

MedCo February Public Board Minutes

MEDCO BOARD MEETING
TIME:

TUESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2025
10:00 – 12:00

MEETING PLACE:

Teams Meeting

DIRECTORS:

Martin Heskins (MH)	Executive Chair
Toks Aluko (TA)	Chartered Society of Physiotherapist
Susan Brown (SB)	Motor Accident Solicitors Society
John McQuater (JMQ)	Association of Personal Injury Lawyers
Kate Fox (KF)	The Law Society
John Howells (JH)	Non-Executive Director
Surendra Kumar (SK)	British Medical Association
Simon Margolis (SM)	Association of Medical Reporting Organisation
Joanne May (JM)	Gibraltar Insurance Association
Jackie Proctor (JP)	Association of British Insurers
Nigel Teasdale (NT)	Forum of Insurance Lawyers

OBSERVERS ATTENDING THE BOARD:

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

SECRETARIAT:

Jean Abbit (JA)	MedCo
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APOLOGIES:

David Bott (DB)	Non-Executive Director
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1. WELCOME

1.1. Appointment of APIL director

John McQuater was officially appointed as the APIL representative.

1.2. MedCo Board Minutes from 15 January 2025

Approved

1.3. MedCo Public Board Minutes from 15 January 2025

Approved

1.4 Board Dates 2025

Included for information.

2. UPDATES

2.1 MOJ Update

The whiplash tariff is progressing, with the review and engagement with Lord Justice now complete. Debate dates in both House are to be scheduled.

The QC rules will take effect on April 6, and CNF changes will also be implemented from that date.

2.2 Head of Operations & Chairs Update

The Board was advised that a highly productive workshop has taken place. The discussion focused on gathering information on admin agencies, setting a timeline for this work, and finalising the new set of Qualifying Criteria.

MedCo has now published communications regarding the new updated Qualifying Criteria for MROs and new Rules for DMEs effective from 6 April 2025.

All changes to the MedCo Rules and User Agreements required to implement a probation period for new experts have been made and issued and must be accepted by the 6th of April 2025.

3. MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

The Board was briefed on the key highlights of the account

4. BUDGET AND CHARGING POLICY FOR 2025

The Board was asked to agree the 2025 Budget which has been in place since 1 January 2025.

Charging Policy – Fees

At the Board meeting in January, the Board agreed the following fees for 2025-2026.

T1 MRO	£112,500	25% abatement
T2 MRO	£15,000	25% abatement
DME	£630	20% increase
IME	£252	20% increase
Case Data fee	£35	40% increase

Decisions

The Board agreed both the Budget and Charging policy for 2025.

5. ADMIN AGENCY SURVEY

At the January workshop and Board meeting it was agreed that DMEs should be surveyed to ascertain the type(s) of administration services they use. This is to assist the MoJ and their proposals as set out in response to the Medical Reporting Consultation published in December 2024.

The aim is to circulate the survey to all DMEs by the end of February. Completion of the survey will be mandatory.

6. COMMITTEE UPDATES

6.1 Audit Committee

The audit plan is on track and within budget. DME audits, DME LiP audits and AUT audits continue to be reviewed at each meeting.

6.2 Operations

The Ops Committee continue to address quality issues, and these include requests for injuries to be added at a later date and concerns relating to inconsistencies such as mis use of he/she, rear seat passengers injuring themselves on the dashboard etc. which lead onto issues of plausibility.

The issue with Compensators not paying experts continues. This has been raised with the MoJ and the ABI who are reminding compensators of their obligation to pay experts.

6.3 EAPR

The Board were informed that the committee work was mostly business as usual, including reviewing Quality Assessments (QA) and concluded 2 MAB referrals

Work in relation to case data uploads, reports completed in a day and numbers of practising addresses continues as part of the on-going monitoring process.

6.4 Education and Training Committee

The Committee remains active with four new modules in progress: Common MAB review findings, Best Practice Guidance (draft agreed), Tinnitus Guidance, and Non-Tariff Injuries. The Common Themes document has been approved and will be a mandatory module, awaiting the development of a separate CPD area by Bond Solon.

The Committee are considering offering the Best Practice and Tinnitus modules as face-to-face sessions.

6.5 IT

The Board was advised that system availability has remained at 100%.

6.6 Statistics

The report was noted as read.

7. AOB

No AOB