



Physiotherapy Expert Witnesses

At Bush & Co we acknowledge the core skills required for physiotherapy practice to diagnose and holistically treat a wide range of clinical problems. We couple that with ensuring our associate expert witnesses have the clinical knowledge and experience required to comment on key areas of clinical negligence and personal injury, including musculoskeletal, cardio-respiratory and neuromuscular clinical science.

Our associate physiotherapist expert witnesses provide a comprehensive opinion on breach of duty, following a full evaluation of the evidence provided; incorporating the latest standards of care and applying relevant legal tests. Where a person has experienced changes to their physical functional ability post-index injury, physiotherapists are crucial in evaluating condition and prognosis and providing recommendations including aids and equipment in a comprehensive quantum report.

Following a detailed examination of the claimant, our physiotherapy reports are able to quantify in detail how a claimant is functioning now as a result of their injury, what impact this has had on them holistically and how all corners of their life have been affected. Their extensive clinical experience enables them to provide an opinion regarding the prognostic aspect of a Claimant's injury and how this may vary under alternative scenarios and following potential future surgery.

As experts in neuro-musculoskeletal and respiratory conditions, our physiotherapists support their cases further by identifying when it may be necessary to involve other health care professionals, e.g. podiatrists and orthotists, who may not be instructed as part of the case but are pivotal to ensuring optimum recovery for the claimant.

We can provide highly-skilled physiotherapists to prepare both quantum and liability expert reports, and 'hybrid' reports, commenting on quantum, condition, prognosis and causation, in relation to complex cases where the Claimant may have pre-existing conditions and vulnerabilities in addition to their index injury.

Our associates

Our associate physiotherapy expert witnesses have experience working with:

- Advanced physiotherapy practice
- Amputation
- Brain injuries
- Chronic pain
- Congenital abnormalities
- Neurodegenerative disease
- Orthopaedic conditions
- Paediatric injuries and conditions
- Poly-trauma
- Respiratory conditions
- Vestibular conditions
- Women's health

Criminal cases

Due to our breadth of expertise and experience we are often approached by the CPS and police forces across the UK to provide expert physiotherapy opinion on criminal cases; commenting on whether the physiotherapy care provided was appropriate or not.

Get in touch

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Tracy Fields | Physiotherapist

Tracey is an amenable expert witness, highly experienced in limb reconstruction, orthopaedics, amputees and more recently plastic surgery and burns injuries. She has strong expertise in working with children following major trauma and sensitive to the needs of young people and their family. This experience has been gained in a number of settings including a large teaching hospital and a specialist children's hospital within a Major Trauma Centre. Tracy has vast experience of treating children with congenital conditions, complex trauma and following the surgical management of neuromuscular conditions such as cerebral palsy.

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Jessica Withpetersen | Physiotherapist

Jessica has over 20 years' experience in physiotherapy with particular expertise in amputation, prosthetics and vascular surgery in outpatient NHS settings including North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust and Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS Trust. During this time, she has held senior positions including clinical lead for critical care; providing operational management for the Critical Care Team across intensive care units, surgical recovery unit and respiratory and surgical wards. As a clinical specialist physiotherapist she runs a prosthetic satellite clinic from Addenbrookes Hospital out of Peterborough City Hospital in conjunction with the rehabilitation consultant, prosthetist and technicians, treating children, young people and adults from pre-prosthetics to discharge from physiotherapy.

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Jennifer De Canha | Physiotherapist

Jennifer is a highly specialised neurological physiotherapist and provides expert physiotherapy assessment and rehabilitation for adults who present with neurological disorders and injuries. She has worked across both the statutory and private sectors and most recently as the head of physiotherapy at Ascot Rehabilitation Unit, where she provided a client-focused rehabilitation service to clients from 16 years old and above. In this clinical leadership role, she acted in a consultancy capacity for all clinical staff in determining the clinical diagnosis and treatment plan for patients with neurological conditions. As the therapy team lead within this service, Jennifer was responsible for ensuring that the service was able to address complex patient issues and driving forwards the new service initiatives in the area of neurological rehabilitation. As a consequence of her extensive clinical career in neurology, Jennifer is highly skilled in the assessment and therapeutic management of patients with head injuries, strokes, spinal injuries and those with lower motor neurone disorders.

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Myra Robson | Physiotherapist

Myra is a highly specialised pelvic health physiotherapist, having qualified as a physiotherapist in 1991 and gaining an interest in pelvic health during her career. She now works as a band 8a clinical lead for an integrated pelvic health team at Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust. She is particularly experienced in the management of prolapses, pelvic floor exercise adherence and dysfunction and ways to address the stigma surrounding pelvic health conditions such as incontinence. As a pelvic health specialist, her clinical case load includes complex conditions involving persistent pelvic pain, pelvic and perineal trauma, sexual dysfunction, neurogenic bladder and bowel dysfunction and cauda equina-related issues. Myra is also experienced in the issues surrounding mesh complications and was a clinical expert on the government led review into mesh giving evidence, led by Baroness Cumberlege.

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Holly Spencer | Physiotherapist

Holly is a specialist respiratory physiotherapist with over 16 years' experience working within the NHS and educational settings. She currently works within education and private practice and her experience and expert knowledge includes the management of people with respiratory disorder or disease. As a clinical specialist respiratory physiotherapist Holly has worked for Cardiff and Vale NHS Health Board managing a case load of clients from birth to adult with complex respiratory needs in acute, outpatients and community settings, including emergency on-call with particular expertise in paediatric populations. She is experienced in long-term ventilation, cough augmentation and respiratory care planning and has worked with patients in intensive care, post-surgery and with those living with chronic respiratory conditions. Holly has additional experience in thoracic medicine cardiac and thoracic surgery, intensive care and high dependency, A&E settings and working with clients living with cystic fibrosis.

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