



**Dr Neil Collighan MBChB (Edin) FRCA FFPMRCA
Consultant in Pain Medicine**

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Name: **Dr Neil Talbert Collighan**

Date of birth: 20th March 1972

Nationality: British

Address: Pain Expert Limited

GMC status: Registered with a licence to practice.

GMC number: 4328469

Education: Hulme Grammar School for Boys, Oldham 1984 – 1990
Edinburgh University Medical School 1990 – 1996

Qualifications: MB ChB (Edin) 1996
Fellow of the Royal College of Anaesthetists 2003
PG Dip Med Sci Anaesthesia (with Merit) 2007
Fellow of the Faculty of Pain Medicine 2008

NHS employment: East Kent Hospitals University 2009 – present
NHS Foundation Trust
Honorary Consultant, Guys and St. Thomas’s
Hospital, London 2017-18

Private practice: The Spencer Wing, Margate
One Ashford Hospital, Ashford
Chaucer Hospital, Canterbury

Medicolegal practice: Chaucer Hospital, Canterbury
One Ashford Hospital, Kent

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Professional qualifications: I qualified MB ChB at Edinburgh University in 1996. I was elected a fellow of the Royal College of Anaesthetists (FRCA) in 2003 having passed the required examinations. I was granted Fellowship of the Faculty of Pain Medicine of the Royal College of Anaesthetists in 2008. During training I also completed a postgraduate diploma in Medical Science/Anaesthesia (with merit) in 2007.

NHS Consultant appointments: I was appointed as a Consultant in Anaesthetics and Pain Management at East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust at Margate and Canterbury in August 2009. At the end of 2014, I gave up my anaesthetics commitments based on my decision to become a dedicated pain management specialist.

NHS practice: My NHS duties include the management of chronic pain at the Kent Centre for Pain Medicine. The NHS service is interdisciplinary / multidisciplinary combining the services of medical consultants, specialist nurses, clinical psychologists & occupational therapists. He was one of the originators of the neuromodulation (intrathecal drug delivery and spinal cord stimulation) service in East Kent.

I have extensive experience in the management of a wide range of painful conditions including those that can result from personal injury. This experience includes clinical problems such as complex regional pain syndrome (CRPS), chronic pain syndromes, neuropathic pain, *lumbar* spinal pain & sciatica; thoracic spinal pain; cervical spinal pain & whiplash; shoulder, hip and knee pain; chronic pelvic pain and chronic pain after surgery & trauma.

Specialist medical interests: My interventional experience includes a range of injections, radiofrequency techniques, intrathecal drug delivery (ITDD) and spinal cord stimulation (SCS).

Educational & training roles: I have been involved in teaching and training at all levels from teaching ECG techniques to nurses through to teaching pain medicine and testing clinical skills for medical students to being involved in lecturing for the Primary FRCA course and viva practice at both Primary and Final FRCA level. I have regularly instructed on local Advanced Trauma and Life Support courses. I have previously organised meetings of the Interventional Pain Management Special Interest Group of the British Pain Society.

I have presented at The British Pain Society meetings, the Anaesthetic Research Society, the British Trauma Society and the World Congress of Pain, and I have critically reviewed articles for publication in the journals *Pain Medicine*, *British Journal of Pain* and am Associate Editor of the *Journal of Observational Pain Medicine*.

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Membership of professional organisations:

- British Pain Society (BPS)
- British Pain Society Medicolegal Special Interest Group (SIG)
- British Pain Society Interventional Pain Medicine SIG – Council liaison
- International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP)
- International Neuromodulation Society (INS)
- Neuromodulation Society of UK & Ireland (NSUKI)
- British Medical Association
- Medical & Dental Defence Union of Scotland (MDDUS)
(Clinical and medicolegal indemnity cover)
- The European Society of Regional Anaesthesia and Pain Therapy

Positions of responsibility:

From 2011 to 2013, I was co-founder and an officer of the most recent incarnation of the British Pain Society Medicolegal Special Interest Group. I was treasurer in 2013/14.

I was Chair of the British Pain Society Interventional Pain Medicine SIG.

I am now an elected Council member of the British Pain Society (2018 – present).

I was Co-chair of the British Pain Society committee that prepared the document ‘Standards for good practice for medial branch block injections and radiofrequency denervation for low back pain (2014)(revised 2019).’

I was Co-chair of the British Pain Society committee that prepared the document ‘Standards of Good Practice for Spinal Interventional Procedures in Pain Medicine (2015)(revised 2019).’

I was Chair of a working group creating a consensus statement on the use of steroids in spinal injections on behalf of the British Pain Society and Royal College Faculty of Pain Medicine (2017).

I am the South representative on the NHS England Specialised Pain Services Clinical Reference Group (2012 – present).

I am a member of the NHS England Device Working Group on Neuromodulation (2019-present)

I was Lead Consultant for Pain Services at the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust (2012-14) and then restarted in the role in September 2020 (-present).

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Medicolegal training, practice and experience:

Medicolegal training: I attended the Bond Solon ‘Excellence in Report Writing’ course in 2010, and completed the Bond Solon ‘Civil Procedure Rules for Expert Witnesses Certificate’ in 2013. I regularly attend the Cambridge Medicolegal conference and Pain Expert conference to ensure current legal requirements for Medicolegal reports are met and also ensure on-going training and compliance

Medicolegal report writing experience: I have been preparing expert evidence for the Court in matters of personal injury and medical negligence for over 12 years. I currently examine between twenty to thirty claimants per year. The reports I compose most commonly relate to complex cases with symptoms of chronic pain persisting beyond the expected healing period associated with much more disability than might be expected.

Courtroom experience and provision of oral evidence: I have not, as yet, been required to attend Court in the United Kingdom.

Membership of expert witness organisations: I am listed on the UK Register of Expert Witnesses.

**Neil Collighan
Updated March 2022**