

**MEDICO-LEGAL CV**  
**DR WENDY PHILLIPS BSc, MBChB, PhD, FRCP**

Dr Wendy Phillips

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ICO ZA111819

Qualified as a consultant: September 2010

**SPECIALTY**

Neurology

**SUB-SPECIALIST INTERESTS**

Functional Neurological Disorders

Parkinson's Disease

Multiple System Atrophy

**MOST RECENT APPOINTMENTS**

**From mid 2024- Royal Melbourne Hospital (Australia)**

My medicolegal practice is based in the UK, thus complies with GDPR (advice from ICO sought and confirmed)

I can see UK cases remotely or face to face during return visits three times a year.

**From Jan 2011- December 2023: Consultant Neurologist, Addenbrooke's Hospital (Cambridge), and Princess Alexandra Hospital (Harlow)**

**1. Functional Neurological Disorders (FNDs)**

- These are very common disorders, also known as conversion disorder, medically unexplained syndrome, 'hysteria', psychogenic symptoms; they are non-volitional and thus distinct from malingering. FNDs can be triggered by psychological or physical stressors, making them particularly pertinent for medico-legal work. I understand the difference between functional disorders, factitious disorders and malingering, and how each might present.

- **I have set up a service for FND patients, over ten years ago, including a sub-specialty neurology clinic, links with psychiatry/psychology/physiotherapy and other specialties.** There are very few neurology sub-specialty clinics for patients with FND. I take referrals from the East of England and beyond. I frequently host students and therapists in my clinic for educational purposes. I have links with academic departments for research purposes.

- I have organised many educational meetings: for patients, physiotherapists, pain clinics, different specialties (cardiology, respiratory, orthopaedics, rheumatology etc.), trainees and medical students.

- I run or take part in several special interest groups around the region and nationally.

- I am on the advisory board of FND Hope and FND Action and participate in regular meetings.

- I have trained in hypnosis and given lectures and written a manuscript on this topic. Hypnosis shares many features with FND and can be used in treatment.

- Founding member of United Kingdom Functional Neurological Society (UKFNS): a group of around 30 neurologists, psychiatrists and psychologists, who specialise in this area. We are an active group and meet annually and have a very active email group where we share ideas and literature. This group was created over ten years ago.

- Founding member of the international group, Functional Neurological Disorder Society (FNDS).

- I am organising a journal collection for the BMJ group on Advances in FND.

**2. Parkinson's Disease/movement disorders:** I see patients for new and follow up appointments with Parkinson's disease in my weekly clinic. I presented a business case which allowed a new drug to be used and helped set up pathways for advanced treatments. We have a quarterly advanced therapies PD meeting. I am in regular contact with PD nurses from the East of England. I also see a variety of other movement disorders, in particular, Tourette's syndrome (and am listed in the Tourette's Action database).

**3. Multiple System Atrophy:** I have set up a monthly clinic, in conjunction with a nurse. MSA is a rare atypical Parkinsonian disorder and there are very few clinics in the UK for MSA patients. I am a member of the Exanatide in MSA Independent Data Monitoring Committee (IDMC). I give regular talks about MSA.

**4. General Neurology:** general neurology clinics at Princess Alexandra Hospital, and ward referrals. I see a wide variety of neurological conditions.

**5. Long covid clinic,** Addenbrooke's Hospital. I see patients with complicated neurological sequelae after COVID. Many of these patients have FND triggered by the pandemic. The clinic also comprises group treatment sessions for cognitive problems and fatigue (run by neuropsychology), and we meet to discuss the overall service on an intermittent basis.

### **Advisory board member FND Hope**

### **Advisory board member FND Action**

### **Associate member Forrest Medico-legal Services**

I have given a talk, given advice on cases, and attend some teaching sessions.

### **From December 2019: Associate editor BMJ Neurology Open.**

This involves reviewing articles, finding peer reviewers, and making editorial decisions. I am also currently organising a special topic 'Advances in FND'.

## **From March 2021: Board of Directors British Neuropsychiatry Association (BNPA) to March 2024 (on moving to Australia)**

This involves helping to administer the association, set its direction, organise annual teaching weekends and organise annual meetings. We have links with the American Neuropsychiatry Association and Australian College's Section of Neuropsychiatry, as well as the International Neuropsychiatry Association (which meets regularly online).

### **PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION**

- Sep 2010 - Jan 2011      **Locum Consultant Neurologist, Hinchingsbrooke Hospital**
- Sep 2006-2010      **Neurology SpR, Cambridge**  
The National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery (NHNN), Queen Square, London: epilepsy/ sleep, neuro-ophthalmology, autonomic.  
Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge  
Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital (NNUH), Norwich
- Apr 2006- July 2006      **Post-doctoral post**, Charité Hospital, Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Klinik für Neurologie, D-10098 Berlin
- Apr 2003- Apr 2006      **PhD**, Brain Repair Centre, University of Cambridge (MRC Clinical Research Training Fellowship)
- 2002              **MRCP (London)**
- Aug 2000- Feb 2003      SHO Cardiology, Addenbrooke's Hospital; SHO Chest medicine, Papworth Hospital (inc. Sleep Centre); SHO Gastroenterology and general medicine, Hinchingsbrooke Hospital; SHO Geriatrics (consultant with interest in Parkinson's disease)/ stroke unit, Addenbrooke's Hospital; SHO Neuroscience, Addenbrooke's Hospital (neurology, neurosurgery)
- Aug 1999- 2000      PRHO: Stobhill Hospital, Glasgow  
PRHO: Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow
- 1992-1999      **MBChB with Distinction** (University of Glasgow)
- 1996              Pharmacology department, University of Bristol
- 1994-1996      Intercalated **BSc (Pharmacology) with First Class Honours** (University of Glasgow)

### **AWARDS/PRIZES**

- Competitive funding for PhD: MRC Clinical Research Training Fellowship, Ipsen fund, The Frederick and David Barclay Foundation, Sackler Foundation, E.G. Fearnside's scholarship
- Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians

- Scholar at Selwyn College, Cambridge
- Wellcome Trust scholarship for pharmacology research at the University of Bristol
- Smith & Nephew scholarship for Pharmacology BSc.
- Cross Trust scholarship for elective
- Distinction for MBChB (awarded to the top 2-3% of students)
- Around 15 undergraduate distinctions, including anatomy, physiology, pathology, paediatrics, obstetrics, psychiatry

## **RESEARCH**

I have a BSc in pharmacology (intercalated with my medical degree) and completed some work in a laboratory in Bristol after the degree, resulting in publications on rabbit brain glutamate receptors. I completed a PhD in Cambridge, researching neurogenesis in mouse models of Huntington's disease (HD), leading to publications of the same and review articles. I also helped to run the HD clinic during my PhD. Following my PhD, I completed a short post-doctoral post at the Charite Hospital in Berlin, again researching neurogenesis in HD mouse models. I am not actively engaged in research currently, but collaborate with Professor Voon on FND research in Cambridge. I regularly review papers particularly for the Journal of Neurology, and for BMJ Neurology Open, and grant applications.

## **AUDIT**

I conduct annual audits for the Parkinson's disease society, and conduct other audits as required through my hospital work.

## **GOVERNANCE/MANAGEMENT**

I attend regular governance/management meetings through my hospital work. I have set up a clinic for MSA and FND.

## **RECENT SELECTED MEDICAL TALKS**

17/04/2021 Talk to Sunway University, Malaysia on FND

04/02/2022 Interview with Professor Steve Peters, Royal Society of Medicine (RSM)

23/04/2023 British Neuroscience Association (BNA) (talk on MSA) (a recording can be found <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1PDo-WMgTWZJKTwCmHgWrwDG-qDJqOKHz> 'breakout rooms S03current topics in Neuropsychiatry)

12/06/2023 Interview with Professor Christina Lioffi, RSM

11/07/2023 Royal College of Psychiatry annual meeting (FND and hypnosis)

<https://mylearning.rcpsych.ac.uk/d21/le/enhancedSequenceViewer/8487?url=https%3A%2F%2Fef683c20-23c6-41a1-9187-31de012134ab.sequences.api.brightspace.com%2F8487%2Factivity%2F6929%3FfilterOnDatesAndDepth%3D1>

09/02/2024 MSA Research Symposium, Queen Square

04/2024 I have been invited to speak on FND and placebo at a neurosurgical conference on pineal cyst surgery.

Several chairing sessions e.g. meeting at RSM (12/09/2022), BNPA (2-3/03/2023 and 26-27/05/2022, where I also gave a talk), RSM 04/02/2022, BNA 23/04/2023.

Several local talks e.g. Calman days, Cambridge Movement Disorder meeting (MSA)

Several training sessions for GPs, trainees, professions allied to medicine (FND)

## **MEDICO-LEGAL TRAINING**

- SpecialistInfo Medico-legal Expert Witness Course: report writing, 218 Strand, London 03/09/14
- Part 1 of the Certificate of Medical Reporting: The Bond Solon Civil Procedure Rules Expert Witness Certificate, September 2014
- SpecialistInfo Medico-legal Expert Witness Course: Court Room Skills, London 02/02/2017
- SpecialistInfo Advanced Medico-legal Course: London 20/09/2018
- Bond Solon GDPR
- SpecialistInfo Clinical Negligence Course: remotely 16/09/2020
- SpecialistInfo Mediation course: December 2020
- Neuroscience and the Law, Gray's Inn May 2022
- BNPA medicolegal section, May 2022
- Cambridge annual medicolegal conference, September 2022
- Bond Solon, report writing/ update, November 2022

I have also set up a group for colleagues interested in medico-legal work, to share experience.

## **MEDICO-LEGAL TALKS**

I gave a lecture to the Personal Injuries Bar Association on FND on 02/04/2022.

I organised the medico-legal part of the 2022 British Neuropsychiatry Association AGM.

I gave a talk to Aviva technical claims in October 2022.

I have been invited to give the keynote lecture at the Farrar's Legal conference in September 2023.

## **MEDICO-LEGAL EXPERIENCE**

Nine years of:

Personal injury reports (claimant: defendant roughly 75:25)

Family Court Proceedings

Criminal Cases

Clinical Negligence (breach, causation and condition/prognosis) since 2020 claimant: defendant 50:50

3-4 cases a month for the past few years

Five court appearances planned for 2024

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

British Neuropsychiatry Association (BNPA) (director)

Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians

GMC

Medical Defence Union (MDU)

UKFNS

Association of British Neurologists

Functional Neurological Disorder Society

International Neuropsychiatry Association (INA)

Global Neuropsychiatry Group

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Fee: £480 per hour plus VAT for all time spent on the case (inclusive of administrative support). Itemised billing and copies of receipts will be provided if requested.

I expect payment within 30 days of invoice date. If an instruction is cancelled within 8 weeks after medical notes have been provided and an appointment confirmed, I will bill for any work undertaken on the case.

Interests: Personal Injury, Clinical Negligence, Mediation

Waiting times (dependent on complexity):

Appointments for face to face: variable (currently 4-5 months)

Appointments for remote or other venues: from 2 weeks to around 3 months (subject to change)

Reports completed: within 2 weeks from appointment

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Original research**

- Girges et al. The Impact of Depression Symptoms on Self-Reported Outcome Measures in Clinical Trials for Parkinson's Disease and Multiple System Atrophy. *Movement Disorders* 2023, submitted.
- Varatharaj et al., Neurological and neuropsychiatric complications of COVID-19 in 153 patients: a UK-wide surveillance study. *The Lancet Psychiatry*; 7(10): 875-882.
- Morris LS, To B, Baek K, Yee-Chien C, Mitchell S, Strelchuk D, Mikheenko Y, Phillips W, Zandi M, Jenaway A, Walsh C, Voon V. Disrupted avoidance learning in functional neurological disorder, submitted *Neurology*, 2016.
- Baek K, Donamayor N, Morris L, Strelchuk D, Mikheenko Y, Phillips W, Zandi M, Jenaway A, Walsh C, Voon V. Impairments in intention awareness in functional neurological disorder. Submitted *Biological Psychiatry*, 2016.
- Phillips W, Morton AJ, Barker RA. Limbic neurogenesis/ plasticity in the R6/2 mouse model of Huntington's disease. *Neuroreport*, 2006; 17(15):1623-17.
- Lazic SE, Grote HE, Blakemore C, Hannan AJ, van Dellen A, Phillips W, Barker RA. Neurogenesis in the R6/1 transgenic mouse model of Huntington's disease: effects of environmental enrichment. *Eur. J. Neurosci.*, 2006; 23(7): 1829-38.
- Phillips W, Morton AJ, Barker RA. Abnormalities of neurogenesis in the R6/2 mouse model of Huntington's disease are due to the *in vivo* microenvironment. *J. Neurosci.*, 2005; 25(50): 11564-76.
- Toms NJ, Reid ME, Phillips W, Kemp MC, Roberts PJ. A Novel Kainate Receptor Ligand [3H]-(2S,4R)-4-methylglutamate: Pharmacological Characterization in Rabbit Brain Membranes. *Neuropharmacology* 1997;36:1483 – 88.
- Toms NJ, Phillips W, Kemp MC, Roberts PJ. Pharmacological characterisation of the binding of the novel kainate receptor [3H]-(2S,4R)-4-methylglutamate in rabbit brain. *The Pharmacologist* 1996;39: 212.

### **Reviews**

- Phillips W, Price J, Molyneux PD, Deeley Q. Hypnosis. *Practical Neurology*, 2021, submitted.
- Phillips W, Shannon K, Barker RA. The current clinical management of Huntington's Disease. *Mov. Disord.* 2008;23(11):1491-504.

- Phillips W, Michell AW, Barker RA. Neurogenesis in chronic disease. *Stem Cells and Development*, 2006; 15(3): 359-79.
- Phillips W, Barker RA. Brain repair: do it yourself. *The Biochemist*, 2006: 28 (1); 15
- Michell A, Phillips W, Barker RA. Can endogenous stem cells be stimulated to repair the degenerating brain? *J. Pharm. Pharmacol.* 2004; 56(10): 1201-1210.
- Bennett JP, Carvey PM, Hinds TR, Johnson RD, Lee W, Phillips W, Sethy VH, Vincenzi FF, Youdin MBH. Mechanisms of action of pramipexole: putative neuroprotective effects. *Reviews in Contemporary Pharmacotherapy* 2001;12: 33-52.

### **Book chapters**

- Barker RA, Phillips W, Davies R. Lumbar puncture. Chapter 24.7, *Oxford Textbook of Medicine* 2007.
- Phillips W, Michell AW, Pruess H, Barker RA Animal models of neurodegenerative disease. *Methods Mol. Biol.* 2009;549:137-55.
- Phillips W, Barker RA. The control of adult neurogenesis by the microenvironment and how this may be altered in Huntington's disease. *Neurogenesis Research Advances*, Nova Science Publishers, Inc, Ed. M P Klausen 2008.

### **Case Reports**

Phillips W, Somner J. A Case of Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension/Pseudotumor Cerebri Syndrome Cured by Myomectomy. *J Neuroophthalmol.* 2022 Mar 31. doi: 10.1097/WNO.0000000000001588. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 35439233.

### **Medicolegal publications**

Phillips W. Functional Neurological Disorders in Personal Injury. *BMJ Neurology Open* 2021;3:e000100

Phillips W. Mild traumatic brain injuries. *The MASS insight magazine.* Issue 31. Winter 2021/2022.

### **Misc./ viewpoints**

- White et al. Eight major anomalies in the review process and interpretation of the evidence in the NICE guideline for chronic fatigue syndrome and myalgic encephalomyelitis. *Submitted*
- McLoughlin et al. Functional neurological disorder is a feminist issue. *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry.* 2023 Mar 28;jnnp-2022-330192.