

# Dr Alistair John Irvine – Consultant in Clinical Forensic Medicine



Dr Alistair Irvine is a Consultant in Forensic and Legal Medicine with over 40 years experience as a practitioner of Clinical Forensic and Legal Medicine. He worked as a Forensic Medical Examiner for Cleveland Police for 43 years, and also for 35 years worked in General Medicine as a principal in General Practice.

His relevant qualifications are: –

1. Registered Medical Practitioner since 1966
2. Bachelor of Medicine (University of Leeds)
3. Bachelor of Surgery (University of Leeds)
4. Master of Laws (University of Cardiff)
5. The Diploma in Medical Jurisprudence (The Society of Apothecaries of London)
6. Founding Fellow of the Section of Clinical Forensic and Legal Medicine at the Royal Society of Medicine
7. Foundation Fellow of the Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians of London
8. Founding Fellow of the Faculty of Clinical Forensic Medicine of the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia
9. Fellow of the Australasian College of Legal Medicine
10. Fellow of the American College of Legal Medicine
11. Member of the British Academy of Forensic Sciences
12. Founding Member of the Expert Witness Institute
13. Practitioner of Clinical Forensic Medicine for over 40 years
14. A Senior Forensic Medical Examiner to Cleveland Police for over 43 years
15. Advisor to the States of Jersey Police on Clinical Governance issues
16. Examiner for the Membership & Licentiate Examinations of the Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine at the Royal College of Physicians of London
17. Appointed as External Examiner by Teesside University February 2016
18. Approved under Section 12(2) of the Mental Health Act 1983, as having special experience in the diagnosis and treatment of mental disorder.
19. July 2021 Listed as a Forensic Medical Expert on the National Injuries Data Base of the National Crime Agency

In his role as a Forensic Medical Examiner during much of the past 40 years, he regularly examined in the region of 1000 people each year who were either victims or suspects of crime.

This work has also included the need to carry out Mental Health Act assessment on detained persons, frequently those detained under Sec 136 MHA, but also others where there were concerns about their mental health.

This work has involved working closely with the various Crisis Teams within the area and also regularly having been involved in full MHA assessments involving working with Consultant Psychiatrists, AMHPs, and others.

In addition to this work within the custody environment he also regularly acts as a Second Doctor for Mental Health Act assessment within both the community and hospital environment in both Cleveland and County Durham.

Dr Irvine's work in Clinical Forensic Medicine also includes, among other things, having to deal with all forms of Offences against the Person including murder and serious wounding, the interpretation of wounds, adult and child sexual offences, Road Traffic Act (drink/drugs and driving), police custody issues including fitness for detention and interview, and complaints against police

In the last five years as a result of increasing commitments in providing expert Medico-Legal Services the number of prisoners or detainees examined in custody has been reduced. Subsequently, in 2018, Mitie Care & Custody, the outsourcing company providing medical services for Cleveland Police made doctors redundant and converted to a nurse led service.

Dr Irvine also regularly gives evidence in Court for the prosecution, as well as the defence, in both his Forensic Medical Examiner role and in other areas following instructions from CPS and others.

In his role as a Senior Forensic Medical Examiner he has in the past been regularly involved in the in-force training of Forensic Medical Examiners and Police Officers and had for a number of years lectured on the Forensic Medical Examination to a Cleveland Police Specialist Course on Serious Sexual Offences

In his current role as an Expert in Clinical Forensic Medicine he prepares up to 150 reports a year for both defence and prosecution and appears before the full range of tribunals involved in these cases, including the Court of Appeal.

Until it was replaced by the establishment of the Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine at the Royal College of Physicians of London he was an active member of the Association of Forensic Physicians for 25 years. He was also a member of the Council of the Association and regularly attended meetings and conferences.

He is also a Founding Fellow of the Section in Clinical Forensic Medicine at the Royal Society of Medicine and served as a member of the Council of the Section and was an Honorary Secretary for a two-year term. He continues to support the Section and regularly attends meetings.

He is also a Member of the British Academy of Forensic Sciences and a Founding Member of the Expert Witness Institute.

In August 2005 he was elected a Fellow of the Australian College of Legal Medicine and also received registration as a Forensic Practitioner from the Council for the Registration of Forensic Practitioners when it was in operation.

In 2006 he was also elected a Foundation Fellow of the Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine established at The Royal College of Physicians of London.

He was also appointed to the Board of Examiners for the Diploma in the Forensic and Clinical Aspects of Sexual Assault at the Society of Apothecaries in London and is now an examiner for the Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine at the Royal College of Physicians of London.

In 2013 he was appointed a Fellow of the American College of Legal Medicine.

In July 2015 he was elected as a Founding Fellow of the Faculty of Clinical Forensic Medicine of the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia.

In July 2021 I was appointed and listed as a Forensic Medical Expert on the National Injuries Data Base of the National Crime Agency.