

Helpful Information

What to expect at your upcoming appointment with Medilaw



Why have you been referred?

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Medilaw consists of a group of expert specialist consultants providing independent and impartial assessments to the legal, insurance, workers compensation, superannuation and government sectors. Our network of consultants express their medical opinion objectively, fairly and with due consideration to the injured party.

Our role as an independent medical examiner is very specific. It is to assess the current status and treatment of your medical condition and then provide a written report with our opinion to the person who referred you. Your consent is always sought prior to assessment.

The Medilaw consultant you will see is not in a position to provide you with guidance or actual treatment for your condition - this is best provided by your treating medical practitioners.

It is important to us that your experience with Medilaw is a positive one.

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What to bring?

If your injury or illness is of a physical nature and you have any x-rays, please bring them to your appointment. This doesn't apply for psychiatric or psychological assessments.

You will also be asked for some photo identification. Please bring your driver's licence or passport. We will ask you to sign a consent form before the assessment proceeds.



What to expect?

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Duration: You are required to arrive 30 minutes before your allocated appointment time to allow for the completion of your paperwork. You should expect to be at the Medilaw office for at least one hour. While actual examinations vary in length depending upon individual circumstances, many average 30 to 45 minutes. Medilaw consultants make every effort to keep to scheduled appointments.

Family & Friends: It is preferable that the examination is conducted without children in the examination room. However, your children, spouse and/or friends are welcome to wait for you in our reception area.

The Assessment: Prior to seeing you, the Medilaw consultant will review the existing information and reports that have been provided by your referring agency.

You will then have a face to face consultation with the assessing consultant. The consultation will usually commence with an interview and questions about the history of your condition and some more general questions about your domestic, recreational and employment history. This information must come from you. Spouses or family members are asked to refrain from attempting to answer questions on your behalf.

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A physical examination may be required depending upon the nature of your condition. **It may be necessary for you to disrobe to your underwear.** Gowns are provided and you may have an adult companion with you during the examination, or request the presence of a female or male member of the Medilaw staff to chaperone the assessment.

Please wear loose and comfortable clothing to the consultation. The consultant will need to uncover the relevant area to examine it properly. Please find below a list of specific recommendations to make yourself prepared and comfortable.

Female

You must wear underwear to your assessment.

- **Hand and elbow** - please wear something with short sleeves.
- **Shoulder** - please wear a sleeveless top. You can, of course, wear this under warmer clothing that can be easily removed such as a jumper with a zip. Please avoid a top with long sleeves as the consultant would need you to remove it to adequately examine your shoulder.
- **Spine** - any type of top is okay. On your bottom half please wear loose-fitting trousers/shorts/bike pants. The consultant may ask you to remove your top if needed during the consultation.
- **Legs** - please wear shorts or a medium length skirt as the consultant will need to examine your legs.
- **Knees** - please wear medium length skirt/shorts/bike pants as the consultant will need to examine most of your thigh during the assessment. If you wear long trousers, the consultant may ask you to remove them.
- **Feet** - shorts or a medium-length skirt are best but long trousers are acceptable if they are relatively loose, and can be easily rolled up to the knee. The consultant will need you to remove your shoes.

Male

You must wear underwear to your assessment.

- **Hand and elbow** - please wear something with short sleeves.
- **Shoulder** - please wear a sleeveless top, of course, you can wear this under warmer clothing that can be easily removed such as a jumper with a zip. Please avoid a top with long sleeves as the consultant would need you to remove it to adequately examine your shoulder.
- **Spine** - any type of top is okay. On your bottom half please wear loose-fitting trousers/shorts/bike pants. The consultant may ask you to remove your shirt if needed during the consultation.
- **Legs** - please wear shorts as the consultant will need to examine your legs.
- **Hips** - please wear loose-fitting trousers/shorts/bike pants.
- **Knees** - please wear shorts/bike pants as the consultant will need to examine most of your thigh during the assessment. If you wear long trousers, the consultant may ask you to remove them.
- **Feet** - shorts are best but long trousers are acceptable if they are relatively loose, and can be easily rolled up to the knee. The consultant will need you to remove your shoes.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why have I been referred? You have been referred to Medilaw by your employer, insurer or legal representative in order to obtain an independent medical opinion. This specialist opinion is designed to help you, and the organisation that referred you, make optimum decisions and understand 'what's next' after injury or illness.

Can I obtain a copy of the report? You can request a copy of the report from the person or company who referred you to us, allowing 2-3 weeks following your review for the report to arrive. A copy of your report is also available to you under the provisions of the Privacy Act.



Learn more

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