

Dr Ayyaz Sultan

MBBS, MRCP, FRCP, FACC, FAHA, CCT, PgDip (Clinical Education)

Consultant Interventional Cardiologist

Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, UK

Honorary Senior Lecturer

University of Manchester, UK

Medico-Legal Expert Witness in Cardiology and Post-Traumatic Dysautonomia (PoTS)***Professional Summary***

Dr Ayyaz Sultan is a UK-based Consultant Interventional Cardiologist with over a decade of consultant-level experience in **acute cardiology, interventional cardiology, cardiac diagnostics, and autonomic disorders**.

He undertakes specialist medico-legal work focused on **post-traumatic dysautonomia**, particularly PoTS and orthostatic intolerance arising following **road traffic accidents (RTA), whiplash injuries, and cervical trauma**.

His medico-legal practice is intentionally structured to provide **early-stage expert input**, including screening reports, causation opinions, and clinical plausibility assessments. These reports are designed to assist instructing parties in determining the merits and direction of a case at an early stage of litigation.

Dr Sultan's approach combines detailed clinical analysis, careful reconstruction of chronology, interpretation of objective investigations, and a structured evaluation of alternative explanations. His reports are **clear, balanced, and compliant with CPR Part 35**, with explicit acknowledgment of evidential limitations where appropriate.

Current Appointments**Consultant Interventional Cardiologist**

Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, UK

June 2015 – Present

His role includes:

- Consultant-led acute and elective cardiology care
- Coronary care unit and inpatient cardiology management
- Outpatient cardiology clinics
- Coronary angiography and percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI)
- Interpretation of advanced cardiac investigations
- Multidisciplinary clinical decision-making

Honorary Senior Lecturer
University of Manchester, UK

Professional Registration & Indemnity

GMC Registration: 6049394 (Full Licence to Practise)
Indemnity: Medical Defence Union

Qualifications

MBBS – University of Punjab (1999)
MRCP (UK) – Royal College of Physicians (2005)
CCT Cardiology – General Medical Council, UK (2013)
Interventional Cardiology Fellowship – University of Western Ontario, Canada (2014)
Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Education – RCPS Glasgow (2016)

Fellowships

FRCP – Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons Glasgow (2017)
FACC – American College of Cardiology (2017)
FAHA – American Heart Association (2018)

Additional Certification

Cardiac CT Level II Certification – Harefield Cardiac CT Course, London

Medico-Legal Practice

Specialist Scope

Dr Sultan's medico-legal practice is intentionally restricted to **post-traumatic dysautonomia and PoTS**, arising in the context of:

- Road traffic accidents (RTA)
- Whiplash and acceleration–deceleration injuries
- Cervical spine trauma
- Head and neck injury
- Post-concussive syndromes with autonomic features

This focused scope reflects both clinical experience and the increasing medico-legal relevance of autonomic dysfunction following trauma.

Clinical–Legal Interface

Dr Sultan's medico-legal work lies at the intersection of cardiology and autonomic medicine, with relevance to neurological and rehabilitation contexts commonly encountered in personal injury litigation. He is particularly experienced in assessing patients presenting with complex symptom profiles that are multi-system in nature, often fluctuating over time, and not fully explained by standard cardiac investigations. Such cases frequently involve symptoms that may previously have been attributed to anxiety or functional disorders, requiring careful clinical analysis to determine underlying physiological mechanisms and diagnostic plausibility.

Scope of Instructions Accepted

Dr Sultan primarily undertakes:

Initial Screening Reports (Paper-Based)

Provision of early expert opinion based on available medical records, focusing on diagnostic plausibility and the need for further expert input.

Early-Stage Causation Opinions

Assessment of whether reported symptoms are consistent with post-traumatic dysautonomia, and whether a causal relationship between the index event and symptom onset is medically plausible.

Clinical Plausibility and Triage Reports

Structured reports to assist instructing parties in determining case viability, appropriate next steps, and whether further specialist evidence is required.

Typical Questions Addressed

Dr Sultan is commonly asked to consider:

- Whether there is a **plausible causal relationship** between the index trauma (e.g. RTA or whiplash injury) and the reported symptoms
- Whether the symptom profile is **consistent with PoTS or autonomic dysfunction**
- Whether the presentation represents **new onset pathology, exacerbation of a pre-existing condition, or an alternative diagnosis**
- Whether recognised **pathophysiological mechanisms** support the proposed diagnosis
- Whether symptoms are consistent with **objective findings and documented clinical history**
- Whether further investigations or specialist referrals are **reasonable and proportionate**

Methodology of Opinion Formation

Dr Sultan adopts a structured and clinically grounded approach:

- **Chronology Reconstruction** – aligning symptom onset and progression with the index event
 - **Symptom Pattern Analysis** – assessing orthostatic intolerance, tachycardia, fatigue, and associated features
 - **Objective Data Review** – interpretation of investigations including ECG, ambulatory monitoring, imaging, and relevant tests
 - **Differential Diagnosis Assessment** – consideration of alternative explanations including cardiac, endocrine, psychological, and functional causes
 - **Mechanistic Plausibility Evaluation** – assessing whether known physiological pathways support the proposed causal relationship
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Nature of Work Undertaken

- Comprehensive review of medical records
- Reconstruction of clinical timelines
- Correlation of symptoms with the index event
- Interpretation of cardiac and autonomic investigations
- Identification of alternative diagnoses and inconsistencies
- Preparation of clear, structured medico-legal reports

Practice Limitation

Dr Sultan's medico-legal practice is focused on **early-stage expert opinion and written reporting**.

He does not routinely:

- Undertake court attendance
- Provide oral expert testimony
- Act as a trial expert

He may, where appropriate, provide **supplementary written reports or clarifications**.

This model supports timely and proportionate expert input at the early stages of litigation.

Expert Witness Compliance

Dr Sultan accepts instructions from claimant and defendant solicitors, as well as medico-legal agencies.

All work is undertaken in accordance with:

- **CPR Part 35**
- **Practice Direction 35**

He recognises his overriding duty to the Court and provides opinions that are **independent, objective, and within his area of expertise**, with clear identification of any limitations.

Clinical Expertise Supporting Medico-Legal Work

Post RTA or Accident Autonomic & POTs Disorders

- Post-traumatic dysautonomia
- Whiplash-associated autonomic dysfunction

Core Cardiology Expertise

- Arrhythmias and sinus tachycardia
- Syncope and presyncope
- Ischaemic heart disease
- Heart failure
- Cardiac imaging interpretation

Investigations Reviewed

- 12-lead ECG and ambulatory ECG (Holter)
- Ambulatory blood pressure monitoring
- Echocardiography
- Exercise stress ECG
- Cardiac CT and MRI reports
- Tilt-table testing
- Relevant laboratory investigations

Clinical Governance & Standards

Dr Sultan maintains active involvement in clinical governance and quality assurance processes, including:

- Participation in mortality and morbidity review
- Audit and quality improvement programmes
- Development of local clinical guidelines

He is familiar with current NICE guidance and UK cardiology standards relevant to medico-legal assessment.

Academic & Teaching Roles

- Honorary Senior Lecturer – University of Manchester
- Clinical and educational supervisor for junior doctors
- Lecturer in postgraduate medical education
- Principal Investigator in major cardiovascular trials

His academic background supports a rigorous, evidence-based approach to expert reporting.

Professional Memberships

- Royal College of Physicians (UK)
- British Cardiovascular Society
- British Cardiovascular Intervention Society
- European Association of Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions
- American Heart Association

Languages

English, Urdu, Punjabi

Personal Details

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Telephone: 07462 561622
Nationality: British

CPR Part 35 Statement

I understand my duty to the Court and confirm that my medico-legal work complies with CPR Part 35 and associated Practice Directions. My opinions are independent,

objective, and based on my clinical expertise and the material provided. Any limitations are clearly identified.

Availability

- Screening reports: typically **2–3 weeks**
- Supplementary reports: by agreement
- Primarily **paper-based assessments**