

# **Personal Injury**

## **Thursday 15 August 2024**

Session 6 - 4:00pm - 5:00pm

## Panel: A collaborative approach to rehabilitation

Rehabilitation is a core element of any CTP claim, but does it always go according to plan? Is there a way of getting rehabilitation back on track if things go wrong? Our panellists are industry experts in CTP claims and rehabilitation and will be discussing what is and is not working in the NSW CTP scheme from a rehabilitation perspective. They will also discuss an alternative approach to rehabilitation and possible enhancements to the CTP scheme which could help bring the concept to life.

## Meet the speakers

#### Leigh Davidson, Principal Solicitor, Advantage Legal (moderator)

Leigh is one of the founding Principal Solicitors of Advantage Legal, an Accredited Specialist in Personal Injury Law, and the Deputy Chair of the Injury Compensation Committee of the Law Society of NSW. Previously Leigh was a Decision Maker at the Dispute Resolution Service. He has a passion for assisting injured people. Leigh has extensive experience working for compensation law firms and ASX listed insurance companies, and is committed to improving the way compensation schemes operate in NSW. He has appeared on multiple occasions before the NSW Parliament Legislative Council Standing Committee on Law and Justice to provide evidence on how the NSW motor accident compensation scheme could be improved to better serve injured people. He also has a significant interest in bicycle safety and in how emerging technologies such as autonomous vehicles are changing the law.

#### Sarah Jamieson, CTP Services Manager, IOH Health

Sarah Jamieson commenced working in the personal injury space in 2011, initially as a case manager, looking after a tail Workers Compensation portfolio, then expanding her experience into a front-end role specialising in small employer claims. After making a tree change to Tamworth, Sarah worked across Disability Employment Services before settling into the role of CTP Services Manager at IOH Health. Sarah now leads a team of rehabilitation consultants who strive to provide a client-centric approach that promotes the health benefits of good work and assists the client to return to all aspects of their pre-accident life.

#### Carl Newton, Special Counsel, HWL Ebsworth Lawyers

Carl is a Special Counsel in the Sydney Insurance Practice Group at HWL Ebsworth Lawyers. He has more than 20 years of experience in insurance litigation, advising and working closely with insurers to pro-actively manage and resolve claims involving complex liability and indemnity issues, fraud, s151Z recoveries and detailed quantum assessments. Carl is a member of the Law Society of NSW Injury Compensation Committee and has a keen interest in emergent technologies such as AI and autonomous vehicles, their implementation and potential impacts on the law, our injury compensation schemes and society more generally.



## Melanie Skinner, Operations Program Manager, NSW CTP, Allianz Australia Insurance Limited

Commencing with Allianz in 2001, and working in various roles, Melanie Skinner has developed rich experience in personal injury schemes across both CTP (2019 to date) and workers compensation (2001–2019). Melanie completed her tertiary qualifications in Business, majoring in Human Resource Management, and in her current role as Operations Program Manager is responsible for establishing a framework of innovative and value-based programs and initiatives which support a positive customer experience. She is also responsible for leading a panel of rehabilitation providers to deliver best practice rehabilitation services.