

Excellence in medico-legal report writing

Thursday 8 May 2025

BMA House, Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9JP

BMA

Programme

9.30 – 10am **REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS**

10 – 10.30am Welcome and introduction
Exercise 1: Objectives

10.30 – 11.15am The fundamentals of medico-legal expert report writing

The building-blocks of expert report writing are covered, including the following:

- *differences between primary and secondary sources*
- *differences between evidence of a witness of fact and an expert*
- *a structured approach to expert report writing*

Exercise 2: Note taking and report writing exercise

Delegates take part in a structured simulation of the investigatory stage and report writing stage of their work.

11.15 – 11.30am **REFRESHMENT BREAK**

11.30am – 1pm Exercise 3: Assessing notes and medico-legal reports

The use of objective assessment criteria to critique expert notes and reports is introduced. By assessing the whole range of factors that comprise notes and reports delegates will come to understand what constitutes best practice standards when drafting expert witness reports in the future. Using the objective assessment criteria, delegates will prepare and give constructive feedback to colleagues on their notes and reports prepared in Exercise 2.

1 – 2pm **LUNCH BREAK**

2 – 3pm Exercise 4: Assessing reports

Delegates will adopt the perspective of the decision-maker (e.g. judge) and use the same objective assessment criteria to critique and prepare feedback on the reports which they have brought along with them on the course. This will help reinforce in delegates best practice standards in report writing and will help them understand how they can insulate their reports against cross-examination should they find themselves having to present them in court or another legal hearing.

3 – 3.15pm **REFRESHMENT BREAK**

3.15 – 4.15pm Feedback

4.15 – 4.30pm Objectives and close

4.30pm **CLOSE**

