

MEDICOLEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Neuropsychological Assessment Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)



Why have I been asked to go to meet with a psychologist specialising in neuropsychology?

Your solicitor has instructed one of our psychologists to meet with you to complete a medicolegal assessment as part of your compensation claim. This usually means that they will be assessing whether you have experienced a head or brain injury and the impact of any injury on your abilities and quality of life.

What is a medicolegal appointment like?

Your psychologist will ask you about the event that led to your compensation claim. They will also have to ask you about your general life circumstances and how your health was, including your mental health, before the claim event. Your psychologist will also ask you to do some tasks that show how your thinking skills are functioning.

How long does an appointment last?

Usually, up to **3 hours, sometimes slightly longer**. You can take a break when you need to during this time. You are welcome to bring a drink and snack with you.

Can I prepare or practice for my appointment?

There is **no need to practice or prepare** for an appointment. It isn't possible to practice the tasks in advance. It is just important that you try your best and ask questions if you don't understand something.

Do I need to bring anything with me?

It is important to bring **glasses** and **hearing aids** if you use these.



Can I bring someone with me to the appointment?

Yes, it is helpful to bring someone with you who knows you well if you are happy to do so.



What happens to my information?

Your psychologist will write up a report which they will send to the instructing solicitor, and this will be used as part of your legal case.



Can you guarantee a favourable outcome in my legal case?

Medicolegal assessments are conducted on an independent basis, the outcome of which may be favourable or otherwise. By consenting to take part you are agreeing for us to share our opinion with the instructing party (usually your solicitor).

Will you offer me neurorehabilitation?

The psychologist who completes your medicolegal assessment **cannot provide neurorehabilitation** as this would be a conflict of interest. The psychologist will write in the report what further rehabilitation or assessment may be helpful for you.

Why is my psychologist writing things down?

Your psychologist will take some written notes as a record. These written notes are stored securely in a locked filing cabinet within a locked office. Only your psychologist has physical access to these written notes.

You can ask your psychologist questions about the notes if you would like to find out more. Any electronic information will be stored on a password protected laptop.

Will the psychologist talk to my GP?

Usually information will not be shared with your GP unless there is a specific reason. Your psychologist will share with you the times that information may need to be shared with another professional in the unusual event of an emergency situation.

Do I have to pay?

No. **Your solicitor will pay** for your appointment with a psychologist to complete a medicolegal assessment.



Can I cancel or rearrange my appointment?

Please contact your psychologist if you need to cancel or rearrange your appointment. Please give us **at least 24 hours' notice** of a cancellation. The full fee will be payable for short notice by your solicitor but be aware that this may be taken by out of your claim. Please ask your psychologist if you have any questions.

I still have more questions, what do I do?

Please contact us on **info@aberdeenshirecp.com** or on **07469 251 449** or contact your psychologist directly to ask.

