

# Basic Principles of Medico-Legal Occupational Therapy Practice

Course Code 2011

11th & 12th August 2011

Sydney

Sydney—Venue to be confirmed

9:00am—5:00pm each day

Cost: **Members: \$550** (includes GST) **Non Members \$1100** (includes GST)



## Course Overview

This two day workshop is intended for experienced occupational therapists who are either considering entering the field of forensic occupational therapy (providing an expert opinion to the court) or are already practicing in the field and are looking for a refresher course. A practicing personal injury solicitor will discuss key legal terms and concepts with participants to provide the crucial information needed of an effective expert witness. The assessment process will be discussed and the preparation of a concise and informative report also addressed. Introductory information regarding court appearances will also be presented.

### At the completion of the workshop participants will:

- Have a clearer understanding of their suitability for practice as an expert witness;
- Have an understanding of the relevant legal principles and terms including causation and negligence;
- Have an understanding of the roles of other legal practitioners;
- Have an understanding of the role and responsibilities of an expert witness in legal proceedings
- Be able to plan an appropriate forensic occupational therapy assessment;
- Be familiar with the structure and content of a forensic occupational therapy report;
- Understand the purpose of and process for producing costs within the report;
- Be familiar with sources of further professional education and development;
- Have an understanding of how to handle subpoenas and the basics of court appearances;
- Be familiar with aspects of practice management in this field including marketing and receiving payment for occupational therapy services.

### About the Presenters:

**Claudia Walker** graduated from the University of Alberta (Canada) in 1987. She has worked in hospitals, in the community and within the occupational rehabilitation system. Claudia taught at Charles Sturt University (Albury) in the occupational therapy degree program for 7 years. In 2003 she established a forensic occupational therapy private practice in Newcastle. Claudia has prepared over 450 expert witness reports since this time. She contributed a chapter on forensic occupational therapy assessment to the recently published text 'Occupational Analysis in Practice (MacKenzie and O'Toole eds). Claudia is a conjoint lecturer at The University of Newcastle occupational therapy program and is a member of the Australian Lawyers Alliance.

**Ana Grguric** is a practicing personal injury solicitor with extensive experience as both a defence and plaintiff lawyer. She also practices in Newcastle, NSW

### To secure a place for this CPD please register and pay online .

<http://www.otausvic.com.au/professionaldevelopment/category/new-south-wales>

Registration forms are also available from website

[http://www.otnsw.com.au/download/education\\_Registration\\_Form.pdf](http://www.otnsw.com.au/download/education_Registration_Form.pdf)

And can be faxed to **(02) 9737 0023** or posted (see address below)

Places for CPD events are limited.

A place on the course will not be confirmed until payment is received

Registrations close **25 July 2011** or when the workshop is full.

### OT AUSTRALIA NSW

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By attending this Continuing Professional Development event you may be able to claim 6 hours towards the Accredited Occupational Therapist Program CPD points. Please check the CPD section in your AccOT manual.

