



Liaison with other agencies

The HCP is expected to liaise with other custody user groups such as drug arrest referral schemes and those projects that encourage appropriate diversion from custody of the mentally ill, mental health liaison teams, social services.

Subsequent to these examinations

All HCPs are required to give evidence of fact¹ in court when requested to do so. The evidence of a forensic physician, nurse or paramedic may be admitted as expert evidence if the HCP has sufficient skill (as defined by their training, their practice and their experience²) to assist the court as to a fact in issue.

Forensic nurses and paramedics should be familiar, and act in accordance, with any guidance of the Nursing and Midwifery Council or the Healthcare Professions Council regarding witness evidence in criminal proceedings.

Further Reading

- 1 *Forensic clinicians (physicians, nurses and paramedics) as witnesses in criminal proceedings*
FFLM, October 2020
- 2 *Expert Evidence – Frequently Asked Questions*
Rix K Journal of Forensic & Legal Medicine Volume 77, January 2021, 102106