

CURRICULUM VITAE:-

C V R BLACKER (Charles Vernon Russell)

d.o.b. 23.05.1954

**THE PRIORY HOSPITAL
HEATH HOUSE LANE
BRISTOL
BS16 1EQ
0117 952 5255**

Clinical post: Consultant Psychiatrist, The Priory Hospital (a full-time clinical post).

Medicolegal work: Southwest Chambers - www.southwestchambers.co.uk

Contact as above.

Medical training:

Guys Hospital Medical school (1972 - 1977).

House Physician and Surgical posts @ Guys Hospital

Registrar in Accident & Emergency, Guys Hospital – 1 year.

Psychiatric training:

Guys Hospital, London (SHO & Registrar rotations)

St Bartholomew's Hospital, London (Senior Registrar, Research Fellow)

Hon Consultant Psychiatrist, St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, 1986-1989.

Consultant Psychiatrist, Truro, Cornwall, 1989 – 2000.

Consultant Psychiatrist, Priory Hospital, Bristol 2000 to the present day (also Exeter Nuffield Hospital; Mount Stuart Hospital, Torquay; Bath Clinic, Bath; Duchy Hospital, Truro; Spire hospital, Bristol).

Qualifications and awards:

MB BS (1977)

MRCPsych (1983)

Laughlin prize (MRCPsych, 1983).

"Award for merit", USA National Psychiatric Endowment Fund (1986)

MD. University of London (1989). "Depression in General Practice"

FRCPsych (1994)

B Distinction Award (1999)

GMC Specialist Register = 2376336

Medical Defence Union = 05/129904 I

Royal College Psychiatrists membership number = 93

National Insurance = YY286603D

Section 12 approved (renewed 2009 for 5 years)

Special areas of expertise:

- General Psychiatry; I have been a consultant psychiatrist since 1986.

- Liaison psychiatry (psychiatry and medical illness). I have 13 years experience of working as a dedicated liaison psychiatric in hospital and medical clinic settings including a 4 year attachment to a Pain Clinic working alongside a Pain Management unit. I have 13 years experience of running a Chronic Fatigue Service, and a Perinatal Psychiatry service, and several years experience of working with patients who had sustained traumatic brain injury and degenerative conditions. I am able to provide opinions on the Psychiatry of Neurological conditions such as Epilepsy and Head Injury, Post-concussional syndrome, Trauma sequelae and Accident victims including Post-traumatic stress disorder, Somatisation, Abnormal Illness Behaviour and Malingering / Exaggeration.
- Depression and other Affective Disorders (the subject of my MD Thesis).
- Anxiety disorders including Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, Panic Disorder, Phobias, and Obsessive Compulsive Disorder.
- I have a special expertise in psychopharmacology and am consulted from across the UK and overseas in connection with this.
- Stress-related disorders including Occupational Burnout and related conditions with 15 years experience of running a county-wide service for sick doctors and other medical staff.

I do not consider myself an expert in child psychiatry and family law (including child abuse), learning disability, eating disorders or forensic (criminal) psychiatry.

Publications and other activity:

I am the principal author of over fifty research articles, reviews, and chapters in books as well as a number of clinical guidelines and other publications on depression, deliberate self harm, liaison psychiatry, postnatal depression, therapeutic abortion, chronic fatigue syndrome, and medical ethics.

For some years I undertook twice-annual lecture tours around the UK, Australia and the USA dealing with a variety of topics: Understanding Depression, Understanding Anxiety, Postnatal disorders, Out of Control Behaviour, Stress Burnout and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, Personality disorder etc.

I have been consultant advisor to the W.H.O. (Geneva) and National Institute of Mental Health (Washington) and four Pharmaceutical Companies. Until recently I was Southwest Regional Advisor (Royal College of Psychiatrists). For seven years until 2004 I designed and ran the MRCPsych training course for psychiatrists in Cornwall, Devon and Somerset and was an examiner for the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

Medicolegal activity:

I am a full-time practising clinician with a large clinical load and therefore regularly treat patients with the kinds of condition which are encountered in personal injury work. I have also

had training in Cognitive Behaviour Therapy. I therefore have a realistic idea of what treatments do and don't work and what clients are suitable for different treatment approaches.

I have 18 years experience of regular medicolegal work.

Personal injury: I see between 140 and 160 cases per year acting for claimants, defendants and single joint instructions in a ratio of approximately 70% : 25% : 5% respectively - although I am always interested in doing more defendant work.

I also see clients in the context of claims for **medical and professional negligence** (currently around 10 cases per year).

I prepare reports in connection with **Employment Law** issues (currently around 15 cases a year and increasing).

I no longer undertake forensic assessments for criminal cases, or Family Law.

The requirement to attend Court as an expert witness has dropped hugely in recent years but in 2008 I attended Court 3 times.

I am a member of the UK Register of Expert Witnesses and undergo regular re-vetting which involves obtaining references from solicitors or barristers.

I also attend annual training and CPD update with organisations such as DLA and The Expert Witness Institute; the date of my last training is June 2007 – the next is May 2009.

Clinic sites:

I am based in **Bristol** but also work in **Bath Exeter Torquay** and **Truro**. I am willing to travel around the UK to see clients.

I am also willing to see claimants in their homes, if necessary, although it is usually preferable to examine them in their local GP surgery.

Waiting list and turnaround time:

I have a rapid turnaround: once Terms and Conditions are agreed I can usually see cases within 4 – 6 weeks of receiving an instruction.

Once the client is seen (and providing all the necessary records and paperwork are available) the turnaround is nearly always within 2 weeks.

Contact details:

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