

Key skills: Witness statements and oral evidence

Basic description of course and content

Too many unnecessary admissions of liability and red herrings appear in witness statements produced by health care professionals. NHS employees are often required to produce statements as part of serious incident reporting procedures, disciplinary matters or for the coroner. These statements are nearly always produced without the assistance of lawyers and come back to haunt the practitioner.

Objectives

- Provide the health practitioner with the necessary building blocks to produce excellent and relevant witness statements
- Enable managers to assist their staff in producing unfamiliar documents with confidence
- Understand what lawyers and coroners want from a statement
- To recognise the role that medical records play in the process
- Provide the skills to present effective, professional oral evidence
- Practice presenting evidence under cross-examination

Who should attend?

Suitable for all members of staff, however, may be of particular interest to managers at any level, team leaders and supervisors.

Suggested number of delegates

15 to 20