

**SOMEK**  
AND ASSOCIATES

THE LEADING EXPERT WITNESS  
PROVIDER OF CHOICE

over  
**200**  
experts

EXPERT WITNESSES IN  
PHYSIOTHERAPY

MUSCULOSKELETAL,  
SPINAL AND CAUDA EQUINA  
RELATED REPORTS

**Somek and Associates offer a range of highly experienced physiotherapy experts, in the trauma and elective orthopaedic/musculoskeletal (MSK) field; in both in-patient and out-patient settings.**

All experts continue to practice clinically at an advanced level in either the NHS and/or in private practice, with many being Extended Scope or Advanced Physiotherapy Practitioners. All experts have undergone formal training in the medico-legal process and are fully aware of their responsibilities under Civil Procedure Rules (CPR) pertaining to expert witnesses.

Our experts bring the following to orthopaedic/MSK field:

- Advanced clinical knowledge/assessment and diagnostic skills
- Wide range of treatment modalities and methods (e.g. manipulative physiotherapy, acupuncture, CT guided injections)
- Advanced clinical reasoning skills
- Extensive experience with adult and paediatric cases

## Janice Sencer

Janice is an occupational health physiotherapist specialising in the fields of musculoskeletal disorders, orthopaedics, sports injuries and occupational health. This includes acute trauma, orthopaedics, whiplash injuries, DSE and workplace risk assessments, manual handling injuries, acute and chronic spinal dysfunction along with other workplace injuries. Since 2005 Janice has worked for a private physiotherapy practice on a self-employed basis with a clinical caseload of both private and NHS patients.



The range of injuries that our experts deal with is considerable and includes:

- Back and neck pain/injury
- Acute and chronic pain
- Trauma related fractures and dislocations
- Soft tissue injuries
- Joint reconstruction (total hip/knee replacements) and revision surgery
- Upper limb/hand injuries
- Cauda equina syndrome
- Spinal injury and myelopathy
- Falls prevention

Our nationwide based physiotherapy experts accept instructions from claimant and defendant solicitors and on a Single Joint Instruction basis. Reports can be prepared for Quantum, Breach of Duty, or for Professional Regulatory purposes and are provided within 4-6 weeks from instruction.

## Thomas Porter

Thomas qualified in 2004 and specialises in the field of musculoskeletal physiotherapy. He has a wide-ranging expertise in the musculoskeletal field, within hip, knee and shoulder cases, and his main area of specialism is within spinal cases. He has worked in both the NHS and private healthcare settings and currently works with patients who present with complex musculoskeletal presentations. Thomas currently works as an advanced physiotherapy practitioner (APP) and is a member of the MACP, a membership organisation of physiotherapists who have reached a recognised standard of excellence in musculoskeletal physiotherapy.



## Stephen Wilson

Stephen qualified in 1995 and has worked both across the NHS and private sectors of physiotherapy. Stephen has a masters in Manipulative Physiotherapy and is an extended scope practitioner whose specialities include MSK, chronic pain including back pain and cauda equina. Stephen has particular expertise in shoulder conditions, knee conditions and spinal pathologies. Stephen is the lead MSK clinician dealing with complaint and concerns within the Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust and also runs his own independent practice. Stephen is dual trained and can produce liability and quantum reports.



## Sara Dickinson

Sara specialises in the fields of trauma, orthopaedics, cauda equina, chronic pain elderly care and general surgery. Sara is currently responsible for the day-to-day management of an orthopaedic caseload and in particular responsibility for complex pelvic surgery and trauma. Sara manages a broad caseload including patients with post-operative conditions including elective orthopaedic surgery, both upper and lower limb and spinal, revision surgery, both peripheral and spinal, acute pain, chronic pain, vertebral fractures due to osteoporosis, suspected cauda equina syndrome and falls. Sara is dual trained and can produce liability and quantum reports.



## Jeanne Burnett

Since qualifying Jeanne has worked in a variety of clinical settings within the NHS, private and charitable sectors, community, and occupational health in industry. Jeanne's expertise is primarily in the fields of musculoskeletal injury, orthopaedics, oncology, long term conditions and acupuncture. She has worked with elite athletes in the sports of golf and county cricket, and worked in industry as a specialist occupational health physiotherapist with companies including DFS, and Amazon, where her role was to assess and treat a variety of musculoskeletal injuries. Currently Jeanne runs her own private practice in Wells, Somerset, managing a mixed caseload.



## Helen Van Sittert

Since graduating as a chartered physiotherapist in 2004, Helen has gained extensive clinical experience within the NHS as well as within the private healthcare sector both in the UK and South Africa, including setting up a private physiotherapy clinic within the community. Helen is currently working for a global specialist healthcare solutions service providing a physiotherapy service to the community of Hounslow. As a senior physiotherapist, Helen manages a clinical caseload of patients requiring physiotherapy services as well as assessing for and ordering equipment to promote and maintain patient independence.



“ Thank you for Stephen Wilson’s very clear and detailed independent expert report.  
(Solicitor)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued cooperation throughout the course of this Trial and for presenting both your written and oral evidence in such a robust and persuasive manner. Your efforts throughout this case have greatly assisted me, the NHSLA and the Defendant Trust in the successful defence of this matter.  
(Solicitor)

Helen’s analysis of the case and the Claimant’s reasonable physiotherapy requirements was compelling both in writing and in conference. (Solicitor)

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