



Dr Balraj Dhama BDS (Hons), Dip RDP, MSc (Dist) RDP PGCMEd
07931 325425
rajdhama1@hotmail.com
www.dentalexpertwitness.co.uk

Summary

Experienced general dental practitioner who currently runs a successful multi surgery general dentistry practice, as well having being an owner and principal dentist at a second multi surgery practice between 2010 and 2024. I have a keen interest in medico-legal work and have worked for the General Dental Council as an Investigating Committee member since 2014, as a panelist on the Interim Orders Committee. I have a wealth of experience assessing record cards and practice policies and standards through my work as an NHS England Advisor and as Denplan Excel Advisor. To ensure I am able to produce the highest standards of reports, I have completed the Bond Solon Expert Witness Course which is accredited by Cardiff University.

I have been engaged to produce multiple reports by the General Dental Council, Professional Indemnity Firms and independent solicitor firms. My expert witness reports include, condition and prognosis reports, breach of duty and causation reports, as well as apportionment of costs. I have also given expert witness testimony in Fitness to Practise cases, civil cases and criminal court cases. I have also been engaged and am happy to be engaged as a joint expert witness and single expert witness.

Work History

Dental Expert Witness

Jan 2019 – Present

- Providing dental expert witness reports for the General Dental Council, Dental Protection, MDDUS, DDU and independent solicitors firms.
- Reports include, clinical negligence reports, condition and prognosis reports and breach and causation reports.
- Have acted as an expert witness and given evidence before a GDC fitness to practise committee and in Civil Court in over 10 cases.
- Provided over 600 reports.
- Claimant 25%, Defendant 75% in 2023.
- Undertaking ClinNeg reports from 2019 onwards
- Providing report for personal injury claims

Denplan SimplyHealth Clinical Advisor

Sept 2018 – Present

- Clinical Advisor working alongside the Denplan Excel accreditation team to assess applications for Denplan Excel status
- Reviewing practice protocols and policies
- Record card reviews and record keeping assessments

General Dental Council Fitness to Practise Committee Member

Oct 2020 – Jan 2021

- Sitting as a Registrant member of a 3-person committee, to ensure the overarching principles of the GDC are upheld.

General Dental Council Interim Orders Committee Member

Oct 2018 – March 2019

- Assessing risk of potential claims and advising of conditions or suspension for dental practitioner

General Dental Council Investigating Committee Member

July 2014 – Oct 2017

- Working alongside other committee members and secretaries to assess complaints against GDC registrants, evaluating the evidence and applying appropriate sanctions

NHS England Dental Clinical Advisor

July 2016 - Present

- Dental Clinical Advisor, working alongside complaint management and contracts team at LAT, assessing complaint and performance management

- Performers List Decision Panel (PLDP) member, assessing suitability of performers to be retained on performers list when clinical or probity issues arise.

Birmingham Local Dental Committee Member

April 2013 - Present

- Working along stakeholders in ensuring a successful dental service with a long-term vision
- Assessing the local dental service and highlighting areas of underperformance and instigating appropriate funding streams to ensure a viable service
- Offering pastoral advice and mentoring to local dentists on a range of issues, from personal problems to clinical issues

West Midlands Deanery Mentor

April 2013 - Present

- Offering help and advice to struggling dentists
- To assess and audit the work of potentially struggling dentists
- Instigating appropriate support networks and training pathways to address clinical concerns
- Working alongside the Local Area Teams to rehabilitate struggling dentists in a structured and safe environment

Foundation Dentist Trainer

Aug 2011 - Present

- Work alongside newly qualified dentists to provide a structured and monitored work environment
- To assess the foundation dentists' skills and work and provide appropriate training if required
- Continual formative and summative assessments to be used in conjunction with their personal development plans to ensure successful completion of the year
- Provide structured tutorials to supplement their knowledge and skills

Sutton Dental Care

July 2015 - Present

- Became the principal dentist at a 4 surgery multi-disciplinary dental practice
- Ensuring all protocols and policies were up to date and workable
- Passing the Care Quality Commission inspection

Oakville Dental Care

Aug 2010 – October 2024

- Became the principal dentist of a 4 surgery multi-disciplinary dental practice
- Upgrading the practice to be fully compliant with HTM01-05, including installing a dedicated decontamination room and training staff in line with the new decontamination procedures
- Passing Care Quality Commission and Local Area Team inspections
- Attaining BDA Good Practice Scheme accreditation
- Becoming a Foundation Dentist training practice

Cheylesmore Dental Practice

Oct 2007 - Aug 2010

- Associate dentist in a busy private and NHS practice

Station House Dental Practice

Aug 2004 - Oct 2010

- Associate dentist in a busy NHS practice

Elaine Hawthorn and Associates Dental Practice

Aug 2003 - Aug 2004

- Vocational training year

Qualifications and Education

Bond Solon Certificate in Civil Expert Witness, Cardiff University

June 2018 – Dec 2018

PG Cert Medical Education, Dundee University

April 2013 – April 2016

MSc (Distinction) Restorative Dental Practice, UCL Eastman

Jan 2008 - Dec 2012

Bachelor Dental Sciences BDS (Hons), Manchester University

Sept 1998 - Aug 2003