



MEDICAL REPORTS WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE QUALITY

**Leonardo Royal Hotel
Birmingham**

Bringing together
MedCo operational
users.

An opportunity to
network with other
MedCo Users and
discuss issues
frequently
encountered.

An opportunity for
learning and
improving skills

8th OCTOBER 2024
13.00 – 17.00
(Registration 12.30)



BACKGROUND

In February 2024 MedCo organised a number of roundtable events at our offices in Milton Keynes to gain feedback from our registered Users in relation to the medical reporting process and the quality of medical reports. There were 4 separate sessions over a 2-day period - a session each for Medical Reporting Organisations, one for Authorised Users, one for Medical Experts and a session for Compensators.

The feedback from those who were fortunate to attend the roundtables was excellent and several attendees stated that they would like to attend similar events where there was a mix of representatives from User Groups that would present opportunities for networking and share experiences in open debate.

The aim of this event not only seeks to satisfy that demand but also include specific “educational” elements designed to assist MedCo in its continuing efforts to improve the quality of medical reporting and the experiences of our Users.

Please note that Medical Experts attending this event should be aware that due to current resources and scheduled projects it has not been possible to arrange with our Accreditation I.T. providers for the event to qualify for annual MedCo CPD requirements. However, upon request on the day, we will be able to subsequently provide confirmation of attendance (3 hours) if it assists any individual in complying with their particular regulator’s CPD requirements.

Martin Heskins

Executive Chair



MEDICAL REPORTS

WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE QUALITY

Date **8th October 2024**

Time **13.00 to 17.00**

PROGRAMME

12.30 – 13.00 **Registration**

13.00 – 13.15 **Welcome/Introductions etc.**

13.15 – 14.30 **Session 1**

14.30 – 15.00 **Refreshments/Networking**

15.00 – 15.30 **Session 2**

15.30 – 16.00 **Roundtables Discussion**

16.00 – 16.20 **Roundtables Feedback**

16.20 – 16.55 **Q&A Panel**

16.55 – 17.00 **Close**

Session 1

This session will include a sharing of experiences of common issues encountered when dealing with insurers, solicitors and medical report providers. It will aim to improve communication and understanding of the common problems encountered by Users on a day to day basis.

The session will also include a brief summary of common issues and concerns from a MedCo perspective that are encountered on a regular basis .

Speakers

Martin Heskins

David Bott (Claimant/AUT)

Simon Austin (Compensator)

Wayne Brannan (MRO)

Session 2

Medical Report Writing

The session will deal with what the courts and compensators expect to see in medical reports and the necessity to deal with causation and mechanism of injuries. It will also highlight common problems encountered by medical experts in reliance on claimant questionnaires and third party “administration agencies”.

Speakers

Dr. Sahir Shaikh and Dr. Simon Briggs

Roundtable Discussions

An opportunity for discussion within individual table groups about issues they encounter and medical reports generally and provide feedback to MedCo.

SPEAKERS

Martin Heskins



Martin became the General Manager of Medco Registration Solutions in December 2015 upon his retirement from the Law Society where he was the Civil Justice Policy Adviser for 11 years. He subsequently took over the role of Chair of MedCo in December 2016.

He has an extensive background in civil litigation having spent 29 years in practice when he acted for claimants and defendants, including major insurance companies, local authorities and a Police Authority. During his time at the Law Society he was the lead on all civil litigation costs and funding issues, including the Jackson reforms and the Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (Part 2). As well as facilitating continuing professional development events he also represented the Law Society in major stakeholder negotiations with the Government, Insurers and the Civil Justice Council, including the setup of the Claims Portal.

One of Martin's main aims in his role with Medco is to ensure the system works more effectively, within the policy constraints provided by government, so that unacceptable behaviours are eradicated as soon as possible.

David Bott



David is the senior partner at Bott & Co.

As well as being a member of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL), David also served as the APIL President from April 2011 to April 2012 and sat on APIL's Executive Committee for 12 years.

Caring greatly about the rights of claimants, he has been heavily involved with the RTA Claims Portal via the Project Steering Group and was formally a Director of PortalCo.

He was elected to the executive committee of the Legal Management Section of the Law Society in April 2006 and sat on it until 2012. David later became vice-chairman of the Legal Management Section for two years.

David has sat on the Board of MedCo since May 2015.

Wayne Brannan



Wayne joined Premex in 2015, following a 10-year career in the legal and insurance sectors. Wayne began his career as a filing clerk in a property law firm in 1998 before becoming a Fee Earner in the Sale & Purchase, Disputes and Litigation areas before moving into insurance services in 2011. He has an extensive background in commercial management and procurement and a keen interest in cross-sector collaboration to simplify processes and remove unnecessary friction.

Wayne was promoted to the Premex board in September 2018 and is responsible for looking after trading and driving commercial innovation across Premex Group's customer base both inside and outside of PI.

Dr Sahir Shaikh



Dr. Sahir Shaikh is a highly experienced medicolegal expert with over 25 years of expertise in writing personal injury reports. As a trained orthopaedic surgeon, he brings unique insight into the causation and implications of musculoskeletal injuries. Dr. Shaikh is one of the very few experts to have undergone advanced training in whiplash biomechanics. This specialized knowledge was honed over three years in the United States under the tutelage of renowned whiplash injury expert, Dr. Arthur Croft. His combination of surgical background, extensive medicolegal experience, and specialized training in whiplash biomechanics positions Dr. Shaikh as a distinguished authority in personal injury cases, particularly those involving complex musculoskeletal and whiplash injuries. He is passionate about training and mentoring other medical experts who could benefit from his experience

Simon Austin



Simon has been with Direct Line Group for 17 years having spent the previous 16 years with CIS and Allianz.

Prior to his current role he handled sub-catastrophic injury motor, EL, PL, product liability and disease claims. Along the way he has also been a Claims Inspector and managed a Large Loss team.

In his current role at DLG he is responsible for technical best practice across both motor and EL/PL injury claims. His role is also market facing and he is a member of the FOIL UK Claims Managers Association, the ABI Northern Ireland Claims Managers Forum, the cross-industry rehabilitation initiative and sits on MedCo's Audit and EAPR committees. For this session there will be representatives from each of the three MedCo User Groups (Medical, Claimant and Compensator), in addition to a qualified solicitor who has an in depth knowledge of the relevant Civil Procedure Rules and Protocols, available to answer any questions.

Dr Simon Briggs



Simon's background is in General Practice and he has been providing medicolegal reports for 25 years. His present workload is approximately equally divided between Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence. He still works in the NHS as a GP locum. His roles include:- Expert advisor to the GMC on GP fitness to practice; MedCo - Medical Advisory Board member; MedCo - Audit Committee member; Appraiser of PI peer reports for two MROs.

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