

EUROPEAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

EPA COURSE TITLE	Complaints, litigation and malpractice: How to survive as a psychiatrist
COURSE DIRECTOR	Julian Beezhold, UK
COURSE CO-DIRECTORS	Jan Wise, UK
COURSE LEVEL	Basic
EDUCATIONAL INTENTIONS/ COURSE OUTCOMES	Participants who complete this course will: - have a thorough general understanding of complaints, litigation, medical error and conduct issues that can affect psychiatrists including data on the types and impact of these - gain an understanding of the factors that can cause or aggravate these issues - learn about recent developments and trends in mental health medico-legal cases - see and hear how actual medico-legal case can play out in real life - improve their skills in implementing approaches on a personal and systems level that are designed to minimize the frequency and impact of medical errors in psychiatry - feel more confident if required to deal with complaints or appear in court
COURSE DESCRIPTION	This informal user-friendly highly interactive course is aimed at addressing the ever-increasing tide of complaints and litigation faced by psychiatrists in their daily clinical work. All content is designed for an international audience working in a variety of different legal and regulatory environments. The course will provide a broad overview of the context, including data on complaints and litigation. We will then examine in greater detail the areas of medical error, complaints, litigation and medical misconduct. Discussion will highlight the situations and actions that more commonly lead to concern. There will be a focus throughout on actual real-life cases. We will explore the theory and practice of the prevention and minimization of the number and severity of adverse events in psychiatry. This will include looking at practical tips for individual practice as well as the gains that can be achieved by a systems approach to reducing medical error. This course aims to help improve the confidence and skills of participants in dealing with adverse events such as complaints and litigation; and also enhance participant's ability to prevent things going wrong in the first place.
PREREQUISITE KNOWLEDGE	N/A
COURSE METHODS AND MATERIAL	This course will use multimedia and a variety of educational methods including extensive interactive participation from the audience. There will be introductory presentations and participatory sessions involving actual case material. The general approach will be to empower the participants and allow them to improve their skills and understanding in a safe and supportive environment. The course handout will provide copies of all presentations, case materials and comprehensive references and further reading suggestions.
TARGET AUDIENCE	Suitable for all psychiatrists, both early career and very experienced. Tailored to be relevant across different countries and jurisdictions.
RECOMMENDED READINGS	N/A
LANGUAGE(S)	English

