

## **Services Provided to MDS Members**

The services provided by MDS are tailored to mainly cover two areas where medical and dental professionals frequently need advice and representation, in issues related to employment or contract for provision of services (“Employment Matters”) and in the defence before regulatory bodies (“GMC/GDC Matters”).

Traditionally the support in these two areas has come from two different types of bodies, the support in Employment Matters has been provided by trade unions and support in GMC/GDC Matters has been provided by defence organisations. The division is artificial and has frequently caused problems.

MDS is unique in providing members with the option of having support in both areas under the same umbrella. Our services are provided on a platform of a pool of advisers who between themselves have expertise in both of these areas (and more); every adviser has either a medical or a dental qualification and some are also legally qualified.

Advisers work closely with specialist lawyers and if the member requires legal representation, this is provided through expert firm of solicitors, the legal expenses being underwritten by insurance.

Every MDS member is provided the following services:

## **STANDARD SERVICES**

### 1. Advice regarding Conditions of Service:

- Salary
- Leave entitlement
- Removal expenses
- Travelling expenses
- Pension
- Local and national guidelines
- Contracts of employment

### 2. Advice on Professional Issues:

- Confidentiality
- Ethical issues
- Medico legal practice
- Clinical Excellence Award
- PMETB applications and processes
- Career progression

### 3. Advice and representation in:

- Complaints handling – with patients, employees or colleagues<sup>i</sup>
- Dispute about remuneration (salary, expenses)
- Complaint of Bullying and harassment
- Complaints of Discrimination

### 4. Defence in litigation arising out of work:

- Litigation brought by staff employees<sup>ii</sup>
  - Health and safety<sup>iii</sup>
5. Advice and representation in disciplinary process of Employer (PCT or Trust)
  6. Representation in litigation arising out of contract of employment<sup>iv</sup>
  7. Representation in litigation arising out of contract of service<sup>v</sup>

Other benefits as a part of the standard package are –

- Euro law legal advice<sup>vi</sup>
- UK tax advice<sup>vii</sup>
- Health & medical information service<sup>viii</sup>
- Counselling<sup>ix</sup>

In addition to the Standard Services, MDS provides its members the option of subscribing to the following services:

### **SUPPLEMENTARY PACKAGES**

1. Available to all members: Professional Legal Protection consisting of
  - Advice and Representation for proceedings before regulatory body (GMC/GDC etc).<sup>x</sup>
  - Advice and representation at Coroner's Inquests/fatal accident inquiry.<sup>xi</sup>
  - Defence in criminal prosecution arising from professional work.<sup>xii</sup>
  - Support in dealing with police in matters related to the profession.<sup>xiii</sup>
2. For GPs: Representation in Performers list issues.<sup>xiv</sup>

3. For Trainees: Representation for RITA and ARCP appeal and also Performers list issues (for GP trainees).<sup>xv</sup>

Members taking up any of the above supplementary packages also get the following package of benefits<sup>xvi</sup> –

- Motoring Prosecution Defense
- Payment of Lost Income in Jury Service
- Representation in Tax Enquiry
- Representation in Personal Injury Claims

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i	Backed by Amicus Legal Expenses Insurance; terms apply.
ii	Backed by Amicus Legal Expenses Insurance; terms apply.
iii	Backed by Amicus Legal Expenses Insurance; terms apply.
iv	Backed by Amicus Legal Expenses Insurance; terms apply.
v	Backed by Amicus Legal Expenses Insurance; terms apply.
vi	Provided by Amicus Legal Expenses Insurance
vii	Provided by Amicus Legal Expenses Insurance
viii	Provided by Amicus Legal Expenses Insurance
ix	Provided by Amicus Legal Expenses Insurance
x	Backed by Amicus Legal Expenses Insurance; terms apply.
xi	Backed by Amicus Legal Expenses Insurance; terms apply.
xii	Backed by Amicus Legal Expenses Insurance; terms apply.
xiii	Backed by Amicus Legal Expenses Insurance; terms apply.
xiv	Backed by Amicus Legal Expenses Insurance; terms apply.
xv	Backed by Amicus Legal Expenses Insurance; terms apply.
xvi	Backed by Amicus Legal Expenses Insurance; terms apply.