



St John's
CHAMBERS

Inquest Seminar

Harvey Nichols,
27 Philadelphia Street,
Bristol BS1 3BZ

10th December 2019

8:15- 10:30am

Make the most of a working breakfast!



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Cost: £20 + VAT
CPD: 1.5 hours

Programme



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Inquests Seminar

10th December 2019

8.15 - 8.45am

Breakfast and registration

8.45 - 9.15am

Neglect in Healthcare Inquests

Vanessa McKinlay, Head of Clinic Negligence, St John's Chambers

Vanessa will look at the legal framework for a finding of neglect, the submissions that should be made, and examples of inquests where such a finding has or has not been made.

9.15 - 9.45am

How to effectively manage the interests and concerns of the family at an inquest.

Marcus Coates-Walker, Barrister, St John's Chambers

Whether you represent the family or a state institution, understanding the family's concerns and how to manage them effectively is at the heart of the inquest process. Marcus will provide an insight into the key issues, concerns and complaints that families are likely to have and how best to approach them from both perspectives.

9.45 - 10.30am

Getting the most out of submissions at an inquest – the PIR, conclusions and beyond
Emma Zeb, Head of Personal injury team and Inquests team, St John's Chambers

Written submissions? What to cover? How to prepare for submissions? Why are they so important? Emma will give you some top tips to ensure that you cover all relevant issues in a way which can assist the Coroner as well as meet the requirements of your client.

10.30am

Close

About the team

At St John's Chambers we have a highly specialist Inquest team who, with members of our clinical negligence, personal injury and regulatory teams, regularly undertake inquest work. Our team has a significant breadth of experience in inquest and public inquiry work, providing expertise at all levels of seniority. Our barristers provide first-class guidance, support, advice and representation throughout the whole inquest process.

Breakfast includes:

Mini bacon/sausage soft roll
Greek yoghurt, fruit compote, granola
Freshly baked pastries
Fresh fruit skewers

To find out more information about the team visit: www.stjohnschambers.co.uk

Presenters



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Emma Zeb, Head of Personal injury team and Inquests team, (Call 1998)
St John's Chambers

"A stalwart and conscientious advocate."

LEGAL 500, 2018

INQUESTS AND INQUIRIES

Emma specialises in complex inquests and public inquiries. She has a wealth of experience in all types of inquest, from shorter yet difficult one-day matters to multi PIP high profile 6-week Article 2 cases before a Jury.

Emma acts for bereaved families as well as individuals and public/private sector bodies whose actions may be examined. Her clients include private prisons, the police, local authorities, private and public sector care homes, housing providers, health trusts/boards and employers. Emma has been appointed as junior counsel to the Crown and through this role she represents the prison estate regularly in relation to deaths in custody.

From the first PIR to the consideration of the implications of the conclusion post inquest, Emma understands the nuances of coronial procedure and in particular difficult arguments regarding disclosure and PII as well as whether Article 2 is engaged or a jury is mandated. Emma has dealt with Judicial Review issues in relation to procedural matters and regarding the outcome of an inquest. She has a real talent for handling cases involving significant amounts of documentation and distilling this down to the relevant issues.



Vanessa McKinlay, Head of Clinical Negligence (Call 2000)
St John's Chambers

"Vanessa is a robust and clever negotiator, who gets outstanding results."

LEGAL 500, 2017

PERSONAL INJURY AND CLINICAL NEGLIGENCE

Vanessa worked as a Senior Physiotherapist in the NHS before studying law and being called to the Bar in 2000. She leads a successful and expanding Clinical Negligence team. She regularly provides representation at inquests, including Article 2 and jury inquests. She is experienced in cases involving deaths in hospital (including psychiatric units) and deaths in which questions arise regarding GP and ambulance service care. Vanessa regularly undertakes inquests on a conditional fee basis.

She brings a strong medical knowledge to her extensive clinical negligence practice and to personal injury cases in which complex medical issues arise and she is a trained mediator.

Her kind and very thoughtful approach to claims makes an often frustrating process more bearable for the client. Peers praise her for her pragmatic approach, and being able to filter out the wheat from the chaff and boil it down so she can give practical advice in understandable terms. Clients have said that her medical background is really helpful in cases with technical medical issues.



Marcus Coates-Walker, Barrister (Call 2013)
St John's Chambers

Having specialised in this area, Marcus has experience of a broad range of inquest work arising in the context of both personal injury and clinical negligence. He has appeared at Article 2 and jury inquests with multiple lay and expert witnesses. His experience of inquests includes cases involving deaths in hospital, psychiatric institutions, Trusts or Health Boards, Local Councils, prison services, police forces or other state institutions. He also has experience of a number of inquests which have attracted media attention and is able to adapt his approach to the sensitivities of each case.

Recent cases include:

- Inquest into the death of a man who fell multiple times in hospital whilst assessed as a 'high risk of falling', then subsequently fractured his hip and developed hospital-acquired pneumonia which caused his death.
- Inquest into the death of a man who had a jejunostomy feeding tube wrongly placed whilst in hospital which subsequently affected his nutrition and materially contributed to his death.
- Inquest into the death of a man who had called 999 following the onset of significant respiratory problems. The issues centred on the delay of the Ambulance Service to triage and respond to his call in line with their training, guidelines and practices.