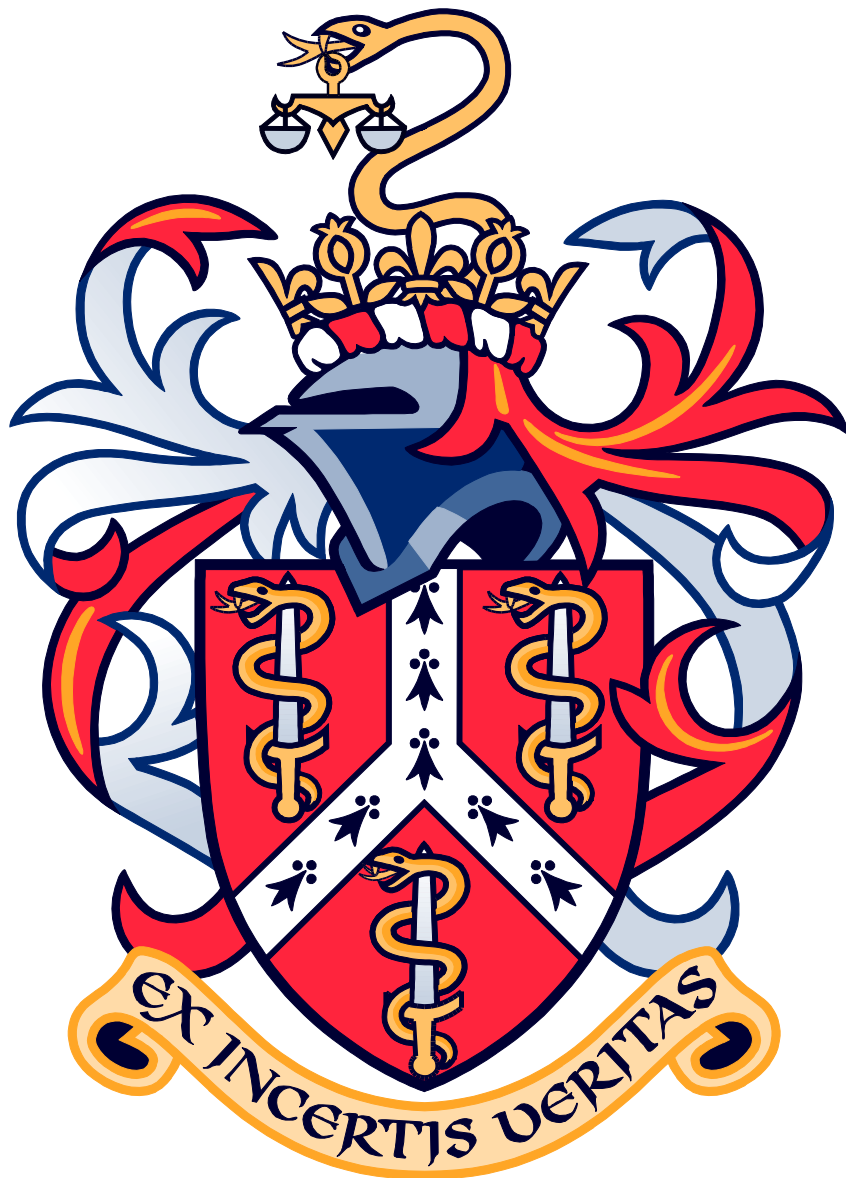


FACULTY OF FORENSIC & LEGAL MEDICINE

Virtual SARC Best Practice Day



Saturday 20 September 2025

Microsoft Teams

Programme

Session chaired by Prof Rudo Masanzu

- 09:45 – 10:00 ***Welcome***
- 10:00 – 10:45 ***The Role of a Mental Health Nurse as a Non-Medical Prescriber (NMP) in a SARC***
Naomi Gallagher, Complex Needs ISVA & Nurse Prescriber, Serenity SARC
- 10:45 – 11:30 ***Updates to ‘Safeguarding Children and Young People: Roles and Competencies for Healthcare Staff’***
Dr Vicki Walker, Consultant Paediatrician, Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- 11:30 – 11:45 ***Break***

Session chaired by Dr Sheila Paul

- 11:45 – 12:30 ***Meta-aggregative systematic review of barriers to accountability for sexual violence in low- and middle- income countries***
Dr Jessica Untz Lee, Community Sexual and Reproductive Health Specialty Trainee
- 12:30 – 13:00 ***Break for Lunch***
- 13:00 – 13:45 ***Case-Based Discussion***
Breakout Rooms
- 13:45 – 14:25 ***Forensic Capability Network Report on SARC Collaborative Learning Exercise - Discussion and Feedback***
Dr Bernadette Butler, Forensic Physician and Immediate Past President, FFLM
- 14:25 – 14:30 ***Closing Remarks***

Learning Objectives

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- To learn about the role of a NMP in the SARC
- To increase awareness of training and competency requirements relating to safeguarding children and children in care
- To present the findings of a systematic review on barriers to accountability for sexual violence in LMIC
- To reframe our conceptualisation of accountability for sexual violence
- To improve our awareness of qualitative systematic review methodology
- To gain an appreciation of multi-sectoral, cross-context barriers to accountability
- To understand the benefit of a Collaborative Learning Exercise
- To discuss how the sampling recommendations are used
- To explain how clinicians use guidance effectively in practice.

Target Audience

- Forensic Clinicians working in SARCs
- Clinicians who work with children and young people

Speaker

Naomi Gallagher

Complex Needs ISVA & Nurse Prescriber, Serenity SARC

After graduating from university in 2012, I began my career in secure services in London, developing a strong foundation in working with individuals in highly complex and challenging environments. Following this, I returned to Northampton, where I have gained extensive experience across a variety of mental health settings, including acute wards, community services, primary care, secure wards, and specialist services. This breadth of practice has allowed me to develop a well-rounded understanding of mental health care and the diverse needs of patients across the system.

A pivotal point in my career came while working in a SARC. It was here that I observed a significant gap in the support victims were receiving, particularly in the time it took for them to access mental health services. Recognising the urgent need for timely, integrated care, I undertook Non-Medical Prescribing (NMP) training to help bridge this gap and ensure that victims could receive the support and interventions they needed more swiftly and effectively.

Throughout my career, I have been committed to improving patient care, addressing inequalities, and promoting holistic support for some of the most vulnerable individuals in society. My professional journey reflects both adaptability and dedication, as I have consistently sought opportunities to expand my skills and respond to unmet needs within the health system. Today, I continue to build on this foundation, using my experience and training to contribute to high-quality, patient-centred mental health care, while striving to reduce barriers and ensure timely access to support.

The Role of a Mental Health Nurse with NMP in a SARC

This presentation explores the benefits of embedding a Mental Health Nurse with NMP skills within a SARC. Survivors of sexual violence often face long waits for GP appointments — typically 2–6 weeks — leading to delays in treatment, fragmented care, and high risk of disengagement.

A Mental Health Nurse based in a SARC can provide immediate, trauma-informed assessment, prescribe medication on the same day if needed, and work alongside an Independent Sexual Violence Adviser (ISVA) with a mental health background. This integrated role bridges clinical care, advocacy, and safeguarding, ensuring survivors' needs are met holistically.

Case studies demonstrate that compared to GP pathways, SARC-based support significantly reduces delays, prevents escalation to crisis services, and improves survivor engagement with therapy and police investigations. The Home Office has recognised this evidence, approving funding for enhanced ISVA and NMP roles after finding survivors with complex needs were disengaging from investigations.

Embedding this role within SARCs strengthens survivor outcomes, eases GP pressures, and supports justice processes. It represents a vital step towards ensuring accessible, survivor-centred, trauma-informed care.

Speaker

Dr Vicki Walker

Consultant Paediatrician, Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Vicki Walker is a consultant paediatrician in Nottinghamshire and a Designated Dr for children in care. She has been Paediatric Service Director for the Trust and Named Dr safeguarding children. She has been a member of the RCPCH Child Protection Standing Committee since 2018, initially as lead for children in care and currently as assistant officer for child protection (education). This involves presenting at conferences, creating and delivering courses, eLearning and resources relating to safeguarding children and young people.

Updates to 'Safeguarding Children and Young People: Roles and Competencies for Healthcare Staff'

Review and update to competency for health care staff documents - safeguarding children and children in care:

- Process
- Engagement
- Outcomes
- Challenges
- Setting and next steps

Speaker

Dr Jessica Untz Lee

Community Sexual and Reproductive Health Specialty Trainee

Jessica Untz Lee has just joined the Community Sexual and Reproductive Health training program at the Chalmers Centre in Edinburgh. She recently completed a Fogarty Fellowship with the US National Institutes of Health through the ACHIEVE consortia, where she undertook a meta-aggregative systematic review of determinants of perpetrator impunity for sexual violence in low- and middle-income countries.

Her clinical background includes work as a specialty doctor in Sexual Offences Medicine at The Bridge SARC in Bristol. She also holds a Master's degree in Public Health from Harvard University, where she supported research on care and justice mechanisms for sexual and gender-based violence as a Graduate Research Assistant and later as a Departmental Associate with the Transitional Justice Program.

As an early career researcher, she has been exploring structural responses to violence and abuse, with an emphasis on developing better systems of care and accountability for survivors. She has experience with community-engaged methodologies such as PhotoVoice, and prior to completing her medical degree, worked on and coordinated projects across diverse community settings in Latin America.

Meta-aggregative systematic review of barriers to accountability for sexual violence in low- and middle- income countries

Presents the findings of an almost finished systematic review that asks: What are the barriers to perpetrator accountability for sexual violence in low- and middle-income countries?

Speaker / Course Organiser

Dr Bernadette Butler

Forensic Physician and Immediate Past President, FFLM

Bernadette Butler, ('Dr B') graduated from St Thomas' Hospital Medical School, sometime in the last century. Her post-graduate career began in Obstetrics & Gynaecology, but family commitments led to working part-time.

She began her career in forensic medicine, 25 years ago, at the first Haven, in Camberwell, now one of 3 Havens: the SARCs for London, all run and managed by King's College Hospital NHS FT. She has an interest in education and training, hence her former role as the Havens Clinical Education & Training Lead, (CETL).

Her roles within the Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine, (FFLM) include:

- Academic Dean, 2016-2019
- Examiner for LFFLM (SOM) and MFFLM (SOM)
- Lead for the Part 1, single best answer (SBA) paper, LFFLM SOM
- Member of the forensic science sub-committee, (FSSC)
- President of the FFLM, May 2023 – May 2025

And now Immediate Past President of the FFLM until November 2026.

She worked in the Surrey SARC 2016/17 and was the Clinical Director of Hope House, the Gloucestershire SARC, from 2017-2019.

She is the Chair of the Forensic Science Regulator's (FSR's) Medical Specialist Forensics Group, (MFSG), but will shortly step down from this role.

Forensic Capability Network (FCN) Report on the SARC Collaborative Learning Exercise - Discussion and Feedback

The aim of this session is to look at the FCN's collaborative learning exercise (CLE) undertaken earlier this year and discuss some of its contents.

The CLE used a number of scenarios and clinicians were asked to develop a 'forensic strategy' for each one, and explanations as to why they would and would not take particular samples, based on the history and the current FFLM sampling recommendations and other guidance documents.

Chair / Course Organiser

Prof Rudo Masanzu

Forensic Physician

Having qualified as a urologist and with a special interest in emergency medical evacuations, Prof. Rudo Masanzu has been working as a forensic physician in both general forensic medicine and sexual offence medicine for over 17 years.

She does collaborative forensic work and training both nationally and internationally.

Rudo was the FFLM GFM OSCE Lead for three years and has been an examiner for both GFM and SOM FFLM examinations for 12 years.

She currently holds an academic honorary appointment as Visiting Professor at Ulster University, and is the SARC Consultant and Clinical Lead at Serenity Sexual Assault Referral Centre.

Chair / Course Organiser

Dr Sheila Paul

Forensic Physician

Soon after qualifying in the UK as a GP, I worked for the US Army in Germany. Returning to the UK after six years, I was ½ time GP partner in South Bucks from 1988 to 2017, then GP in A and E until May 2019.

My “portfolio career”, has included cardiology research; surgical clinics; working as GP with homeless people in London; being medical officer of a community drug and alcohol team; 13 years in A and E, alongside GP work. My love is working with deprivation and the vulnerable.

Since 1993 I worked as Forensic Physician with Thames Valley Police, both custody and sexual assault. Leaving general forensic work in 2015, I continued to work in sexual assault.

I work with Bucks Looked After Children team and I also work as an expert witness.

I have contributed to many national documents and guidelines, both from the FFLM and the RCPCH; been one of the authors of the “Purple Book” all three editions; published papers following research done. I am a regular reviewer for the Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine.

I have taught multiagency, police, health professionals for many years, recently adding University teaching.

I am a Foundation Fellow of the FFLM and very much enjoy working with the Faculty.

Upcoming Courses and Events



Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine
Courses 2025

Join us for:

FORENSIC ASPECTS OF ADULT SAFEGUARDING

- Tuesday 04 November PM
- Tuesday 25 November PM

Explore key topics essential to safeguarding practice, including:

- Consent for examination
- Documentation and interpretation of common injuries
- Adult Safeguarding Medical Reports
- Statement Writing and Courtroom Skills
- Working with the police and social care.



Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine
Training Days 2025

Join us for:

VIRTUAL CHILD SAFEGUARDING DAY

Saturday 22 November 2025
10.00 - 16.00 BST

Fast-tracked learning from leading industry professionals

- ✓ Member Discount
- ✓ Recording Available
- ✓ CPD Educational Credits



Upcoming Webinars



Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine
WEBINAR SERIES 2025

EXAMINATION IN PREGNANCY

With **Dr Amy Hamm**

Forensic Physician and Paediatrician
FFLM Treasurer

- ✓ Free for FFLM Members
- ✓ Recording Available
- ✓ CPD Educational Credits



Wed 08 October 2025
13.00 - 14.00 BST



www.fflm.ac.uk/e-learning/webinars



Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine
WEBINAR SERIES 2025

THE ROLE OF THE FORENSIC NURSE

With **Stacey Day**

FFLM Vice-President for Allied Healthcare Professionals

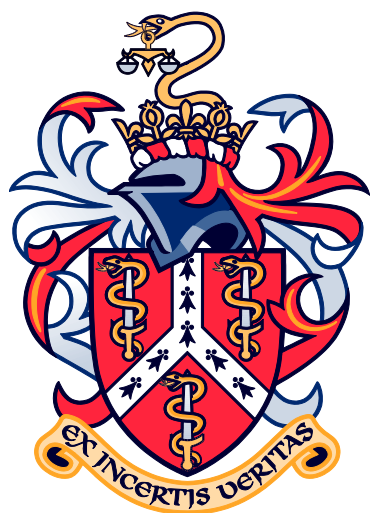
- ✓ Free for FFLM Members
- ✓ Recording Available
- ✓ CPD Educational Credits



Wed 05 November 2025
13.00 - 14.00 BST



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