



The AvMA 35th Annual Clinical Negligence Conference

20 - 21 March 2025

Bournemouth International Centre

 Action Against Medical Accidents

 AvMAuk

#ACNC2025

Book your place to attend the annual event for clinical negligence specialists!

Join us at the Bournemouth International Centre on 20-21 March 2025 for the 35th AvMA Annual Clinical Negligence Conference (ACNC), **the** event for clinical negligence specialists! The very best medical and legal experts will ensure that you stay up to date with all the key issues, developments and policies in clinical negligence and medical law. The programme this year will have a **focus on Cancer and Oncology** whilst also covering many other key medico-legal topics at such an important time for clinical negligence practitioners.

Networking is also a big part of the ACNC experience. On the evening of Wednesday 19th March we will be holding the conference Welcome Event at Aruba Restaurant & Bar, and the Mid-Conference Dinner will be held on the Thursday evening at the Bournemouth International Centre. We will also be holding our AvMA/Circle Case Management 5k on Wednesday 19th March.

As well as providing you with a top quality, thought provoking, learning and networking experience, the success of the conference helps AvMA to maintain its position as an essential force in promoting patient safety and justice.

REDUCED RATES AVAILABLE FOR:

Multiple bookings; junior solicitors and barristers; paralegals; trainee legal executives; sponsors and exhibitors. See booking form for details.

Contents

Accommodation

MICE Concierge will again be the official accommodation and concierge service for the conference, giving conference attendees better rates and choice of hotels. Once you have booked your conference place, [please book your accommodation](#) at one of the official room blocks for the event.

For personal assistance please contact:

Anna Hellowell

+44 (0)1438 908770

anna.hellowell@miceconcierge.com

CPD Accreditation

	Thursday 20th March	Friday 21st March	Total
Bar Council, APIL	5 Hours 35 Mins	4 Hours 10 Mins	9 Hours 45 Mins
SRA competencies	A & B	A & B	-

Conference Documentation

All delegates will receive the online conference documentation on the afternoon of Wednesday 19 March.



ACNC Social Functions

Circle's 5K Charity Run in aid of AvMA

Wednesday 19th March 2025 @ 4:30-5:30pm

Strap on your running shoes - the Circle Case Management Pre-Conference Charity 5k Run is back! Be prepared for some healthy competition, a breath of fresh air, and an opportunity to support AvMA's crucial mission. Be prepared for some healthy competition, a breath of fresh air, and an opportunity to support AvMA's crucial mission.

To book your place email Paula Santos paulas@avma.org.uk or visit our [website](#).

Kindly sponsored by: [Enable Law](#) & [Clarke Wilmott Solicitors](#)



ACNC Social Functions

ACNC2025 Welcome Event

Wednesday 19th March 2025

19.00 – 23.00

Aruba Restaurant & Bar on the Pier

Get your #ACNC2025 off to a great start by attending our Welcome Event on the evening of Wednesday 19 March. We have exclusive hire of the chic Aruba Restaurant and Bar on the Pier. Enjoy an evening of networking, before the ACNC begins the following day.

£48+VAT

Kindly sponsored by

temple
legal protection



ACNC2025 Mid-Conference Dinner

Thursday 20th March 2025

19.30 – 01.00

Bournemouth International Centre

The Mid-Conference Dinner will take place on the evening of Thursday 20 March. The event will commence with a drinks reception at 19.30 before a three course meal and entertainment.

£82 + VAT

Kindly sponsored by

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Cost Lawyers & Consultants



To book your place at the Welcome Event or Mid-Conference Dinner please tick the appropriate box on the registration form.

#ACNC2025 Programme
Thursday 20th March 2025

Plenary morning sessions kindly sponsored by:



08.30 Registration and refreshments

09.30 Chair's Introduction & AvMA Update
PAUL WHITEING
Chief Executive, AvMA

09.45 Plenary Address: Improving the Quality of Cancer Care
Speaker to be confirmed

10.30 Plenary Address: Causation Issues in Delay in Diagnosis of Cancer
PROFESSOR PAT PRICE
Visiting Professor of Oncology, Imperial College, London

- Staging and grading of tumours
- Doubling times
- Consent issues in regard to chemo and radiotherapy; side effects of treatment
- Negligent and non-negligent issues
- New drugs - NICE guidelines

11.15 Refreshments

Kindly Sponsored by
 JE Bennett Law

11.40 Parallel Lectures
Choose one from the options, right

12.50 Lunch
Kindly sponsored by
 TMLEP

PARALLEL LECTURES: A-D

A The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill and the issue of assisted dying/assisted suicide

PROFESSOR ALEX RUCK KEENE KC (HON)
Barrister, 39 Essex Chambers Chambers, & Professor of Practice, King's College London

B Gynaecology Oncology

MR MOIAD ALAZZAM
Consultant Gynaecological Oncology Surgeon, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

- Risk factors for gynaecological cancers
- Prevention and screening for Gynaecological cancers
- Common errors/mistakes in diagnosing and treatment
- Clinical trials and treatments
- Example cases

C Issues in Expert Medical Evidence

CHRIS BRIGHT KC
Barrister, No5 Barristers Chambers

- Recent caselaw on expert medical evidence
- Criticism of experts at trial – should an expert who has been criticised in a previous hearing be dropped in other pending cases?
- Pitfalls and management of expert evidence

D Neuro-oncology

PROFESSOR MICHAEL BRADA
Professor of Radiation Oncology, University of Liverpool

- Diagnoses – including common missed diagnoses and delays in primary care in referral
- Treatment
- Missed/late diagnosis
- Negligence claims

#ACNC2025 Programme
Thursday 20th March 2025

Plenary afternoon sessions kindly sponsored by:

12

- 13.50** Chair's Introduction **LISA O'DWYER**
Director, Medico-Legal Services, AvMA
- 13.55** Plenary Address: The 2025 Legal Update **RICHARD BAKER KC**
Barrister, 7BR
- 14.40** Plenary Address: Breast Cancer Surgery **MISS RASHMI VERMA**
Consultant Oncoplastic Breast Surgeon, Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust;
& MR SREEKUMAR SUNDARA RAJAN
Consultant Oncoplastic Breast Surgeon, Birmingham University Hospital
- Consent, including issues surrounding ductal cell tumours
 - The role of imaging: mammography, ultrasound
 - Sentinel lymph node biopsies
 - Negligent and non-negligent surgery
 - Nottingham Prognostic Index
- 15.25** Refreshments *Kindly sponsored by* 
- 15.50** Parallel Lectures *Choose one from the options, right*
- 17.00** Close of Day One
- 19.30** Mid-Conference Dinner Drinks Reception
- 20.10** Mid-Conference Dinner - *Kindly sponsored by* 

PARALLEL LECTURES: E-H

E Breast Reconstruction Surgery

PROFESSOR PHILIP DREW

Consultant Breast Surgeon, Duchy Hospital, Truro

- Consent/the role of counselling
- Options and techniques
- Advances in procedures
- Common errors/mistakes
- Case examples

F The Radiologist's Casebook

DR STEVEN ALLEN

Consultant Radiologist, The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation

- A brief overview of the imaging modalities used in cancer detection, ultrasound, C/T, MRI, PET imaging and the value of each of these modalities
- Radiologist's casebook of images, focusing on chest and abdominal tumours and where these tumours have been missed on initial reporting
- Medico-legal issues in outsourcing the reporting of the images
- The most common errors in imaging and the steps that are being taken by Trusts to address these issues

G Developments in the Legal Test for Breach of Duty and Causation

MARCUS COATES-WALKER

Barrister, 1 Crown Office Row

Providing an opportunity for practitioners to consolidate their knowledge on breach and causation in light of recent case law

- CNZ v (1) Royal Bath Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (2) Secretary of State for Health and Social Care (2023) – which addressed the question of how retrospective Montgomery consent should be
- McCulloch and Others v Forth Valley Health Board [2023] UKSC 26: This case looked at the Professional Practice Test and gave guidance to clinicians on whether an alternative treatment is reasonable and requires discussion with the patient
- Review of Khan v Meadows [2021] UKSC 21 on scope of duty. The link between breach of duty and the type of loss claimed (the SAAMCO test)
- How to apply breach of duty knowledge to your cases
- A review of recent developments in causation and material contribution, the courts approach to divisible and indivisible injuries

H Medico-legal Issues in the Surgical Treatment of Urological Tumours

PROFESSOR NICK WATKIN

Consultant Urological Surgeon, St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

- Main types of urological tumour: testes, kidney, bladder, focusing on prostate
- The value of PSA testing - when to refer
- Negligent and non-negligent surgery
- Robotic nerve sparing surgery
- Grading of tumours and the consequences of the delay in referral

#ACNC2025 Programme

Friday 21st March 2025

Plenary morning sessions kindly sponsored by:

12


08.30 Registration and refreshments

09.00 Chair's Introduction **PAUL WHITEING**
Chief Executive, AvMA


09.05 Plenary Address: Palliative Care **DR CAROLINE BARRY**
Consultant in Palliative Medicine, Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital and the University of East Anglia

09.50 Plenary Address: Medico-legal Issues in General Practice and Cancer Referral **DR JEREMY PLATT**
General Practice Expert Witness

- Red flag signals on when to refer urgently
- NICE Guidelines on cancer referral
- Administrative errors - how can they be prevented when test results are not followed up
- GP referral system
- The increase in screening tests

10.35 Refreshments Kindly sponsored by 

11.00 Parallel Lectures Choose one from the options, right

12.10 Lunch Kindly sponsored by 

PARALLEL LECTURES: I-L

- I Head and Neck Tumours** **DR WILL INCE**
Consultant Uro-Oncologist and Head and Neck Oncologist, Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge
- Types of head and neck tumour, focusing on thyroid, larynx and throat cancer
 - Consequences of a delay in diagnosis, the effect on prognosis and the need for more radical treatment
- J Mental health: issues around the ability of a patient to access emergency mental health care during an acute crisis** **DR SOHAM DAS**
Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist Expert Witness
- K 'Double or Quits' – Tactical Decisions in Oncology Cases** **BEN BRADLEY, BARRISTER**
Barrister, Outer Temple Chambers
Covering difficult tactical issues which frequently arise in the presentation of oncology cases; including:
- Can I deploy concepts of 'strict liability' in relation to the misdiagnosis?
 - Turning 'lost chances' into 'a balance of probabilities' – how best to present statistical data in view of Gregg v Scott [2005] 2 AC 176?
 - Literature, tumour doubling times and causation
 - 'Lost Years' Claims vs FAA claims
 - Provisional Damages
- L National Confidential Enquiry into Patient Outcome & Death** **DR MARISA MASON**
CEO, National Confidential Enquiry into Patient Outcome & Death
- Key studies that have led to fundamental changes in the way care is provided
 - Planning for the End Review

#ACNC2025 Programme

Friday 21st March 2025

Plenary afternoon sessions kindly sponsored by:



- 13.00** Plenary Address: **MAYA SIKAND KC**
Barrister, Doughty Street Chambers
- Lucy Letby case
 - The corporate responsibility of the Board of Management of a Trust to act on reports of actions affecting public safety /corporate manslaughter
- 13.45** Plenary Address: **PROFESSOR GORDON WISHART**
Chief Medical Officer & CEO at Check4Cancer; Visiting Professor of Cancer Surgery at Anglia Ruskin University
- 14.30** Chair's Closing Remarks
- End of Conference

* The conference programme and timings may be subject to change

“ Uniformly excellent this year. ”

“ Keep up the good work #TeamAvMA ”

“ I have been to 28 Conferences over the years, and this was one of the best. Speaker quality was excellent. The management was seamlessly smooth as well. Thank you AVMA ”

“ Still the best conference for clinical negligence specialists. ”

“ The Plenary Addresses were excellent. ”

ACNC2025 Sponsors

AvMA wishes to thank the following organisations for their sponsorship and support:



ACNC2025 Exhibitors

The ACNC is the ideal way to reinforce your company's brand, create new business opportunities and maintain customer interface with current clients. For details on sponsorship and exhibition packages please contact the AvMA Events team for details.



REGISTER NOW

We look forward to welcoming you to the ACNC

Should you have any queries regarding ACNC2025 please
contact the AvMA events team

Email: conferences@avma.org.uk

Telephone: 0203 096 1140

Website: www.avma.org.uk/ACNC2025

Twitter: #ACNC2025