



**Mr Will Eardley MB ChB MSc PgCertMedEd DipSEM (UK&I)
MFST FRCSEd (Tr& Orth) MD**

**Independent Expert Witness in Orthopaedic Trauma & Clinical
Negligence**

Consultant Orthopaedic Trauma & Limb Reconstruction Surgeon
Deputy Medical Director, University Hospitals Tees
Chair, Specialty Board in Orthopaedic Surgery RCSEd

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Northern Trauma Consulting - Independent Expert Witness in
Orthopaedic Trauma & Clinical Negligence

Professional Profile

Mr Will Eardley is a Consultant Orthopaedic Trauma and Limb Reconstruction Surgeon with over 12 years' medicolegal experience. He specialises in complex orthopaedic trauma, fracture complications, limb reconstruction and the management of post-traumatic infection.

In addition to his clinical practice, he holds senior national leadership positions in orthopaedic surgery and hospital governance, contributing to the development of national standards of care, clinical guidance and quality improvement.

The combination of specialist clinical practice, national leadership in orthopaedic standards and executive healthcare governance provides a distinctive perspective in the independent assessment of complex orthopaedic clinical negligence and personal injury claims. His reports are objective, evidence-based and prepared in accordance with the duties of an independent expert witness. Mr Eardley's expertise is founded on three complementary perspectives: specialist clinical practice in orthopaedic trauma, national leadership in defining standards of care, and executive responsibility for clinical governance within a large NHS organisation.

Medicolegal Expertise

Mr Eardley's medicolegal practice encompasses both clinical negligence and personal injury, with particular expertise in the following areas:

Clinical Negligence

- Delayed diagnosis of fractures and musculoskeletal injury
- Missed injuries and diagnostic error
- Complications of fracture management
- Fixation failure
- Non-union and malunion
- Post-traumatic infection and osteomyelitis
- Limb reconstruction
- Polytrauma and rehabilitation
- Standards of orthopaedic care
- Clinical governance and systems of care

Personal Injury

- Orthopaedic trauma
- Major injury
- Fracture management
- Long-term disability
- Functional outcome
- Future treatment requirements

Mr Eardley has over 12 years' experience preparing medicolegal reports in both personal injury and clinical negligence matters, accepting instructions from both Claimant and Defendant solicitors. He provides preliminary screening opinions where appropriate, prepares reports compliant with CPR Part 35, participates in conferences with Counsel and Joint Statements, and is committed to providing independent, balanced opinion irrespective of the instructing party. His typical report turnaround time is one week.

At a glance:

- Over 12 years' expert witness experience
- Clinical negligence and personal injury
- Claimant and Defendant instructions
- CPR Part 35 compliant reports
- Conferences with Counsel
- Joint Statements
- Typical turnaround: 7 days
- Preliminary screening opinions available

Current Clinical Practice

Mr Eardley's NHS practice is devoted exclusively to orthopaedic trauma and limb reconstruction at University Hospitals Tees. As a fellowship-trained limb reconstruction surgeon, a significant proportion of his practice involves managing complications of trauma referred from other surgeons and institutions, including fixation failure, non-union, deformity correction and post-traumatic infection.

National Leadership & Standards of Care

Mr Eardley's national leadership appointments provide a detailed understanding of how standards of orthopaedic care are established, implemented and evaluated. These roles have included working with the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, British Orthopaedic Association, National Major Trauma Registry and National Hip Fracture Database. These appointments have included the development of national clinical guidance, professional standards, trauma audit, quality improvement and executive clinical governance. Together they provide detailed insight into how standards of orthopaedic care are defined, implemented, measured and improved. It has enabled Mr Eardley to become an independent Consultant in Orthopaedic Standards of Care,

Current Positions

<u>Position</u>	<u>Organisation</u>
Chair, Orthopaedic Specialty Board (RCSEd)	Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh
Deputy Medical Director	University Hospitals Tees
Consultant Orthopaedic Trauma Surgeon	University Hospitals Tees
FRCS Examiner	JCIE
BOA Trauma Committee	British Orthopaedic Association
National Audit Committee	National Major Trauma Registry
Honorary Clinical Associate	University of Teesside

Previous Positions

<u>Position</u>	<u>Organisation</u>
Research Chair	Orthopaedic Trauma Society
Orthopaedic Clinical Lead	National Hip Fracture Database
Research Chair	AOUK&I
External Examiner	The Royal London MSc Programme

Qualifications

MB ChB	University of Aberdeen
MSc	University of Teesside
PgCertMedEd	University of Dundee
DipSEM (UK &I)	Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh
MFST	Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh
FRCSEd Tr&Orth	JCIE, RCSEd
MD	University of Newcastle
CUBS Accredited (In progress)	Bond Solon And Cardiff University

Research

Academic research has underpinned Mr Eardley's clinical practice throughout his career. Following postgraduate training in evidence-based orthopaedics and the award of a Doctor of Medicine for research into the management of complex extremity injury, he has remained actively involved in national and international trauma research.

He has served as Chief Investigator on multinational studies, Principal Investigator on numerous UK clinical trials and collaborates across a wide range of NIHR-supported research programmes. With more than 90 peer-reviewed publications and extensive experience in the critical appraisal of medical evidence, he brings a rigorous, analytical approach to medicolegal reporting.

His opinions are informed not only by contemporary literature but also by direct involvement in generating the evidence that shapes modern orthopaedic practice.