



Certificate Course on

# Psychologists and Mental Health Professionals as Expert Witnesses

Jointly organised by



The Federation of Medical  
Societies of Hong Kong



Hong Kong Clinical  
Psychologists Association

## Objectives:

This course is designed for psychologists and mental health professionals who wish to prepare themselves fully when being asked to give expert evidence (knowledge) to court, whether written or verbal. It is meant to help participants to learn:

- When and how psychologists' and mental health professionals' opinions are being used in courts of law in Hong Kong;
- What to do when being asked to give expert evidence to court;
- The relevant laws and code of practice governing expert witness evidence;
- The usual requirements, elements and style of the expert "court report";
- How to prepare yourself to go to court to give expert evidence;
- Courtroom manners and court procedures relevant to the expert witness;
- How to present yourself as an expert witness;
- How to present your expert evidence (knowledge) in court;
- How to handle cross-examination and difficult situations during trial.

Date	Topics	Speakers
15 Sep	Essential legal knowledge. How psychological and mental health expert opinions are used in courts of law. Relevant laws and code of practice governing expert witness evidence. Selected court judgment quoting expert evidence.	<p>The course will be conducted mainly by  <b>Dr. Ephraem P.W. TSUI</b>,                      Lecturer, Department of Psychology,                      The University of Hong Kong;                      Registered Clinical Psychologist (HKPS)</p> <p>Special guest speaker:  <b>Professor Peter W.H. LEE</b>,                      Director, Honorary Consultant,                      Clinical Health Psychology Centre,                      Hong Kong Sanatorium &amp; Hospital</p>
22 Sep	Types of expert court reports. Accepting or declining request for an expert report. Scheduling and fee-charging issues. Preparing a court report. Consent & collateral information. Requirements and elements of a court report. Submitting and amending a court report.	
29 Sep	Reviewing good and poor samples of court reports. Adjusting writing styles for court purposes. Ethical issues.	
6 Oct	Accepting or declining request to testify as an expert witness in court. Scheduling and fee-charging issues. Preparing to testify in court. Courtroom manners. Essentials of trial procedures. Skills of presenting one's expertise and expert evidence (knowledge). Psychological preparation.	
13 Oct	Role-playing exercises: Testifying as expert witness in court.	
20 Oct	Handling cross-examination and difficult situations during trial. Role playing exercises: Being cross-examined in court. Generalization of skills to different courts and statutory boards.	

**Dates :** 15, 22, 29 Sep and 6, 13, 20 Oct, 2017 (Every Friday)

**Time :** 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

**Venue :** Lecture Hall, 4/F., Duke of Windsor Social Service Building, 15 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong

**Language Media :** Cantonese (Supplemented with English)

**Course Fee :** HK\$750 (6 sessions)

**Certificate :** Awarded to participants with a minimum attendance of 70%

**Enquiry :** The Secretariat of The Federation of Medical Societies of Hong Kong

Tel: 2527 8898

Fax: 2865 0345

Email: [info@fmshk.org](mailto:info@fmshk.org)

CME/CNE/CPD Accreditation in application

Application form can be downloaded from website : <http://www.fmshk.org>