DR KAREN H SIMPSON - CURRICULUM VITAE

QUALIFICATIONS TRAINING ACCREDITATION AND REVALIDATION

Undergraduate	MBChB (Leeds) 1979
GMC (No. 2502425)	Registered 1980; Licensed to Practice; Revalidation due 2029
Specialist registration:	Anaesthesia 1986; Palliative Medicine 1987
Postgraduate:	Fellow Royal College of Anaesthetists (RCA) England 1983
	Fellow Faculty of Pain Medicine RCA (FFPMRCA) England 2008
	Certified Member Expert Witness Institute 2022
	Certified Fellow Expert Witness Institute 2023

PAST AND PRESENT APPOINTMENTS

Present

2022	Assessor for Expert Witness Institute (EWI) Certification
2017	Examiner trainer and auditor FFPMRCA examination
2016	Honorary Consultant in Anaesthesia and Pain Medicine Leeds Teaching Hospitals
1987	Senior Clinical Lecturer School of Medicine University of Leeds
2008	Co-Director Leeds Pain Interventional Cadaver Course

Past

2013-2017	Chairman FFPMRCA examination
2010-2017	FPM representative on RCA Revalidation Committee
2009-2017	FPM representative RCA Safe Anaesthesia Liaison Committee
2012-2016	Examiner FFPMRCA examination
1987-2016	Consultant in Anaesthesia and Pain Medicine Leeds Teaching Hospitals
1987-2016	Honorary Consultant St Gemma's Hospice Leeds
2009-2014	Board member FPM RCA
2011-2013	FPM representative on the Law and Ethics Committee
2010-2013	External examiner MSc Pain Medicine Leicester University
2010-2013	GMC Appeals Panelist
2009-2013	Chairman Professional Standards Committee FPM RCA
1999-2013	Editorial Board Continuing Education Journal British Journal of Anaesthesia
2004-2011	Hon Senior Fellow School of Healthcare Leeds University
2005-2010	Appeals Assessor Postgraduate Medical Education and Training Board
2007-2009	Vice Dean FPM RCA (Awarded Vice Deans Medal)
2002-2009	Chairman Leeds Trust Spinal Drug Delivery Risk Group
2007	Member Board FPM RCA
2003-2007	RCA Regional Adviser Pain Medicine
1997-2007	Pain Management Committee of RCA
2002-2004	Honorary Secretary British Pain Society
1999-2003	Examiner Final FRCA RCA London
1996-2003	Board of Management and Trustee Charity St Gemma's Hospice Leeds
2000-2002	Elected Assistant Honorary Secretary British Pain Society
1999-2002	UK co-ordinator World Federation of Anesthesiologists Fellows education programme
1998-2000	Elected Council Member British Pain Society
1993-96	Co-opted Council Member British Pain Society
1992-96	Examiner FRCA RCA London
1994-95	Secretary Association for Palliative Medicine
1984-87	Lecturer Anaesthesia University of Leeds

PRINCIPAL PROFESSIONAL SPECIALISMS

Anaesthesia and Pain Medicine

I was an NHS Consultant in Anaesthesia specialising in Pain Medicine in Leeds for nearly 30 years until I retired from NHS practice in 2016. I gave up general anaesthesia in 2011 to concentrate on Pain Medicine. My clinical practice involved pain assessment and management (pharmacological, nerve blocks, spinal procedures and spinal implants) within a multidisciplinary team of doctors, nurses, pharmacists, physiotherapists and psychologists. The Leeds Pain Service accepts patients with chronic pain from General Practitioners and other specialists and is a national neuromodulation centre for spinal implants. As a tertiary referral unit our patients have complex and long-standing chronic pain e.g. spinal pain, headaches, peripheral nerve problems/brachial plexus pain, cancer pain, complex regional pain syndrome, post-surgical/amputation/traumatic pain, vascular pain and various musculoskeletal pains. Since

retirement from the NHS I continued to work full time in private clinical pain management practice and medico-legal work. Since February 2026 I have concentrated solely on medico-legal work; I remain licensed and on the GMC register.

Teaching
I have lectured nationally and internationally about pain related topics. I remain active in training, education and national standard setting. Recent teaching includes the Leeds Pain Interventional Cadaver Course (2025 and 2026), a lecture on chronic pain after pelvic mesh surgery (2026) and a CES conference presentation alongside counsel (2026). I provide education on medico-legal matters for doctors and lawyers. I mentor a nursing care expert.

Examining
I was a basic science examiner for the RCA and final FRCA examiner for 13 years and a FFPM RCA examiner for 4 years. I gained experience examining in other countries e.g. Eire, Sri Lanka, Cairo and Hong Kong. I contribute to the FFPM RCA examination quality assurance by training and auditing examiners. I am involved in setting up the new examination.

AWARDS, ACCOLADES AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES
I have been an officer and committee member for national bodies with responsibility for pain training, education and standard setting for 40 years. In 2015 I was awarded the FPMRCA Commendation for Meritorious Service. In December 2025 I was awarded the Patrick Wall Medal that is the highest lectureship awarded by the Faculty and is given to senior clinicians who have advanced the science or art of pain medicine practice. I delivered the Patrick Wall Lecture, “From Clinic to Court: Where Science and Law Meet”, at the 17th Annual FPMRCA Meeting.

MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS
Certified Fellow Expert Witness Institute

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS, TEXTBOOKS AND EDITORIAL ROLES
I have published several textbooks and many book chapters, scientific papers, editorials and reviews (more than 135 publications). In 2015 the BMA book of the year prize was won by M L Sharma, S Gupta, M Bennett and K H Simpson. Practical Management of Complex Cancer Pain. Oxford University Press (2014); the 2nd edition was published in 2022. I co-authored a chapter on chronic pain in the 6th Edition of ‘Clinical Negligence’ Eds. Powers and Barton 2023. I am currently editing the 2nd edition of the textbook that supports the Leeds cadaver course.

TRAINING QUALIFICATIONS AND ACCREDITATION AS AN EXPERT WITNESS
I have been involved in medico-legal work for about 35 years; I have attended courses on report writing and cross-examination. I regularly participate in medico-legal lectures, seminars and workshops. I was trained by the Leeds Trust as an assessor of critical incidents using Root Cause Analysis techniques. I was involved in internal investigations of complaints within the Leeds Trust. I keep my medico-legal practice up to date through regular CPD, including the Expert Witness Institute national conferences in 2025 and 2026.

I am aware of the requirements of Part 35 and Practice Direction 35, the Protocol for the Instruction of Experts to give evidence in Civil Claims and the Practice Direction on Pre-Action Conduct. I obtained Part 1 of the Certificate of Medical Reporting; the Bond Solon Civil Procedure Rules Expert Witness Certificate to support my understanding and compliance of the above requirements. I obtained Part 2 of the Certificate of Medical Reporting on the topic of whiplash associated disorder. In 2017 I completed the Bond Solon training as part of the Cardiff University Bond Solon expert witness accreditation scheme for civil cases. I passed the required assessments and was awarded the Cardiff University Law School Bond Solon Civil Expert Witness Certificate in 2018.

Expert Witness Institute (EWI) Certification is an assessment which enables an Expert Witness to gain recognition and validation for current practice. In 2022 I gained MEWI (Cert) and my application was deemed 'excellent' by the assessors. EWI Certified Experts commit to undertaking ongoing Continuing Professional Development and are required to go through the Certification assessment every 5 years to revalidate. The assessment builds on the vetting procedures for EWI membership by adding a higher-level membership category for highly experienced experts. Certification assesses all the core competencies required as an Expert Witness and recognizes those who can demonstrate excellence in report writing, discussions between experts and giving oral evidence in Court. Applications for Certification are assessed on their ability to demonstrate actual practice in real scenarios. In 2022 I was appointed as an assessor for experts’ applications to the EWI for Certification which involved training in the assessment of applications and scoring them against defined criteria as part of the EWI vetting process. In 2023 I was awarded Fellowship (Cert) of the EWI. I have provided expert written and oral evidence in many different cases including civil (personal injury and clinical negligence) and criminal matters in the UK, Eire, USA and Cayman Islands. I have given evidence in fitness to practise cases at the GMC. I have attended Court as an expert witness in England and Eire on more than 35 occasions. I provide about 250 reports and joint statements per year, of which 55% are personal injury and 45% clinical negligence. I receive instructions on behalf of both Claimants and Defendants; I am occasionally instructed as a single joint expert.