



DR RAEBURN FORBES

CONSULTANT NEUROLOGIST

MBCCHB, MRCP, MD (HONS), FRCP

GMC NO: 3687413

Neurology Centre, Southern HSC Trust
(2004 - Present)

EXPERT INFORMATION

SPECIALIST AREAS:

- Migraine
- Dystonia
- Hemifacial spasm
- Brain, spinal and nerve injury

CASES ACCEPTED:

Claimant age: 16+

- Clinical assessments
- Remote assessments
- Home visits
- Prison visits
- Criminal cases*
- Military cases
- Screening reports
- Desktop reports
- Family cases*

*Case-by-case



SCAN ME



EXPERT RATIO



CLAIMANT **90%**
DEFENDANT **10%**



CLIN NEG **40%**
PI **60%**



*Annual report from 2025



VENUES:



- Malone Medical Chambers, Belfast, BT9 5LH
- Genesis Clinic, Liverpool, L1 9EW
- Charterhouse Clinic, London, W1H 2HL
- Salford Clinic, Salford, M5 3EY
- Physiotherapy Matters, Newcastle, NE3 3LU
- The Darras Clinic, Newcastle up Tyne, NE20 9PW
- Adhoc venues by request

FURTHER INFO:

- Court experience
- Bond Solon trained
- Legal aid (LAA)
- NHS contracted
- Weekend/evening appointments
- Personal Injury
- Clinical Negligence:
 - Causation
 - Liability
 - Breach of Duty
 - Condition & Prognosis

CONTACT

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CASES RELATING TO:

Personal injury and clinical negligence relating to:

- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI):
 - Mild/subtle/severe
 - Post-traumatic headaches
 - Post-traumatic amnesia
 - Post-concussive syndrome/symptoms
 - Faints/seizures
 - Numbness
 - Tingling
 - Tremor
 - Vertigo
 - Weakness
 - Balance difficulty
 - Visual symptoms
 - Fatigue
 - Memory problem
- Head injury/blunt force trauma:
 - Loss of consciousness
 - Intracranial bleed
 - Brain contusion
 - Skull fracture(s)
- Strokes:
 - Ischemic
 - Hemorrhagic
 - Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA)
- Functional Neurological Disorder (FND)
- Peripheral nerve injury
- Dementia
- Epilepsy
- Motor Neurone Disease (MND)
- Cerebral bleeds
- Dysfluency
- Hemifacial spasm
- Extrapyrmidal disorder
- Vestibular issues
- Dizziness - Mitochondrial disorder
- Fibromyalgia
- Foot drop
- Spastic paraplegia
- Inflammatory radiculopathy
- Myasthenia gravis
- Hypoxic brain injury
- Guillain-Barré syndrome
- Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Neuropathy (CIPD)
- Somatoform disorder
- Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- Asperger's syndrome
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)
- Dystonia
- Spinal injury
- General neurology
- Cluster headaches/migraines
- Cushing's syndrome
- Lumbar puncture
- Multiple Sclerosis (MS)
- Parkinson's disease

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MEDICO LEGAL EXPERIENCE:

Dr Raeburn Forbes has been a Consultant Neurologist for over 20 years in a general acute hospital and private clinical practice. He began his expert witness work in 2023 and completed the Cardiff University Bond Solon Expert course, which included excellence in report writing, courtroom skills, and cross-examination. He is also a member of the Ulster Medico-legal Society and attends their meetings regularly for medicolegal CPD.

Dr Forbes is instructed by both claimants and defendants in clinical negligence, personal injury, industrial, tribunal, condition and prognosis, and breach of duty. He has covered a wide range of reports throughout his time as an expert witness, including, but not limited to, Functional Neurological Disorder (FND), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), strokes, epilepsy, and vestibular issues.

He has particular specialist knowledge of migraines, dystonia, hemifacial spasm (HFS), and brain injury and has completed many reports on these topics. Dr Forbes is renowned for his structured and CPR-compliant reports, and has a report turnaround time of 4-6 weeks.

Dr Forbes has provided oral evidence in court on one occasion and continues to be available to provide evidence in court when required.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE:

Dr Forbes has been a Consultant Neurologist for over 20 years. He has delivered a busy acute, ward liaison and virtual clinic service with the majority of his work in general adult neurology, and a sub-speciality interest in headache and migraines.

Dr Forbes has published extensively in several sub-specialist areas, including neuroepidemiology, Multiple sclerosis (MS), motor neurone disease (MND), epilepsy and health economics. His post-graduate training included postings to neurosurgery, neurorehabilitation, stroke and a tertiary centre in patient care. Dr Forbes is a recognised expert in lumbar puncture and acute headache and has authored two Cochrane Collaboration systematic reviews. In his current clinical practice, he provides injection procedures for chronic migraine, dystonia and hemifacial spasm.

Dr Forbes served on the Board of The Irish Institute for Clinical Neuroscience until 2021 and served on the Association of British Neurologists' Standards and Services Committee until 2022. In 2023, he served as President of the Irish Neurological Association, hosting a joint meeting in Belfast with the Association of British Neurologists at the International Conference Centre in May that year.

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Dr Forbes has been the Chair of Medical Morbidity and Mortality Meetings, a Member of the Drug and Therapeutic Committee and served on many strategic initiatives to improve neurology services in Northern Ireland. He is a Clinical Lead for Neurology at HSC Hospital. Dr Forbes graduated from The University of Dundee Medical School and completed his Doctorate in pharmacoepidemiology in 2000. His clinical training in general neurology was through the Regional Neurology Unit in the Royal Victoria Hospital, gaining a CCST in Adult Neurology in July 2003.

PUBLICATIONS:

- **Forbes, RB.** McCarron, M. Cardwell, CR. Efficacy and Contextual (Placebo) Effects of CGRP Antibodies for Migraine: Systematic Review and Meta-analysis. *Headache* 2020;60: 1542-1557
- McCarron, M. O. Clarke, M. Burns, P. McCormick, M. McCarron, P. **Forbes, R. B.** McCarron, L.V. Mullan, F. McVerry, F. A Neurodisparity Index of Nationwide Access to Neurological Health Care in Northern Ireland. *Front Neurol* 2021;12:608070.
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- **Forbes RB,** Colville S. Parratt J. Swingler RJ. The incidence of motor neurone disease in Scotland. *J Neurol.* 2007;254 (7):866-9
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- Gray O. McDonnell GV, **Forbes RB.** Methotrexate for multiple sclerosis. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev.* 2004(2):Cd003208
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- **Forbes RB**, Colville S, Swingler RJ. Frequency, timing and outcome of gastrostomy tubes for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis/motor neurone disease a record linkage study from the Scottish Motor Neurone Disease Register. *J Neurol*. 2004;251(7):813-7
- **Forbes RB**, Colville S, Gran GW, Swingler RJ. Unexpected decline in survival from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis/motor neurone disease. *J Neurol Neurosurgery Psychiatry*. 2004;75(12):1753-5
- **Forbes R**, Craig J, Callender M, Patterson V. Liaison neurology for acute medical admissions. *Clin Med*. 2004;4(3):290
- Gray O, McDonnell GV, **Forbes RB**. Intravenous immunoglobulins for multiple sclerosis. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*. 2003(4):Cd002936
- **Forbes RB**, Macdonald S, Eljamel S, Roberts RC. Cost utility analysis of vagus nerve stimulators for adults with medically refractory epilepsy. *Seizure*. 2003;12(5):249-56
- Parratt J, Donnan P, Wilson SV, O'Riordan JO, Swingler RJ, **Forbes RB**. Multiple sclerosis distribution in northern Sardinia: Spatial cluster analysis of prevalence. *Neurology*. 2002;59(5):790; author reply
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