

NORWICH MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY

Web site www.norwichmedchi.org.uk

EVENING MEETING REMINDER

Tuesday 9th January 2018

Supper 6.15 pm

Meeting 7.00pm

**Dr Louise Smy
Medical Legal Advisor MDU**

Dr Louise Smy is senior medical claims handler at the MDU. One word that strikes fear in doctors is “negligence”. Most doctors will face a complaint or claim at least once in their career. It is never pleasant, but it can help to know that others have gone through something similar. Using case studies, she will offer insight into the dilemmas doctors have faced in their working lives and how the Defence of clinical negligence cases is approached.

Doctors have a Duty of Care such that they must act with adequate skill. A doctor is not guilty of negligence if he/she has acted in accordance with a practice accepted as proper by a responsible body of medical men skilled in that particular art (the *Bolam test*).

Doctors are often worried about making mistakes, but an error of judgment may not be negligent even if it causes harm – i.e. did the doctor in reaching this decision display such a lack of clinical judgment that no doctor exercising proper care and skill could have reached the same decision.

There are still difficulties in explaining Causation and despite the ‘*but for*’ test (i.e. but for the defendant’s breach of duty), if the chances of an event occurring are more than 50% then it would have happened.

“The patient would have died anyway” – Causation and Breach of Duty Explained

to be held in

The Gooch Lecture Theatre, NANIME, Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital

-----X-----
Reply slip for evening meeting on 9th January 2018

Name.....

I will/will not be attending the light supper at 6.15pm on Tuesday 9th January 2018. Please enclose a cheque (payable to Norwich Med-Chi Society) for £10 per person for supper. If you just wish to attend the lecture this is free.

I will be bringing.....guest(s)

Please return completed slip to Doreen Brookes, Department of Radiology, Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital, Colney Lane, Norwich, NR4 7UY. Telephone No. (01603) 286101. Replies must be received by Tuesday 2nd January.