo
Mark Waughman (MW)	– MedCo
Nadine Silverton (NS)	– MedCo
Scott Tubbritt (ST)	– Ministry of Justice

SECRETARIAT:

Jean Abbit	– MedCo
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APOLOGIES:

Ashley James (AJ)	– The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy
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1. WELCOME

MH welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1.1 MedCo Board Minutes 28 February 2023

The Minutes were approved.

1.4 MedCo Public Board Minutes 28 February 2022

The Minutes were approved.

2. UPDATES

2.1 MoJ Update

The Justice Committee enquiry into the OIC will be reviewing all the written evidence and then set a date for the hearings which will probably be before the summer recess.

The MoJ continue to develop the planned medical reporting consultation. The document will focus on a number of issues including the offer, revised qualifying criteria and the role of administration agencies amongst other things. Additional data from MedCo will be required to inform the drafting.

The Call for Evidence for Discount Rate (PIDR) Dual Rate call for evidence is still open until the 11 April. The process to recruit the independent experts for the panel is not complete as one position is being readvertised, the Lord Chancellor will make the final decisions on who to appoint.

2.2 Chair and Head of Operations Update

A Directors' Report for inclusion into the Audited Accounts has been prepared. MedCo have also submitted a paper to the OIC Call for evidence committee.

MH was on a Question Panel for ABI webinar on fraud.

3. MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

The report was noted as read.

4. REHABILITATION PROPOSITION

The Board discussed what the next steps should be, now that the scoping report requested by the Rehab Working Group, funded by ABI, is complete.

5. RISK

The Risk Committee's recommendations were accepted by the Board.

6. MONTHLY UPDATE

6.1 Audit

The Audit Committee continues to monitor use of the system, taking appropriate actions where misuse is identified or suspected. The Committee meets regularly with MedCo's audit team, Grant Thornton, to discuss audits of users before decisions are communicated to users.

The 2023 audit program of work is progressing well and the committee are working on changes to the rules relating to the options available in the event of an unsuccessful audit.

6.2 Operations

The Operations Committee meets regularly to monitor and address all feedback, queries, and complaints from all users of MedCo. Each case is considered on its own merit, and the Committee agree the appropriate action to resolve each issue.

The committee have considered a number of remote examination requests and have seen a number of complaints from medical report providers that they are not getting paid in unrepresented claims by compensators.

6.3 EAPR

The EAPR Committee continues to monitor experts and case data uploaded, including data for cases arranged via Official Injury Claims. Feedback to experts is provided and where necessary, sanctions applied.

6.4 Education and Training

A new training module - Legal update for Expert Witness was released on 9 March, a comms via e-shot was issued which included a reminder of the CPD

deadline 31 May.

System reminders of the CPD Deadline are going out monthly and their frequency will increase to weekly as the deadline becomes closer.

6.5 IT

Testing for the GDPR and security set of changes has finished and a date for implementation is being agreed.

The Tech refresh project will start next month.

6.6 Stats

The report was noted as read.

MEETING ENDED AT 11:27