The Value of a Legal Perspective in Rehabilitation

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19th March 2014



A holistic approach

The Role of the Solicitor – A Holistic Approach





Role of 'a' solicitor

- To deal with -
 - Claimant
 - Insurer
 - Defendant solicitor
 - Lay witnesses
 - Expert witnesses
 - Instructing counsel
 - Attending court



The role of a 'good' solicitor

- Also includes dealing with
 - Family
 - Case manager
 - Rehabilitation specialists
 - Therapists
 - Medical experts
 - Employers



Objective?

To restore the injured person to as productive & independent a lifestyle as possible



The 2007 Rehabilitation Code

- Protect the recovery and future quality of life of the injured person
- To recognise the importance of their legal duty to work with medical professionals
- Understand how the patient would benefit from early intervention and to assess future needs in order to secure appropriate insurance payments quickly.



Why is the code important?

- Claimant at centre of the process
- Collaborative approach by lawyer and compensator
- Rehabilitation addressed as PRIORITY and sometimes BEFORE agreed liability
- Assessment by qualified assessor
- Compensator pays for assessment



Rehabilitation Code

The assessment process is outside the litigation process



Adherence to the code

- Supported by all major stakeholders -
 - ABI,IUA, APIL, FOIL, MASS
- Duty of EVERY claimant solicitor to consider at the earliest opportunity the need for rehabilitation
- Strict timescales adhered to
- Provides a framework within which to work



But actually THIS is why its important



David's Story



As David says, getting the RIGHT solicitor is VITAL



Contact details

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