


**Mr Abeezer I. Sarela**  
**Consultant Surgeon**

**Expert Services in Civil Cases for Clinical Negligence and Personal Injury**

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**PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS**

**Consultant Surgeon** at The Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, since 2003.

**Honorary Senior Lecturer in Surgery**, University of Leeds, since 2003.

**PhD Student in Law** at the University of Leeds, since October 2013.

**Qualifications**

MBBS	University of Bombay, 1991
MSc in Surgical Sciences	University of London, 1996
FRCS (Gen. Surg., Glasg.)	2001
MD	University of Leeds, 2007

**Fields of Expertise**

Laparoscopic and Open Surgery for:

1. Obesity (Weight Loss/Bariatric Surgery)
2. Gallbladder Stones
3. Cancer of Oesophagus and Stomach
4. Hernia
5. Acid Reflux, Hiatus Hernia, Achalasia and Disorders of the Spleen
6. Abdominal Trauma, Infections and Emergencies e.g. peritonitis, appendicitis, bowel injury

I have published over 50 papers in medical journals on topics of my expertise.

I am a member of the Association of Upper Gastrointestinal Surgeons of Great Britain and of the British Obesity and Metabolic Surgery Society.

**Special Interest in Law**

I have a keen academic interest in the ethics and law of informed consent for surgery, and this forms the basis of my ongoing PhD studies in the School of Law, University of Leeds. The following papers reflect the scope of my expertise in law:

Sarela AI, Thomson M. Balancing ethics, law and reality in informed consent for surgery. *Annals of the Royal College of Surgeons of England* 2014;96:329-330.

Sarela AI, McMahon MJ. A systematic review of internal hernias after laparoscopic Roux-en-Y gastric bypass: is it negligent to not close the peritoneal spaces? *The British Journal of Surgery* 2014;101(S3)7.

Sarela AI. Stop sitting on the fence: recommendations are essential to informed decision-making. *British Medical Journal*. 2013;237:f7600

**Medico-Legal Experience**

I started medico-legal work in April 2011. Up to January 2016, I have been instructed in over 250 cases, and have prepared over 450 reports for Advice, Liability & Causation, Condition & Prognosis and Supplementary issues; Claimant, 70%; Defendant, 30%. In FY 2015-2016, I have received 84 new instructions, resulting in 161 reports. I am a Member of the Expert Witness Institute, a Vetted Expert in the UK Register of Expert Witnesses and an APIL 1<sup>st</sup> Tier Expert.

**Medico-Legal Practice**

I am fully conversant with CPR Part 35, Practice Directions & the Guidance for the Direction of Experts in Civil Claims (2014). I have attended a training course (ProSols) in medico-legal report writing. I provide Expert Advice and CPR compliant Expert Witness Reports. My structured reports correctly apply the relevant legal tests for breach of duty and causation, and provide necessary information on condition and prognosis, fully supported by specific references. I am aware of the recent stringency of court-imposed deadlines and diligently adhere to agreed schedules. I aim to provide a report within 4 weeks of receiving all necessary papers, and within 2 weeks of interviewing a Claimant. I charge £ 195 per hour. Estimates are provided and fixed fees can be negotiated. Fees are payable within 2 months from the date of invoice; deferred payment terms (up to 6 months) can be negotiated.

*To provide a top-quality expert witness service so that lawyers and judges can efficiently make the best-reasoned decisions*

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