

# Medico-legal expert courtroom skills course

Wednesday 22 October 2025

BMA House, Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9JP

# BMA

## Programme

9.30 – 10am	<b>REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS</b>
10 – 10.30am	Welcome and introduction
10.30 – 11.15am	The role of the medical expert witness in court and the adversarial system <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– The taking of the oath/affirmation</li><li>– The duties of the expert witness while under oath</li><li>– How expert witnesses should direct their answers</li></ul>
11.15 – 11.30am	<b>REFRESHMENT BREAK</b>
11.30am – 1pm	Processes, procedures and preparation in giving evidence  Exercise: preparation Seeing the pre-trial process as preparation for a court hearing, understanding the relevant legislation, processes and procedures. How to improve preparation for giving evidence by re-reading evidence, considering key issues and facts and becoming familiar with the practices and processes of giving evidence.  Exercise: cross-examining lawyers' techniques Considering lawyers' techniques in cross-examination including specific issues for medical experts. Learn techniques for handling cross-examination and the dos and don'ts of giving evidence.
1 – 2pm	<b>LUNCH</b>
2 – 3pm	Mock court: cross-examination role play Interactive session with attendees taking turns to be questioned. Illustrating a range of questioning techniques and how to effectively handle them. Delegates will receive supportive structured feedback based on objective Assessment Criteria for Giving Evidence.
3 – 3.15pm	<b>REFRESHMENT BREAK</b>
3.15 – 4.15pm	Cross-examination role play continued
4.15 – 4.30pm	Objectives and close
4.30pm	<b>CLOSE</b>

