

Dr Marianne Elder

GP Partner | Independent Medico-Legal Opinion in General Practice

Delivering clear, structured and defensible medico-legal opinion in matters concerning General Practice. This brochure summarises Dr Elder's services, instruction process, and typical turnaround expectations for instructing solicitors.

Services

01 GP Record Review and Analysis

Comprehensive review of primary care records to identify key clinical events, decision points, and areas requiring further scrutiny.

02 Preliminary Case Screening

Early-stage assessment of potential claims to identify possible breaches of duty; issues relating to diagnosis, management or follow-up; and cases where further expert input may be warranted.

03 Chronology and Timeline Preparation

Preparation of clear, structured chronologies to assist in understanding the sequence of clinical events and decision-making.

04 Clinical Decision-Making Review

Detailed explanation of GP reasoning within the context of the information available at the time, including consideration of risk, uncertainty and standard practice.

05 Standard of Care Assessment

Independent opinion on whether the care provided meets the standard expected of a reasonably competent General Practitioner.

06 Expert Witness Reports

Clear, well-reasoned reports suitable for medico-legal proceedings including clinical negligence cases — structured, balanced and CPR Part 35 compliant.

Instruction Process

1. Initial Enquiry

Discussion of case requirements and scope of work.

2. Preliminary Review

Early case screening to assess merit, where required.

3. Record Review

Detailed analysis of GP records and relevant documentation.

4. Report Preparation

Structured, objective report addressing the key medico-legal issues.

5. Delivery

Timely provision of the completed report to the instructing solicitor.

Turnaround Expectations

Type of Work	Indicative Turnaround
Preliminary case screening (short opinion)	2 – 4 weeks
Standard expert report (single set of GP records)	6 – 10 weeks
Complex report (multiple care providers / large bundle)	10 – 14 weeks
Supplementary report / response to Part 35 questions	3 – 5 weeks
Urgent instruction (subject to availability)	By agreement

Timeframes are indicative and depend on case complexity, volume of records, and availability. Specific timescales are agreed at the point of instruction.

About Dr Marianne Elder

Dr Elder is a GP Partner at Burvill House Surgery with over 16 years' medical experience spanning General Practice and General Internal Medicine in the UK and Australia. She holds MBChB (Sheffield, 2009), MRCGP (2020), and has completed Bond Solon training in Report Writing for Expert Witnesses (2025).

Her medico-legal work emphasises objectivity, clinical reasoning, and clarity of expression — producing reports that are precise, structured, and legally robust.

Approach

- Objective and independent — primary duty to the court
- Materially focused on the clinical issues that matter to the legal question
- Clearly reasoned and structured for a legal audience
- Considered understanding of the context for expert evidence

Make an Enquiry

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Reports are prepared in accordance with the duties of an expert witness, with primary responsibility to the court (CPR Part 35).