

DR AFSAR RAZA FRCP (LONDON)

CONSULTANT CARDIOLOGIST & MEDICAL EXPERT WITNESS

General Cardiology | Interventional Cardiology | Cardiovascular Clinical Negligence

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1. MEDICO-LEGAL PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Dr Afsar Raza is a UK-trained Consultant Cardiologist and Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (London), with extensive consultant-level experience across general and interventional cardiology.

His current clinical practice encompasses the assessment and management of both inpatients and outpatients with a broad spectrum of cardiovascular disease, including coronary artery disease, heart attacks, acute and decompensated heart failure, severe and malignant hypertension, cardiac arrhythmias, structural and valvular heart disease, familial/inherited cardiovascular disorders and follow up patients after open heart surgery for coronary and valve disease.

This broad contemporary NHS practice complements substantial experience in coronary angiography and interventional cardiology, including complex PCI, primary PCI, left-main and bifurcation intervention, intravascular ultrasound (IVUS), fractional flow reserve (FFR), physiological assessment and rotational atherectomy.

He is interested in providing independent medico-legal opinion in cardiology, including clinical negligence, breach of duty, causation, condition and prognosis.

2. CURRENT CLINICAL PRACTICE

In his current Consultant Cardiologist role, Dr Raza regularly assesses and manages:

- Coronary artery disease and acute/chronic ischaemic heart disease
- Acute and decompensated heart failure
- Severe and malignant hypertension
- Cardiac arrhythmias
- Structural heart disease
- Familial and inherited cardiovascular disorders
- Cardiovascular investigations and their interpretation
- Treatment planning and longer-term cardiovascular follow-up before and after cardiac surgery or angioplasties.

This active general cardiology practice provides a current clinical basis for expert opinion across a broad range of cardiology cases, in addition to his specialist interventional expertise.

3. CLINICAL GOVERNANCE, COMPLAINTS & STANDARD-OF-CARE REVIEW

As part of his NHS consultant responsibilities, Dr Raza is regularly involved in reviewing patient complaints and concerns relating to cardiovascular care and providing specialist cardiology input to the hospital complaints and governance process.

This work includes review of medical records, investigations, clinical decision-making and treatment pathways; consideration of whether care was appropriate and consistent with accepted clinical practice; identification of potential deficiencies in care; and specialist input to the hospital's response to patient complaints.

This experience provides relevant grounding in the objective assessment of standards of care, adverse outcomes, potential clinical negligence and causation, including the distinction between an unavoidable complication or adverse outcome and care that may have fallen below an appropriate clinical standard.

4. AREAS OF EXPERTISE

General & Clinical Cardiology

- Coronary artery disease
- Acute coronary syndromes and myocardial infarction
- Acute and chronic/decompensated heart failure
- Severe and malignant hypertension
- Cardiac arrhythmias
- Structural heart disease
- Familial and inherited cardiovascular disease
- Valvular heart disease
- Cardiomyopathies
- Cardiovascular risk assessment

Interventional Cardiology

- Coronary angiography
- Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI)
- Primary and complex PCI
- Left-main and bifurcation intervention
- IVUS-guided PCI
- FFR and coronary physiological assessment
- Rotational atherectomy
- Procedural complications and high-risk coronary intervention

Medico-Legal Issues

- Standard of care and breach of duty
- Diagnosis and investigation
- Appropriateness and timing of treatment
- Clinical decision-making
- Interpretation of angiography and cardiovascular investigations
- Procedural complications
- Causation
- Condition and prognosis
- Cardiovascular clinical negligence

5. CURRENT APPOINTMENT

Consultant Cardiologist - Airedale NHS Foundation Trust

August 2020 - Present

Consultant-level responsibility for the assessment and management of inpatients and outpatients with a broad range of cardiovascular disorders, together with coronary angiography and specialist cardiology practice.

6. SPECIALIST TRAINING

Guy's & St Thomas' Hospital, London

Specialist Cardiology Training - 1995-2000

Advanced training in clinical cardiology, research and coronary intervention, followed by extensive consultant-level clinical and interventional experience.

7. QUALIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

- Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (FRCP), London
- Membership of the Royal College of Physicians (MRCP UK) - 1998
- FCPS
- MBBS
- UK Specialist Register
- CCST-equivalent specialist accreditation - 15 March 2005
- General Medical Council (GMC) registered

8. INTERVENTIONAL CARDIOLOGY EXPERIENCE

Extensive experience in coronary intervention, including complex and primary PCI.

Particular procedural expertise includes:

- Primary PCI

- Complex PCI
- Left-main coronary intervention
- Bifurcation PCI
- IVUS-guided PCI
- FFR and physiological assessment
- Rotational atherectomy
- Complex coronary anatomy
- Management of high-risk coronary intervention

This experience provides a strong clinical basis for reviewing cases involving coronary angiography, PCI decision-making, procedural complications and subsequent patient outcomes.

9. ACADEMIC, RESEARCH & INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Active involvement in international academic, educational and professional cardiology activities, including:

- International faculty participation as chairperson, expert, presenter and moderator.
- Teaching and professional education
- Training and supervision of doctors and cardiology trainees
- Cardiovascular research
- Research contributions including two major publications as principal investigator in The Lancet in 2024

10. MEDICAL EXPERT-WITNESS SERVICES

Available to undertake independent medico-legal instructions relating to:

- Clinical negligence
- General cardiology
- Interventional cardiology
- Coronary artery disease and acute coronary syndromes
- Heart failure
- Hypertension
- Arrhythmias
- Structural and inherited cardiovascular disease
- PCI and procedural complications
- Standard of care and breach of duty
- Causation
- Condition and prognosis

Expert opinion will be based on the medical records, clinical evidence, investigations, relevant guidelines and accepted professional standards. Reports will distinguish clearly between established facts, expert opinion and areas of uncertainty.

11. PROFESSIONAL APPROACH

The overriding duty of an independent medical expert is to assist the court rather than advocate for either party.

My approach is:

- Independent and impartial
- Evidence-based and clinically rigorous
- Clearly written and accessible to non-medical readers
- Focused on the issues relevant to the instruction
- Explicit regarding limitations, uncertainty and matters outside my expertise

12. DECLARATION

I understand that my overriding duty as an expert witness is to assist the court and that this duty takes precedence over any obligation to the party instructing me.

I will provide independent and objective opinion only within my areas of professional expertise and will comply with the applicable rules and guidance governing expert evidence.

13. REFERENCES

Professional references are available on request.